



CITY OF STONECREST, GEORGIA

CITY COUNCIL MEETING – MINUTES

3120 Stonecrest Blvd., Stonecrest, GA 30038

Wednesday, June 26, 2024 at 6:00 PM

Mayor Jazzmin Cobble

Council Member Tara Graves - District 1 Council Member Terry Fye - District 2

Council Member Alecia Washington - District 3 Mayor Pro Tem George Turner - District 4

Council Member Tammy Grimes - District 5

Citizen Access: [Stonecrest YouTube Live Channel](#)

I. CALL TO ORDER: George Turner, Mayor Pro-Tem

The meeting began at 6:11pm.

II. ROLL CALL: Sonya Isom, City Clerk

All members were present with Councilmember Alecia Washington attending virtually.

III. INVOCATION: Pastor Ronnie Williams, First Lithonia Seventh Day Adventist Church

IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Alecia Washington, District 3 Councilmember

V. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

There was a request for the following changes to the agenda:

1. Move Women of Wonder Recipients to item VII. b.
2. Lifeline Animal Project was moved to item VII. c.

Motion – made by Councilmember Tammy Grimes to approve the agenda with the 2 stated adjustments. Seconded by Councilmember Tara Graves.

Motion passed 4-0 with Councilmember Alecia Washington's vote not being heard.

VI. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a.** Approval of Meeting Minutes - City Council Work Session, May 13, 2024

Motion – made by Councilmember Tara Graves to approve the meeting minutes from the May 13, 2024, City Council Work Session. Seconded by Councilmember Terry Fye.

Motion passed 4-0 with Councilmember Alecia Washington's vote not being heard.

- b. Approval of Meeting Minutes - City Council Meeting, May 28, 2024

Motion – made by Councilmember Terry Fye to approve the meeting minutes from the May 28, 2024, City Council Meeting. Seconded by Councilmember Tammy Grimes.

Motion passed 4-0 with Councilmember Alecia Washington's vote not being heard.

VII. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Citizens wishing to make a public comment may do so in person. Citizens may also submit public comments via email to cityclerk@stonecrestga.gov by 2 pm on the day of the meeting to be read by the City Clerk.

All members of the public wishing to address the City Council shall submit their name and the topic of their comments to the city clerk prior to the start of any meeting held by the City Council. There is a three (3) minute time limit for each speaker submitting or reading a public comment. Individuals will be held to established time limits.

Faye Coffield – Expressed concerns regarding the HVAC system, the situation on Hayden Quarry and developers, street pavement, tree ordinance, the Police Administrator position and street lighting.

Elizabeth Phillips - Expressed concerns with 6350 Hillandale Drive with objections from Mayor and Council. Also expressed code concerns within the City of Stonecrest.

Motion – made by Councilmember Tara Graves to extend public comments for 10 additional minutes. Seconded by Councilmember Tammy Grimes.

Motion passed unanimously.

Matthew Hampton – Commented on the passing of Mr. Bill Allen and stated New Black Wall Street remains committed to making Stonecrest a First-Class City. He also expressed concerns about staying in compliance while preparing for a celebration of life for Mr. Bill Allen and is asking for time to address issues and satisfy requirements.

Dr. C. Harrison Brady – Chair of Clayton County Development Authority and God-son of Mr. Bill Allen. Stated Mr. Allen was concerned about the city. He also expressed his concerns regarding the New Black Wallstreet Market, and holding and continuing the legacy of Mr. Bill Allen within the City of Stonecrest.

- b. Presentation by Councilwoman Tammy Grimes to Women of Wonder recipients that were not able to attend the gala event. Recipients acknowledged were Mrs. Valerie Morgan of On Common Ground and Mrs. Dia Myric -Taylor of the CDC.
- c. Presentation by Andrea Peterson, COO of the Life-Line Animal Project and Annie Alder, Shelter Director with DeKalb County Animal Services, giving an overview of the Life-Line Animal Project. It was stated they need the community's help. It was stated they took in over 5200 dogs and 2100 cats within one year, with an average of 20-30 a day. They are seeking placement for medium and large dogs, for either fostering or adoption. For more information, go to lifelineanimal.org or contact them at pethealth@dekalbcountyanimalservices.com.

VIII. PUBLIC HEARINGS

Citizens wishing to participate and comment during the public hearing portion of the meeting may comment in person. You may also submit your request including your full name, address, position on the agenda item you are commenting on (for or against) via email to cityclerk@stonecrestga.gov by 2 pm the day of the Public Hearing to be read into the record at the meeting. A zoom link for the meeting will be sent to you.

When it is your turn to speak, please state your name, address and relationship to the case.

There is a ten (10) minute time limit for each item per side during all public hearings. Only the applicant may reserve time for rebuttal.

a. Public Hearing - 2024 Proposed Millage Rate - Eric Hawkins, Revenue Manager

Presentation by Eric Hawkins, Revenue Manager, stating this is the final hearing. He is seeking approval and adoption of the 2024 Millage Rate. There was a review of the Taxpayer Bill of Rights, 2024 City Digest Requirements, the Millage & Rollback Rate, Notice of Property Tax Increase, Computation of Millage, Current Tax Digest & 5 Year History of Levy. It was also stated the city is not levying a tax increase on the citizens of Stonecrest. There have been two public hearings, and nothing has changed.

Motion – made by Councilmember Terry Fye to open public hearing for the 2024 Proposed Millage Rate. Seconded by Councilmember Tammy Grimes.

Motion passed 4-0 with Councilmember Alecia Washington's vote not being heard

In Favor

None

In Opposition

Faye Coffield

Dave Marcus

Motion – made by Councilmember Terry Fye to close public hearing for the 2024 Proposed Millage Rate. Seconded by Councilmember Tara Graves.

Motion passed unanimously.

b. For Decision - Resolution for 2024 Millage Rate - Eric Hawkins, Revenue Manager

Mr. Hawkins stated when a property increases in value, the assessment of the property increases. The millage rate will remain the same and the City of Stonecrest has no influence on the property values of homes. There was clarity shared on the definition of non-homestead.

The preamble was read by the City Clerk.

Motion – made by Councilmember Tammy Grimes to approve the Resolution for the 2024 Millage Rate. Seconded by Councilmember Tara Graves.

Motion passed unanimously.

- c. **Public Hearing** - SLUP 24-002 6350 Hillandale Drive - *Shawanna Qawiy, Planning & Zoning Director*

The applicant requested withdrawal without prejudice.

- d. **For Decision** - Ordinance for SLUP 24-002 6350 Hillandale Drive - *Shawanna Qawiy, Planning & Zoning Director*

Motion – made by Councilmember Tammy Grimes to accept the withdrawal for SLUP 24-002 without prejudice. Seconded by Councilmember Tara Graves.

Motion passed unanimously.

- e. **Public Hearing** - SLUP 24-004 5673 La Fleur Trail - *Shawanna Qawiy, Planning & Zoning Director*

The applicant requested withdrawal without prejudice.

- f. **For Decision** - Ordinance for SLUP 24-004 5673 La Fleur Trail - *Shawanna Qawiy, Planning & Zoning Director*

Motion – made by Councilmember Tammy Grimes to accept the withdrawal for SLUP 24-004 without prejudice. Seconded by Councilmember Tara Graves.

Motion passed unanimously.

- g. **Public Hearing** - RZ 23-011 5137 Browns Mill Road - *Shawanna Qawiy, Planning & Zoning Director*

Presentation by Planning & Zoning Director Shawanna Qawiy stating that applicant Kemp White & Associates, Inc. is seeking a rezoning and map amendment for parcels from R-100 (Residential Medium Lot) to C-1 (Local Commercial) for a commercial business development. There was a review of facts and background, future land/character area, zoning map, aerial map, proposed site plan, conceptual diagram, submitted renderings, and recommendations with the conditions as listed in the packet.

The Planning Commission requested a deferral to the July 2, 2024, meeting.

- h. **For Decision** - Ordinance for RZ 23-011 5137 Browns Mill Road - *Shawanna Qawiy, Planning & Zoning Director*

Motion – made by Mayor Pro Tem George Turner to defer RZ 23-011 to the next Planning Commission Meeting and the July 22nd City Council Meeting. Seconded by Councilmember Tara Graves.

Motion passed 4-1 with Councilmember Terry Fye voting Nay.

- i. **Public Hearing** - RZ 23-012 3893 Panola Road (Map Amendment) – *Shawanna Qawiy, Planning & Zoning Director*

Presentation by Planning & Zoning Director Shawanna Qawiy stating that applicant Kemp White & Associates, Inc. is seeking a rezoning and map amendment for parcels from R-100 (Residential Medium Lot) to C-1 (Local Commercial) for a commercial business development. There was a review of facts and background, future land/character area,

zoning map, aerial map, proposed site plan, conceptual diagram, submitted renderings, and recommendations with conditions as listed in the packet.

The Planning Commission requested a deferral to the July 2, 2024 meeting and July 22, 2024 City Council meeting.

- j. For Decision** - Ordinance for RZ 23-012 3893 Panola Road (Map Amendment) - *Shawanna Qawiy, Planning & Zoning Director*

Motion – made by Councilmember Terry Fye to defer RZ 23-012 to the next Planning Commission Meeting and the July City Council Meeting. Seconded by Councilmember Tammy Grimes.

Motion passed unanimously.

- k. Public Hearing** - RZ 23-014 3893 Panola Road (Land Use) - *Shawanna Qawiy, Planning & Zoning Director*

Presentation by Planning & Zoning Director Shawanna Qawiy stating that the applicant Kemp White & Associates, Inc. is seeking a rezoning and map amendment for parcels from R-100 (Residential Medium Lot) to C-1 (Local Commercial) for a commercial business development. There was a review of facts and background, future land/character area, zoning map, aerial map, proposed site plan, conceptual diagram, submitted renderings, and recommendations including conditions as listed in the packet.

The Planning Commission requested a deferral to the July 2, 2024 meeting and July 22, 2024 council meeting for final decision.

- l. For Decision** - Ordinance for RZ 23-014 3893 Panola Road (Land Use) - *Shawanna Qawiy, Planning & Zoning Director*

Motion – made by Councilmember Terry Fye to defer RZ 23-014 to the next Planning Commission Meeting and the July City Council Meeting. Seconded by Councilmember Tammy Grimes.

Motion passed unanimously.

- m. Public Hearing** - City of Stonecrest Comprehensive Plan 5-Year Update - *Shawanna Qawiy, Planning & Zoning Director*

Introduction by Planning & Zoning Director Shawanna Qawiy of Randy Gibbs, with the Sizemore Group, presenting the comprehensive plan for adoption. There was an introduction of the project team, as well as a project overview including the project schedule and comprehensive plan requirements. There was also a review of the adoption timeline, and next steps.

ARC and DCA has considered the plan and deems it meets all requirements. The plan allows the city to maintain its local government qualification status. It will be up for reevaluation in another five years. The plan is available to be viewed on the city's website.

Motion – made by Councilmember Terry Fye to open public hearing for the City of Stonecrest Comprehensive Plan 5- Year Update. Seconded by Councilmember Tara

Graves.

Motion passed unanimously.

In Favor

None

In Opposition

Bernard Knight, stating he was not in favor or opposition

Faye Coffield, stating she was not in favor or opposition

Motion – made by Councilmember Terry Fye to close public hearing for the City of Stonecrest Comprehensive Plan 5- Year Update. Seconded by Councilmember Tammy Grimes.

Motion passed unanimously.

It was stated the document must be adopted by the end of June to retain the city's local government status. There was a request by Councilwoman Grimes to change the title from Flat Rock to Flat Rock Archive, Inc. Mr. Gibbs stated the change would be made.

There was clarity stating that zoning is an enforcement issue directing how the land is to be used and the zoning map is law and future land use is what the city would like it to be.

- n. For Decision** - Resolution for Adoption of City of Stonecrest Comprehensive Plan 5-Year Update - *Shawanna Qawiy, Planning & Zoning Director*

The preamble was read by the City Clerk.

Motion – made by Councilmember Terry Fye to approve the Resolution to adopt the Stonecrest Comprehensive Plan 5- Year Update with the changes suggested by council. Seconded by Councilmember Tara Graves.

Motion passed unanimously.

IX. CONSENT AGENDA

X. APPOINTMENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

XI. REPORTS & PRESENTATIONS

XII. OLD BUSINESS

XIII. NEW BUSINESS

XIV. CITY ATTORNEY COMMENTS

It was good to see the council in Savannah.

XV. CITY MANAGER UPDATE

Thank you to staff for efforts with the comp plan and to council for adoption of the plan. She is looking forward to working with staff on a work plan to identify some of the priorities to move

Stonecrest forward. The newly renovated Salem Park will re-open on Friday during normal business hours.

XVI. MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS

District 1 – Councilmember Tara Graves – Thanks to everyone who participated in the Daddy Daughter Event and thank you to Beverly Cooper for the 30 sponsorships. and he is sending his condolences to the family and friends of Mr. Bill Allen. A new date and time for the district 1 Town Hall date will be forthcoming. Have a safe Fourth of July.

District 2 – Councilmember Terry Fye – Thank you to all of the constituents at the Keystone Gates Community that came out for conversation regarding the community. Thanks to the staff who helped with the June events, especially the Juneteeth Celebration.

District 3 – Councilmember Alecia Washington - No comment

District 5 – Councilmember Tammy Grimes – Thank you to everyone who helped make the W.O.W Gala beautiful and she is hoping to make this a staple event within the City. Parents please talk to your children about getting rest as school is around the corner.

Mayor Cobble – No comment

District 4 – Mayor Pro Tem George Turner – If you ride by Salem Park, you will be impressed. Everything has been completed and the grand opening is being planned. There are two constituents who did a wonderful job assisting with keeping Stonecrest beautiful, Mr. Curtis Nelson who passed in June of 2023 and Mr. Darryle Andrew who passed over the weekend and whose service will be held Saturday @ 11am.

XVII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

(When an executive session is required, one will be called for the following issues: 1) Personnel, 2) Litigation, 3) Real Estate, 4) Cyber Security

Motion – made by Councilmember Terry Fye to enter Executive Session for personnel, litigation, real estate and cyber security. Seconded by Councilmember Tara Graves.

Motion passed 4-0 with Councilmember Alecia Washington's vote not being heard

Motion – made by Councilmember Terry Fye to exit Executive Session and return to the regular scheduled meeting. Seconded by Councilmember Tara Graves.

Motion passed 4-0 with Councilmember Alecia Washington's vote not being heard

Motion – made by Councilmember Terry Fye to approve the minutes from the Executive Session. Seconded by Councilmember Tara Grimes.

Motion passed 4-0 with Councilmember Alecia Washington's vote not being heard

XVIII. ADJOURNMENT

Motion – made by Councilmember Terry Fye to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Councilmember Tammy Grimes.

Motion passed 4-0 with Councilmember Alecia Washington's vote not being heard

The meeting adjourned at 8:51pm.

Americans with Disabilities Act

The City of Stonecrest does not discriminate on the basis of disability in its programs, services, activities and employment practices.

If you need auxiliary aids and services for effective communication (such as a sign language interpreter, an assistive listening device or print material in digital format) or reasonable modification to programs, services or activities contact the ADA Coordinator, Sonya Isom, as soon as possible, preferably 2 days before the activity or event.