



CITY OF STONECREST, GEORGIA

CITY COUNCIL MEETING – MINUTES

3120 Stonecrest Blvd., Stonecrest, GA 30038

Thursday, June 26, 2025 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 6:09pm with Mayor Pro Tem stating this meeting was originally scheduled for Monday but the date changed due to the council members attending the 2025 GMA Conference.

II. ROLL CALL: Sonya Isom, City Clerk

All members were present with Councilmember Terry Fye arriving immediately after roll call.

III. INVOCATION: Pastor Woodrow Walker II, Cross Culture Church

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

V. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Motion – made by Councilmember Tara Graves to approve the agenda as listed. Second by Councilmember Tammy Grimes.

Motion passed unanimously.

VI. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a. Approval of Meeting Minutes - City Council Planning Retreat, February 7-9, 2025

Motion – made by Councilmember Tara Graves to approve the City Council Planning Retreat meeting minutes from February 7-9, 2025. Second by Councilmember Alecia Washington.

Motion passed unanimously.

- b. Approval of Meeting Minutes - Special Called Meeting, May 6, 2025

Motion – made by Councilmember Alecia Washington to approve the Special Called meeting minutes from May 6, 2025. Second by Councilmember Tara Graves.

Motion passed unanimously.

- c. Approval of Meeting Minutes - City Council Meeting, May 29, 2025

Motion – made by Councilmember Tammy Grimes to approve the City Council meeting minutes from May 29, 2025. Second by Councilmember Tara Graves.

Motion passed unanimously.

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 – Concerns about donation made to DKPS for zen dens, funding for programs for gifted and talented students, donation made to Piedmont Technical College, the tree ordinance, sound barriers, City of Stonecrest surplus, and the city ensuring a safe community to live in.

Dave Marcus – Concerns about data centers coming into the community, the hiring of an internal auditor, and audit reports. He complimented Mayor Cobble for striving to live up to what is required for her position and standing up for the rights of the residents and Stonecrest as a whole. He also mentioned the city turnover rate.

Renee Cail - Opposing data centers in Stonecrest, has concerns about noise during construction, poor air quality due to pollution from the data centers, strain on local utilities, utility costs, etc.

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** - Proposed Adoption of the 2025 Millage Rate - *Eric Hawkins, Revenue Manager*

The presentation by Mr. Hawkins stating this is the third and final hearing as required by the state and stating notices were advertised as required. There was a review of 2025 Proposed Millage Rate – Taxpayer Bill of Rights, 2025 City Digest Requirements, Millage Rollback Rate, Notice of Property Tax Increase, Computation of Millage and Current Tax Digest and 5 Year History of Levy. If accepted, there will be an increase in residential properties valued at \$300,000 by \$2.37 and commercial properties valued at \$500,000 by \$3.37 per year. The millage rate for the City of Stonecrest will remain at 1.257 as it has been for the last 4 years. There was an additional overview by Mayor Cobble mentioning the language required by law.

Motion – made by Councilmember Tammy Grimes to open public hearing for the Proposed Adoption of the 2025 Millage Rate. Second by Councilmember Tara Graves.
Motion passed unanimously.

Favor

None

Opposition

Faye Coffield, stating she needs more information

Motion – made by Councilmember Tara Graves to close public hearing for the Proposed Adoption of the 2025 Millage Rate. Second by Councilmember Tammy Grimes.
Motion passed unanimously.

- b. For Decision** - Resolution for the Adoption of the 2025 Millage Rate - *Eric Hawkins, Revenue Manager*

Mayor Cobble addressed the timeline for setting the millage rate and mentioned it is dictated by the law and the city does not facilitate the process.
The preamble was read by the City Clerk.

Motion – made by Councilmember Tammy Grimes to approve the Adoption of the 2025 Millage Rate. Second by Councilmember Tara Graves.
Motion passed unanimously.

- c. Public Hearing** - TMOD 25-003 - Amendment to Chapter 27 - Zoning Ordinance - *Shawanna Qawiy, Division Director Community Development*

The presentation was given by Director Qawiy stating this TMOD is to update the reference to responsible parties, departments and divisions in Chapter 27 of the Stonecrest Zoning Code of Ordinances based on the current organizational structures as adopted by City Council. There was a review of the amendments to sections, relationship to comprehensive plan, notation of all conservation easement on official zoning maps, design guidelines, plans required, final design package review and approval process, final approval plans, interpretation of unlisted uses, use table, procedures, submission of special land uses applications, traffic impact study, maintenance of open space, and conflict with other standards.

Motion – made by Councilmember Tammy Grimes to open public hearing for TMOD 25-003 – Amendment to Chapter 27 – Zoning Ordinance. Second by Councilmember Tara Graves.

Motion passed unanimously.

Favor

None

Opposition

None

Motion – made by Councilmember Tara Graves to close public hearing for TMOD 25-003 – Amendment to Chapter 27 – Zoning Ordinance. Second by Councilmember Tammy Grimes.

Motion passed unanimously.

- d. **For Decision** - Ordinance for TMOD 25-003 - Amendment to Chapter 27 - Zoning Ordinance - *Shawanna Qawiy, Division Director Community Development*

The preamble was read by the City Clerk.

Motion – made by Councilmember Tammy Grimes to approve the Ordinance for TMOD 25-003 – Amendment to Chapter 27 – Zoning Ordinance. Second by Councilmember Alecia Washington.

Motion passed unanimously.

IX. CONSENT AGENDA

X. APPOINTMENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

XI. REPORTS & PRESENTATIONS

- a. Georgia Municipal Association Certificate of Achievement – *Alecia Washington, District 3 Councilmember*

The presentation was given by Mayor Cobble stating that the council are members of GMA and just attended training towards the certification process. Congratulations to Councilmember Washington who received a Certificate of Achievement this week.

XII. OLD BUSINESS

- a. **For Decision** - Ordinance for TMOD 25-001 Abandoned Shopping Carts, 2nd Read - *Shawanna Qawiy, Community Development Division Director*

The presentation was given by Director Qawiy stating this is the 2nd read and that shopping carts are being illegally removed from the premises of businesses and left abounded on public or private properties throughout the city. This constitutes a public nuisance and a potential hazard to the health, safety and welfare of the public. There was a review of text amendments to sections 18-54 - Abandoned Shopping Carts, Retrieval Retention and Retrieval Plans for the abandoned carts. There will be a citation along with a fine of \$150.00 for each abandoned cart and \$125.00 for any additional carts from the same business/establishment. Failure to provide a cart retrieval plan within 24 hours of the request shall result in a fine not to exceed \$500.00. It was confirmed the fee schedule has been posted for 45 days.

There was a discussion about fees vs fines. Attorney Denmark added we must distinguish between fees and fines and if a fee is determined, we must comply with the fee schedule. Attorney Thompson stated there is a requirement for each business to have a cart retrieval plan in place. If contacted about a cart, they have 72 hours to remove them.

The preamble was read by the City Clerk.

Motion – made by Councilmember Terry Fye to approve Ordinance for TMOD 25-001 Abandoned Shopping Carts, 2nd Read with approved modifications, changing all references from fines to fees. Second by Councilmember Tara Graves.

Motion passed unanimously.

- b. For Decision** - Ordinance for TMOD 25-002 Multifamily Rental Dwellings, 2nd Read - *Shawanna Qawiy, Community Development Division Director*

The presentation was given by Director Qawiy stating the proposed text amendments will update the requirements for multifamily dwelling unit inspections to include single family homes. The single family multifamily rental dwelling updates include the definition of a Certified Building Inspector to include dwelling units and single family. The definition of single-family dwelling is a boarding house, rooming houses, group homes, personal care homes, and flats. Inspection certificate and fee required. The updated inspection reports will go from 20%-50% of the dwelling units annually. Newly constructed units shall be exempt from the co-compliance certificate requirement. The owner of new constructions must submit a co-compliance certificate annually for 50% of all newly constructed units. It was stated HB399 is the first step to cleaning up the city. There was a 2nd read of the preamble by the City Clerk.

Motion – made by Councilmember Tammy Grimes to approve Ordinance for TMOD 25-002 Multifamily Rental Dwellings, 2nd Read. Second by Councilmember Alecia Washington.

Motion passed unanimously.

- c. For Decision** - Ordinance for Amendment to Chapter 2 - Administration, 2nd Read - *Mayor Jazzmin Cobble & City Manager Gia Scruggs*

The presentation was given by Mayor Cobble, speaking on both chapter 2 and chapter 14, mentioning it was agreed to restructure departments according to the city code. There are no changes from what was presented at the work session. There was a 2nd read of the preamble by the City Clerk.

Motion – made by Councilmember Tammy Grimes to approve Ordinance for Amendment to Chapter 2 – Administration, 2nd Read. Second by Councilmember Tara Graves.

Motion passed 4-1 with Councilmember Alecia Washington voting Nay.

- d. For Decision** - Ordinance for Amendment to Chapter 14 - Land Development, 2nd Read - *Mayor Jazzmin Cobble & City Manager Gia Scruggs*

The presentation was given by Mayor Cobble, stating that this item follows the same scenario as the previously mentioned item. The city is updating the code so that the language matches the roles, responsibilities, organization and titles throughout this chapter.

There was a 2nd read of the preamble by the City Clerk.

Motion – made by Councilmember Tara Graves to approve the Ordinance for Amendment to Chapter 14 – Land Development, 2nd Read. Second by Councilmember Tammy Grimes.
Motion passed 4-1 with Councilmember Alecia Washington voting Nay.

XIII. NEW BUSINESS

XIV. CITY ATTORNEY COMMENTS

Attorney Winston Denmark thanked the council for attending the Client Appreciation Dinner with members of the firm in Savannah during GMA.

XV. CITY MANAGER UPDATE

July is National Park and Recreation month, please enjoy the beautiful parks in the city. You can beat the heat by visiting Browns Mill Recreation Center. Welcomed new Arborist, Roy Matthews, who was in attendance.

XVI. MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS

District 1 – Tara Graves – Announced 3rd District Townhall scheduled for this Saturday from 1:30pm-3:30pm with special guest speakers, District 91 Representative Angela Moore and District 93 Representative Doreen Carter. Prior to the Townhall there will be a Non-Hazardous event with dumpsters at both City Hall and Fairington Park.

District 2 – Terry Fye – No Updates for District 2. Asked Council to please send TIPS Committee agenda items for the July 9th meeting.

District 3 – Alecia Washington – District 3 is hosting several events with District 1, mentioning the Townhall and Non-Hazardous waste events. Popcorn in the Park will take place at Fairington Park this Friday from 8:00pm-10:00pm featuring Black Panther 2. Please have a safe and happy 4th of July.

District 5 – Tammy Grimes – “Always Live in District 5” – There will be an Education Fest on July 12th and school supply donations are being accepted at City Hall. Ride along with District 5 is coming. The Tree ordinance information has been sent to constituents who requested the document. There was a CPR event with Donnie James on May 30th at City Hall. Please pray for the family of Adriana Smith.

Mayor Cobble – Acknowledged Parks and Recreation Month, Education Fest, Popcorn at the Park at Fairington Park and the 3 on 3 Basketball Tournament, asking citizens to please get signed up. Thanks to the Parks Team for putting these events together. Joined the Atlanta Regional Commission today for the first ever Regional Assembly of Public Officials. Thanked everyone who traveled to the GMA convention and took part in the training.

District 4 – Mayor Pro Tem George Turner – Mentioned only 3% of voters actually voted for the Public Service Commissioner and urged everyone to get involved. Early voting is July 7th -11th and Election Day is July 15th. Absentee ballots must be submitted by July 7th.

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 into Executive Session for personnel, litigation, real estate and cyber security. Second by Councilmember Tammy Grimes.

Motion passed unanimously.

Motion – made by Councilmember Tammy Grimes to exit Executive Session and return to regular scheduled meeting. Second by Councilmember Terry Fye.

Motion passed unanimously.

Motion – made by Councilmember Tara Graves to approve the Executive Session minutes. Second by Councilmember Tammy Grimes.

Motion passed unanimously.

Motion – made by Councilmember Tara Graves to approve the settlement agreement with ER Snell. Second by Councilmember Terry Fye.

Motion passed 4-1 with Councilmember T. Grimes voting Nay.

XVIII. ADJOURNMENT

Motion – made by Councilmember Tara Graves to adjourn the City Council meeting. Second by Councilmember Tammy Grimes.

Motion passed unanimously.

The meeting ended at 9:08pm.

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.