



CITY OF STONECREST, GEORGIA

CITY COUNCIL MEETING – MINUTES

3120 Stonecrest Blvd., Stonecrest, GA 30038

Monday, May 23, 2022 at 7:00 PM

Mayor - Vacant

Council Member Tara Graves - District 1 Council Member Rob Turner - District 2

District 3 - Vacant 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

Meeting called to order at 7:02 PM

II. ROLL CALL: Sonya Isom, City Clerk

All members present.

III. INVOCATION

Invocation by Councilmember Rob Turner

IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

V. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Councilmember Tammy Grimes requested to move Presentation Item A and Presentation Item B after Review and Approval of Minutes.

Mayor Pro Tem George Turner requested to add the following under Appointments: Lemuel Hawkins for Planning Commission, Lance Watson for CID Advisory Committee and Revonda Cosby for Economic Development Steering Committee.

Motion - made by Councilmember Rob Turner to approve the agenda with stated changes. Seconded by Councilmember Tara Graves.

Motion passed unanimously.

VI. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a. Approval - of the April 25, 2022 Meeting Minutes

Motion - made by Councilmember Tammy Grimes to approve the April 25, 2022 Meeting Minutes. Seconded by Councilmember Rob Turner.

Motion passed unanimously.

VII. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Citizens are welcome to make public comments 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 aloud by the City Clerk.

There is a two (2) minute time limit for each speaker submitting or reading a public comment.

City Manager Janice Allen Jackson clarified Public Comment and Public Hearing rules.

Mayor Pro Tem George Turner stated the Council will respond to comments anytime after this evenings meeting and before the next meeting.

Terry Fye - Decriminalizing marijuana

Malaika Wells - Adopting an Ethics Resolution modeling after GMA sample

Faye Cofield - Street lights are out at I-20 and Lithonia Industrial Boulevard. Would like someone to contact Mr. Pascal regarding his startup business and program in Africa.

Mayor Pro Tem George Turner responded to public commenter Terry Fye, stating his inquiry has been forwarded to the City's legal Counsel and the City Council will review. Attorney Denmark stated there is a 60 day window to prepare draft.

VIII. PUBLIC HEARINGS

Citizens wishing to participate can comment in person during the Public Hearing portion of the meeting or submit your comments including your full name, address, position on the agenda of the item you are commenting on (for or against) via email to cityclerk@stonecrestga.gov by 2 pm the day of the Hearing. 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. As an alternative, you can submit comments and questions to the same email address by the same deadline to be read into the record at the meeting.

There is a ten (10) minute time limit for each item per side during all public hearings. There is a two (2) minute time limit for each speaker. Only the applicant may reserve time for rebuttal. Supporting speakers may not request rebuttal or speak a second time unless called upon by the applicant during the reserved time.

- a. TMOD 22-008 - Adult Day Center - Keedra Jackson

Acting Planning & Zoning Director Keedra Jackson gave a brief overview.

Motion - made by Councilmember Rob Turner to open the Public Hearing for TMOD 22-008. Seconded by Councilmember Tara Graves.

Motion passed unanimously.

In favor - none

In opposition - Bernard Knight

Motion - made by Councilmember Tammy Grimes to close the Public Hearing for TMOD 22-008. Seconded by Councilmember Tara Graves.

Motion passed unanimously.

Keedra Jackson clarified what an Adult Day Center is versus a Personal Care Home or Medical Care Facility.

Motion - made by Councilmember Rob Turner to approve TMOD 22-008 with the stated changes. Seconded by Councilmember Tammy Grimes.

Motion passed unanimously.

b. TMOD 22-005 - Towing & Wreckage Services - *Keedra Jackson*

Acting Planning & Zoning Director Keedra Jackson gave a brief overview.

Motion - made by Councilmember Tammy Grimes to open the Public Hearing for TMOD 22-005. Seconded by Councilmember Tara Graves.

Motion passed unanimously.

In favor - none

In opposition - none

Motion - made by Councilmember Tammy Grimes to close the Public Hearing for TMOD 22-005. Seconded by Councilmember Tara Graves.

Motion passed unanimously.

Motion - made by Councilmember Tara Graves to defer TMOD 22-005. Seconded by Councilmember Tammy Grimes.

Substitute motion - made by Councilmember Tara Graves to defer TMOD 22-005 for decision only, for 30 days, to be heard at the next City Council Meeting. Seconded by Councilmember Tammy Grimes.

Motion passed unanimously.

c. RZ-22-001 - Hunter's Ridge Rezoning - *Keedra Jackson*

Mayor Pro Tem George Turner read a letter recusing himself from participation in any action on this agenda item.

Motion - made by Mayor Pro Tem George Turner to select Councilmember Rob Turner as Temporary Presiding Officer. Seconded by Councilmember Tammy Grimes.

Motion passed unanimously.

Acting Planning & Zoning Director Keedra Jackson gave a brief overview.

Motion - made by Councilmember Tammy Grimes to open the Public Hearing for RZ-22-001. Seconded by Councilmember Tara Graves.

Motion passed unanimously.

In favor:

Devon Alexander

Major Saddler

May Austin

Gwen Daugett

Iris Buchanan-Perry

Vivian Hudson

Dwight and Victoria Shelton

Jewel Johnson

The last two comments stated opposition but read in favor of.

Motion - made by Councilmember Tara Graves to extend the Public Hearing by five minutes. Seconded by Councilmember Tammy Grimes.

Motion passed unanimously.

In opposition - none

Motion - made by Councilmember Tara Graves to close the Public Hearing for RZ-22-001. Seconded by Councilmember Tammy Grimes.

Motion passed unanimously.

Motion - made by Councilmember Tammy Grimes to approve RZ-22-001 Hunters Ridge Rezoning back to its original R100. Seconded by Councilmember Tara Graves.

Motion withdrawn to approve RZ-22-001 Hunters Ridge.

Motion - made by Councilmember Tammy Grimes to move the reading of the Ordinance from New Business to Public Hearing. Seconded by Councilmember Tara Graves.

Motion passed unanimously.

Motion - made by Councilmember Tammy Grimes to approve the Ordinance for RZ-22-001 Hunters Ridge Rezoning. Seconded by Councilmember Tara Graves.

Preamble of Ordinance read by City Clerk.

Motion passed unanimously.

IX. CONSENT AGENDA

X. ANNOUNCEMENTS

XI. APPOINTMENTS

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- a. Appointment to Planning Commission - *Mayor Pro Tem George Turner*

Motion - made by Mayor Pro Tem George Turner to accept Lemuel Hawkins as a member of the Planning Commission to represent District 5. Seconded by Councilmember Rob Turner.

Per Mayor Pro Tem George Turner, Mr. Hawkins cannot be sworn in until he is trained.

Motion passed unanimously.

Motion - made by Councilmember Rob Turner to accept Lance Watson as a member of the CID Advisory Committee. Seconded by Mayor Pro Tem George Turner.

Motion passed unanimously.

Motion - made by Mayor Pro Tem George Turner to accept Revonda Cosby as a member of the Economic Development Steering Committee. Seconded by Councilmember Tammy Grimes.

Motion passed unanimously.

XII. REPORTS & PRESENTATIONS

- a. Proclamation for Malik Melson - *Councilwoman Tammy Grimes*

Councilmember Tammy Grimes gave an introduction of Malik Melson and presented him with a Proclamation. Councilmember Grimes shared how 10 year old Malik wanted to feed the homeless for his birthday, is always eager to help with his community and is a great example for others his age.

- b. Proclamation for Salem Middle School Lions - *Councilwoman Tammy Grimes*

Mayor Pro Tem George Turner congratulated the Salem Middle School Boys Baseball Team and presented two members of the team with a Proclamation. The Salem Middle School Lions are the Dekalb County School District Middle School Boy's Baseball Champions, ending their baseball season with 14 wins and 2 losses.

- c. Proclamation for Willie Hinton - *Mayor Pro Tem George Turner*

Mayor Pro Tem George Turner shared how Mr. Willie Lee Hinton Jr., who passed away on March 20, 2022 was a pillar in the community. He shared some highlights of his life, his accomplishments and read the Proclamation from the City that will be presented to Mrs. Hinton.

- d. Former Board Appreciation - *Mayor Pro Tem George Turner*

Mayor Pro Tem George Turner wanted to acknowledge each former Board Member of the City for their service. Although conditions do not permit the opportunity to present as envisioned, the Presentation was delivered virtually. The City Council will plan to invite all former members to join in the Chambers at a later date for an additional show of appreciation.

The Presentation honoring some of the City's Former Board and Committee members was presented by Deputy City Clerk Aisha Harris.

XIII. OLD BUSINESS

- a. **For Decision** - Financial Management Policy Revision - 2nd Read - *Gia Scruggs*

Finance Director Gia Scruggs brought the 2nd Read of the Financial Management Policy Revision with the proposed changes that were discussed April 25, 2022. The preamble of the Ordinance was read by the City Clerk.

Motion - made by Councilmember Rob Turner to approve the Financial Management Policy Revision. Seconded by Councilmember Tammy Grimes.

Motion passed unanimously.

- b. **For Decision** - Final Cooperation Agreement with the East Metro DeKalb CID - *Jonathan Bartlett*

Economic Development Director Jonathan Bartlett provided a brief overview. During the December 20, 2021 City Council Meeting the City Manager was authorized to enter into a Cooperation Agreement with the East Metro CID and a draft of the agreement was approved. East Metro CID identified a couple of minor changes requested of the City and Mr. Bartlett is bringing the agreement back to Council for review.

The substantive change that has been made requests the City accept notice of one week instead of two weeks. The Committee recommends copies of this Resolution be sent by US Mail to members of the East Metro CID that has property in the City of Stonecrest. This amounts to 112 property owners.

Motion - made by Councilmember Rob Turner to approve the Final Cooperation Agreement with the East Metro Dekalb CID. Seconded by Councilmember Tara Graves.

Motion passed unanimously.

XIV. NEW BUSINESS

a. For Decision - TMOD 22-008 - Adult Day Center - *Keedra Jackson*

This item was approved in the Public Hearing.

b. For Decision - TMOD 22-005 - Towing & Wreckage Services - *Keedra Jackson*

This item was addressed in the Public Hearing and deferred to the next City Council Meeting.

c. For Decision - RZ-22-001 - Hunter's Ridge Rezoning - *Keedra Jackson*

This item was approved in the Public Hearing.

d. Update - Announcement of Municipal Court Fee Schedule - *Mallory Minor*

Announcement of Municipal Court Fee Schedule presented by Municipal Court Clerk Mallory Minor. Court Clerk Minor shared the Public Announcement and reviewed the Schedule of Fees for services provided by the Municipal Court.

No action required. Court Clerk Minor will come back to Council in 45 days to request approval. A Resolution will be presented at that time.

The Fee Schedule will be posted on the City's website and objections must be submitted within 30 days of posting. The fees must be in writing by electronic communication and forwarded to the City Attorney, Mayor and City Council.

e. For Decision - Establishment of Charter Commission - *Mayor Pro Tem George Turner*

Mayor Pro Tem George Turner stated it is the Council's intent to call for the Charter Commission officially by adopting a Resolution. Mayor Pro Tem read the draft Ordinance's preamble.

Motion - made by Councilmember Rob Turner to adopt the Resolution for creation of a Charter Commission for the City of Stonecrest. Seconded by Councilmember Tara Graves.

Motion passed unanimously.

There are eight members, one from each Council member, one from the Mayor and one from each branch of the Georgia General Assembly. The City Attorney will serve as an ex-officio member.

f. Update - Metro Green Update - *Attorney Winston Denmark*

Attorney Denmark gave an update on the Metro Green litigation. Attorney Denmark confirmed there was an order issued by Judge Tangela Barrie of Superior Court to cease concrete crushing and all other activities. These are preliminary orders and determinations. As long as the litigation is ongoing, this order is in effect.

XV. CITY MANAGER UPDATE

a. COVID Update

City Manager Janice Allen Jackson gave a COVID update. There is a rise in the number of cases in DeKalb County. City Manager Jackson is encouraging everyone to remain cautious and practice social distancing.

b. City Hall Reopening

City Manager Janice Allen Jackson confirmed City Hall is open for business. If you would like to meet with someone specific, staff requests you make an appointment at this time to confirm the needed staff is available.

c. Survey

City Manager Janice Allen Jackson confirmed the ARPA survey is on the City's website and will be available thru June 18, 2022. All residents and business owners in the community, as well as stakeholders are invited to complete the survey. The City is interested in what citizens and business owners consider are the greatest needs of the City of Stonecrest.

XVI. MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS

District 1/Councilmember Tara Graves - Congratulations to all City of Stonecrest Class of 2022 Graduates. If you have not taken advantage of early voting, please vote and let your voice be heard. Samson Health and Fitness located at New Birth has extended hours for the summer beginning June 1, 2022 for the youth. Visit the Parks and Recreation website for pop up summer camps in the City.

District 2/Councilmember Rob Turner - Congratulations to the Class of 2022 future leaders. It has been beautiful to see the graduations and celebrations of the young people. Please vote if you have not. Our City depends on it.

District 5/Councilmember Tammy Grimes - She is a very proud educator as a student she met in 1995, Shanice Kelly, has traveled the world, taught and received her PhD. Also, another student, Dr. Kristine Hadler, received her Doctorate degree from Morehouse School of Medicine. Please go vote. Please take care of and secure your weapons so there are no unnecessary funerals. If you are in need of mental health assistance, please reach out to someone.

District 4/Mayor Pro Tem George Turner - Invited Mr. Terry Fye to the podium and thanked him for attending and staying for the meeting. Don't forget to vote. Congratulations to all graduates.

XVII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

XVIII. ADJOURNMENT

Motion - made by Councilmember Tammy Grimes to adjourn the City Council Meeting at 9:49pm. Seconded by Councilmember Rob Turner.

Motion passed unanimously.

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.