



CITY OF STONECREST, GEORGIA

CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION – MINUTES

3120 Stonecrest Blvd., Stonecrest, GA 30038

Monday, July 13, 2026 at 6:00 PM

Mayor Jazzmin Cobble

Mayor Pro Tem Tara Graves - District 1 Vacant - District 2

Council Member Alecia Washington - District 3 Council Member George Turner - District 4

Council Member Karmesha W. Smith - District 5

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

I. CALL TO ORDER: Tara Graves, Mayor Pro-Tem

The meeting was called to order at 6:11pm.

II. ROLL CALL: Sonya Isom, City Clerk

All members were present.

III. AGENDA DISCUSSION ITEMS

There was a request to:

1. Add For Discussion – Cooperation Agreement with the SLIP CID as item g.
2. Add For Decision – Resolution for Bank Signatories as item b.
3. Add For Decision – Ordinance to amend section 2-180 – Authority to Execute Checks, Written Orders and Financial Instruments, 1st Read as item c.
4. Add For Decision – Audit Contract as item d.

The new agenda for Order of Business is as follows:

- a. For Discussion - May Monthly Financial Update
- b. For Decision – Resolution for Bank Signatories
- c. For Decision – Ordinance to Amend Section 2-180 – Authority to Execute Checks, Written Orders and Financial Instruments, 1st Read
- d. For Decision – Contract for Auditor Services
- e. For Decision – Ordinance for SLUP 25-007 1695 Spring Hill Cove
- f. For Decision – Ordinance Appointing DeKalb County to Conduct the City of Stonecrest Special Election, 2nd Read
- g. For Discussion – Cooperation Agreement with the SLIP CID

Motion – made by Councilmember George Turner to approve the agenda with the stated changes. Second by Councilmember Karmesha Smith.

Motion passed 4-0 with District 2 being vacant.

a. For Discussion - May Monthly Financial Update - *Keisha Franklin, Finance Director*

The presentation was given by Director Franklin, providing a financial update for the month of May, with revenues representing 40% of the annual budget and expenditures representing 29%. The surplus year-to-date as of May is \$3.3 Million. Staff is currently working on all required PBC's for the upcoming audit. The city has received the contract engagement letter for Mauldin & Jenkins along with a contract for professional services, which will be for additional support services for the audit information. Staff are also working on budget adjustments to be submitted at the next meeting, which will include security, aquatics, storm water, trails, utility, building security and travel.

b. For Decision – Resolution for Bank Signatories – *Alicia Thompson, City Attorney*

The presentation was given by Attorney Thompson, stating that this item is only to amend the signatories for the city's bank accounts. There were added positions such as: Deputy City Manager, which the council has requested to remove from the bank accounts and update the name of the new City Manager. The signatories will be: Mayor Jazzmin Cobble, Mayor Pro Tem Tara Graves, City Manager Cathy Turner and Finance Director Keisha Franklin.

The preamble was read by the City Attorney.

Motion – made by Councilmember George Turner to approve the resolution after removing the Deputy Finance Director as a signatory. Second by Councilmember Karmesha Smith.

Motion passed 4-0 with District 2 being vacant.

c. For Decision – Ordinance to Amend Section 2-180 – Authority to Execute Checks, Written Orders and Financial Instruments, 1st Read – *Alicia Thompson, City Attorney*

The presentation was given by Attorney Thompson stating this request is to amend section 2-180 of the Code of Ordinance. Chapter 2, Article 6 and Section 2-180, that speaks to the execution of checks and financial instruments, and the listed position must be amended based on the removal of the Deputy City Manager from the bank accounts. The listed positions will be Mayor, Mayor Pro Tem, City Manager and the Finance Director.

The City Clerk gave the 1st read of the preamble.

d. For Decision – Contract for Auditor Services – *Cathy Turner, City Manager & Keisha Franklin, Finance Director*

The presentation was given by Director Franklin, stating a copy of the contract was emailed to council on July 9th by Director Franklin and Attorney Thompson stated she also forwarded it to Mayor Cobble, who did not receive the email and would like to see a copy of the contract. There are no additional stipulations or asks of the auditors. Attorney Thompson will add adherence to cyber security and equipment use and these

terms will be included in the independent contract. The term date for auditor services will begin the date it is signed and will end December 2027. Per legal, the contract is not available to be shared with council but will be ready at the next council meeting.

Motion – made by Councilmember George Turner to defer the approval of this matter to a special called meeting. Second by Councilmember Alecia Washington.

Motion passed 4-0 with District 2 being vacant.

- e. **For Decision** - Ordinance for SLUP 25-007 1695 Spring Hill Cove - *Shawanna Qawiy, Division Director Community Development*

The presentation was given by Director Qawiy stating that the applicant has gone through the public hearing process and is asking to withdraw this application without prejudice.

Motion – made by Councilmember George Turner to deny Ordinance for SLUP 25-007 1695 Spring Hill Cove. Second by Councilmember Karmesha Smith.

Motion passed 3-1 with District 1 voting Nay and District 2 being vacant.

- f. **For Decision** - Ordinance Appointing DeKalb County to Conduct the City of Stonecrest Special Election, 2nd Read - *Sonya Isom, City Clerk*

The presentation was given by City Clerk Isom stating that this ordinance is to seek council's approval to appoint DeKalb County to conduct the city's special election for 2026. The date for the election is November 3, 2026, and the runoff date is December 1, 2026.

The City Clerk gave the 2nd read of the preamble.

Motion – made by Councilmember George Turner to approve the Ordinance Appointing DeKalb County to Conduct the City of Stonecrest Special Election, 2nd Read. Second by Councilmember Alecia Washington.

Motion passed 4-0 with District 2 being vacant.

- g. **For Discussion** – Cooperation Agreement with SLIP CID – *George Turner, Councilmember*

The presentation was given by Councilman Turner stating that the East Metro CID was in place and active when Stonecrest became a city. To function within the boundaries of the city, the city is putting together an agreement with East Metro CID through SLIP CID. The Stonecrest Lithonia Industrial Park CID can perform certain duties such as impacts on our right ways and services within our city. The agreement will outline what they will and will not do and how SLIP CID and East Metro CID will interact together. The draft agreement was sent to council prior to this meeting and will establish a cooperative partnership between the city and the CID.

The CID requested that council consider proposals on both September 1, 2026, and September 30, 2026, as well as during the TIPS Meeting in January of each calendar year. Additional questions were:

1. Would city staff such as City Manager, Code Enforcement, Planning & Zoning have internal meetings with the CID to discuss current or future projects.

2. Would proposals come before council during the TIPS Meeting or during the monthly City Council Meetings.

Legal read a list of services that would be provided to the city.

This item will be moved to the City Council Meeting for decision.

IV. 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 George Turner to enter executive session for personnel, litigation, real estate and cyber security. Second by Councilmember Alecia Washington.

Motion passed 4-0 with District 2 being vacant.

Motion – made by Councilmember George Turner to exit executive session and return to the regular scheduled meeting. Second by Councilmember Karmesha Smith.

Motion passed 4-0 with District 2 being vacant.

Motion – made by Councilmember George Turner to approve the minutes from executive session. Second by Councilmember Karmesha Smith.

Motion passed 4-0 with District 2 being vacant.

Councilmember George Turner reminded Stonecrest citizens to sit their trash out tonight as DeKalb Sanitation announced they are starting pickups early.

V. ADJOURNMENT

Motion – made by Councilmember George Turner to adjourn the meeting. Second by Councilmember Karmesha Smith.

Motion passed 4-0 with District 2 being vacant.

The meeting adjourned at 8:59pm.

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.