



CITY OF STONECREST, GEORGIA

CITY COUNCIL MEETING – MINUTES

3120 Stonecrest Blvd., Stonecrest, GA 30038

Monday, March 24, 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 6:11pm.

II. ROLL CALL: Sonya Isom, City Clerk

All members were present.

III. INVOCATION: Reverend C. Louis Jackson, Smokerise IBC

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

V. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Motion – made by Councilmember Terry Fye to approve the agenda as listed. Second by Councilmember Tara Graves.

Motion passed unanimously.

VI. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a. Approval of Meeting Minutes - City Council Meeting, February 24, 2025

Motion – made by Councilmember Terry Fye to approve the meeting minutes from the February 24, 2025, City Council Meeting. 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 - The Evelyn Stokes Foundation will host a free safety presentation, and asked suggested council look at Henry and Rockdale counties to bring revenue and tourism.

Abdul Ali - Thankful for progress in the city. Technology is causing fear in the community and he would like to meet with the council to discuss issues in the city, He also suggested having a moment of silence at the beginning of each meeting.

Vincent Lamotte - He has been running an afterschool program for youth in the community and would like the City's assistance in forming a film school or program for youth in Stonecrest.

Donna Priest-Brown (via email) - Concerned about drag racing in the city and encouraging city leaders to do more regarding this issue. She would like to see elected officials advocate for solutions with DKPD; update residents on progress; add speed humps and cameras in high-risk areas and partner with other leaders to come up with a response plan for ongoing safety threats.

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 - SLUP 24-009 3356 Panola Road - Shawanna Qawiy, Division Director, Community Development

The presentation was given by Director Qawiy stating the applicant is seeking a Special Land Use Permit to operate a Type 2 Home occupation for a child daycare. The property is located at 3356 Panola Road at the intersection of Panola Road and Rock Springs Road. Zoned R-100 Medium Residential Lot, the property is currently used as a residence for the applicant in conjunction with a child daycare center. There was a review of the zoning map, future land use, aerial location map, submitted site plan, outdoor play area, site photos, and staff approval with conditions as stated in the packet.

Motion – made by Councilmember Tammy Grimes to open public hearing for SLUP 24-09 3356 Panola Road. Second by Councilmember Alecia Washington.

Motion passed unanimously.

There were comments from the applicants stating they have given a presentation at two previous meetings and will correct anything that needs to be corrected. They have been in existence for 30 plus years and there was no one in place previously to make sure the license was up to date. It was stated that the owner is a pillar in the community.

Mayor Cobble stated the applicant had been in business before Stonecrest became a city and maintained all licenses. She believes this requires an administrative remedy and not a SLUP. It was stated it was the applicant's decision to take this route and complete a SLUP. Six children or less is a facility and a daycare is seven or more. They are regulated to have twelve. Councilmember Grimes is excited and has never seen children or anything out of place at the house.

In Favor

Faye Coffield

Leatha Spivey

Carole Dortch

In Opposition

None

Motion – made by Councilmember Tara Graves to close public hearing for SLUP 24-009 3356 Panola Road. Second by Councilmember Alecia Washington.

Motion passed unanimously.

- b. For Decision** - Ordinance for SLUP 24-009 3356 Panola Road - *Shawanna Qawiy, Division Director, Community Development*

The preamble was read by the City Clerk.

Attorney Denmark stated council can vote on adoption and if need be, the ordinance can be updated with the appropriate language. The Attorney will clean up the language to be consistent.

Motion – made by Councilmember Alecia Washington to approve SLUP 24-009 3356 Panola Road as a child daycare center. Second by Councilmember Tammy Grimes.

Motion passed unanimously.

- c. Public Hearing** - SLUP 25-001 4989 Thompson Mill Road - *Shawanna Qawiy, Division Director, Community Development*

The presentation was given by Director Qawiy stating the applicant is seeking a Special Land Use Permit to operate a Type 2 Home Occupation for a personal care home. The subject property is located at 4989 Thompson Mill Road. The dwelling is located in the Miller's Cove Subdivision with a floor area of 2,258 square feet. The nearest personal care home is located approximately 1250 ft from the subject property. There was a review of the zoning map, future land use, aerial location map, exterior site photos, interior photos, and the submitted floor plan. Staff recommended approval with conditions as noted.

The facility will be for disabled patients and is within the proximity of retail stores, a fire department and local hospital. The facility has been in compliance with city codes and labeled good for the community. The owner must reside in the Personal Care Home, must obtain licenses/permits and must be visible.

Motion – made by Councilmember Terry Fye to open public hearing for SLUP 25-001 4989 Thompson Mill Road. Second by Councilmember Tammy Grimes.

Motion passed unanimously.

In Favor

Rufaro Moyo

Goodwin Moyo

In Opposition

None

Motion – made by Councilmember Terry Fye to close public hearing for SLUP 25-001 4989 Thompson Mill Road. Second by Councilmember Tammy Grimes.

Motion passed unanimously.

- d. **For Decision** - Ordinance for SLUP 25-001 4989 Thompson Mill Road - *Shawana Qawiy, Division Director, Community Development*

The residents will not drive and will require rides to and from the facility. There will be a nurse and caregiver on site from 9am-5pm. The driveway allows spacing for emergency vehicles to make full turn arounds in lieu of accessing patients and possible transport.

Motion – made by Councilmember Terry Fye to approve SLUP 25-001 4989 Thompson Mill Road. Second by Mayor Pro Tem George Turner.

Motion failed 3-2 with Councilmembers Tara Graves, Alecia Washington and Tammy Grimes voting Nay.

- e. **Public Hearing** - RZ 24-005 1810 Coffee Road - *Shawanna Qawiy, Division Director, Community Development*

The presentation was given by Director Qawiy stating the applicant is seeking a rezoning and map amendment of 1.42 acres from M-2 Heavy Industrial to M Light Industrial. The subject property is 1.42 +/- acres, currently zoned M-2 Heavy Industrial with a future land use designation of HIND Heavy Industrial and located at 1810 Coffee Road. The subject property is currently vacant, and heavily wooded with indications of wetlands. Staff are requesting a full cycle deferral.

- f. **For Decision** - Ordinance for RZ 24-005 1810 Coffee Road - *Shawanna Qawiy, Division Director, Community Development*

Motion – made by Councilmember Tara Graves to approve a full cycle deferral for RZ 24-005 1810 Coffee Road. Second by Councilmember Alecia Washington.

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

IX. CONSENT AGENDA

X. APPOINTMENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a.** Appointment of the Purchasing Agent/Purchasing Official - *Gia Scruggs, City Manager*

Appointment of Tanisha Boynton as the Official Purchasing Agent for the City of Stonecrest.

XI. REPORTS & PRESENTATIONS

XII. OLD BUSINESS

- a. For Decision** - Resolution to approve Fleet Policy Revisions Recommendation - *Reginald Powell, Facilities Operations Manager*

The presentation was given by Mr. Powell stating the current fleet policy for the City of Stonecrest has been reviewed and needs revisions to assure the city follows policies, regulations, insurance coverage and city guidelines. There was a review of the purpose, city requirements to be a driver, and requirements for approval to take vehicles home. Staff are requesting approval. There will be a process developed in the policy that will include a written request, along with justification/need of a vehicle. Once approved there will be training provided for staff.

Motion – made by Councilmember Terry Fye to approve the Resolution for Fleet Policy Revisions Recommendation. Second by Councilmember Tara Graves.

Motion passed unanimously.

- b. For Decision** - Resolution to approve Purchasing Policy Revisions Recommendation - *Tanisha Boynton, Procurement Manager*

The presentation was given by Ms. Boynton stating revisions were made after the last meeting held on March 10th. The intent is to ensure compliance and applicable additional requirements when utilizing SPLOST, ARPA, and Federal Grant funds.

Motion – made by Councilmember Terry Fye to approve the Resolution for Purchasing Policy Revisions Recommendation. Second by Councilmember Tammy Grimes.

Motion passed 4-1 with Councilmember Tara Graves voting Nay.

- c. For Decision** - Resolution to approve Purchasing Card Policy Revisions Recommendation - *Tanisha Boynton, Procurement Manager*

The presentation was given by Ms. Boynton stating additional minor revisions have been made since the March 10th Work Session, addressing the use of purchasing cards by the council.

Motion – made by Councilmember Tammy Grimes to approve the Resolution for Purchasing Card Policy Revisions Recommendation. Second by Councilmember Alecia Washington.

Motion passed unanimously.

- d. **For Decision** - Resolution to approve Travel Policy Revisions Recommendation - *Lakeisha Gaines, Finance Director*

The presentation was given by Director Gaines stating she has made updates addressing elected officials who travel under 50 miles for training or for any other city business that may be reimbursed for overnight lodging, with prior notification. Updates were also made in regard to employees who travel under 50 miles for training and other city business, being reimbursed for overnight lodging with prior notification.

Motion – made by Councilmember Tara Graves to approve the Resolution for Travel Policy Revisions Recommendation. Second by Mayor Pro Tem George Turner.

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

- e. **For Decision** - Resolution to approve Financial Management Policy Revisions Recommendation - *Lakeisha Gaines, Finance Director*

The presentation was given by Director Gaines stating the requested changes have been made. There was a review of the budget process according to the Charter for grant matches that must be pre-approved by the council to use city funds.

Motion – made by Councilmember Terry Fye to approve the Financial Management Policy Revisions Recommendation. Second by Councilmember Tammy Grimes.

Motion passed unanimously.

XIII. NEW BUSINESS

- a. **For Decision** - Resolution for SDP 24-001 Preliminary Plat 2955 Klondike Road - *Shawanna Qawiy, Division Director, Community Development*

The presentation was given by Director Qawiy stating the applicant is seeking approval of a preliminary plat for a 72 unit townhome development to be known as Klondike Station. The parcel is currently zoned R-100 Residential Medium Lot with an Urban Neighborhood future land use designation in the Stonecrest Overlay -Tier 3 and the applicant plans to build on 4.76 acres. The development will be subject to private covenants and governed by a mandatory homeowners' association. There was a review of the background, current zoning, future land use, Stonecrest Overlay Tier 3 and aerial location map. The staff recommended approval with conditions as stated in the packet. The City Clerk read the preamble.

Motion – made by Councilmember Tara Graves to approve the Resolution for SDP 24-001 Preliminary Plat 2955 Klondike Road. Second by Councilmember Alecia Washington.

Motion passed unanimously.

- b. **For Decision** - Ordinance for Personnel Code Amendment, 1st Read - *Leona Durden, Director of Human Resources*

The presentation was given by Director Durden stating this amendment will remove the Personnel Chapter from the Code of Ordinance, adopting the Personnel Manual as the official employment document of the city. Director Durden also stated there will be one

comprehensive manual for all policies. There was a review of the amendment overview, objective and key components. The staff recommended approval.
The City Clerk read the preamble. 1st Read.

- c. For Decision** - Ordinance for Financial Management Code Amendment, 1st Read -
Lakeisha Gaines, Finance Director

The presentation was given by Director Gaines, stating this is to adopt the Financial Management Policy as the official Finance Policy of the city.
The City Clerk read the preamble, 1st Read.

- d. For Decision** - Resolution for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Acceptance
- Lakeisha Gaines, Finance Director

The presentation was given by Director Gaines stating that the City of Stonecrest was selected as a recipient of the DeKalb County 2024 CDBG Funding Grant on July 22, 2024, granting the City of Stonecrest \$500,000 for funding, to be used for sidewalk projects and to also have the opportunity for other projects. Staff are asking the council to accept the grant. This is a huge investment for safe sidewalks.
The preamble was read by the City Clerk.

Motion – made by Councilmember Tammy Grimes to approve the Resolution for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG). Second by Councilmember Alecia Washington.

Motion passed 4-0 with District 1 being temporarily absent.

- e. For Decision** - Resolution for Transportation Alternative Program (TAP) Application -
Lakeisha Gaines, Finance Director

The presentation was given by Director Gaines, stating staff are seeking approval to apply for the Transportation Alternative Program Grant with GDOT. The eligible projects to qualify for the grant are on road and off-road trail facilities for pedestrians, bicyclists and other non-motorized forms of transportation. The staff are preparing to apply for the grant to construct a shared use path along Thompson Mill Road from Winding Grove Drive to the city limits at Snapfinger Creek Bridge. The total estimated cost of the project is \$3.8 million dollars, and the proposed grant funding is \$3,040,000 with a city match of \$760,000, from SPLOST II.

The preamble was read by the City Clerk.

Motion – made by Councilmember Terry Fye to approve the Resolution for Transportation Alternative Program (TAP) Application. Second by Councilmember Tammy Grimes.

Motion passed 4-0 with District 1 being temporarily absent.

XIV. CITY ATTORNEY COMMENTS

No comments.

XV. CITY MANAGER UPDATE

Pleased to announce the start of the marketing campaign for the city app. Official voting for the top 5 will be on March 31st, final voting will be held on April 12th, announcement of the name will be on April 21st and the official launch will be on June 1st. Last Thursday was the first day of the Citizens Academy, with a total of 33 participants including three city employees. The graduation ceremony will be held at the April 28th City Council Meeting. April 21st – April 26th, 2025, is Georgia Cities Week, with the theme “Imagine the Possible.”

XVI. MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS

District 1 – Tara Graves – No comments.

District 2 – Terry Fye – Kudos to the City Manager and Code Enforcement for being so responsive. Residents who gave public comments, please come out to our March 31st Town Hall meeting at Lou Walker Senior Center from 6:00pm-7:30pm.

District 3 – Alecia Washington – District 1 & District 3 will host a combined Town Hall on Saturday, March 29th at The City of Stonecrest. Both Districts are also hosting a Hazardous Waste event, to be held at 2 sites. District 1 to be held at City Hall and District 3 to be held at Fairington Park. Dumpsters will be at the sites from 8:00am – 1:00pm.

District 4 – Mayor Pro Tem George Turner – At the end of Salem Road at Evans Mill, there will be water line construction, to be completed by the end of April, and he is asking for patience during this time. There are field hogs in the neighborhoods that have been causing damage to landscape in several yards. If you see them, please report to authorities for removal.

District 5 – Tammy Grimes – Stay tuned for Talk with Tammy. The location, date and time are to be announced. Please continue to pray for our school system, children and educators.

Mayor Cobble – Thanks to everyone that came out to Walk with the Mayors. Mayor Cobble stated she will be with the students at Panola Way Elementary reading a story about government for The Mayor’s Reading Club Initiative. This Saturday is the Women of Woman Gala. Happy Birthday to our City Manager.

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. Second by Mayor Pro Tem George Turner.

Motion passed 3-1 with Councilmember Tammy Grimes voting Nay.

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

Motion passed unanimously.

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

Motion passed unanimously.

XVIII. ADJOURNMENT

Motion – made by Councilmember Terry Fye to adjourn the scheduled City Council Meeting.
Second by Councilmember Tammy Grimes.

Motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:29pm.

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.