



CITY OF STONECREST, GEORGIA

CITY COUNCIL MEETING – MINUTES

3120 Stonecrest Blvd., Stonecrest, GA 30038

Monday, January 27, 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 6:10pm.

II. ROLL CALL: Sonya Isom, City Clerk

All members were present.

III. INVOCATION: Bishop Anthony Thomas, Secure Foundations Ministries

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

V. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Motion – made by Councilmember Terry Fye to approve the meeting agenda as stated. Second by Councilmember Tammy Grimes.

Motion passed unanimously.

VI. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a. Approval of Meeting Minutes - City Council Meeting, December 16, 2024

Motion – made by Councilmember Terry Fye to approve the meeting minutes from the December 16, 2024, City Council Meeting. Second by Councilmember Alecia Washington.

Motion passed unanimously.

b. Approval of Meeting Minutes - Special Called Meeting, December 23, 2024

Motion – made by Councilmember Tammy Grimes to approve the meeting minutes from the December 23, 2024, Special Called 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- Comments regarding the December 2024 Special Called Meeting, as well as ARPA fund distribution.

Beatrice Williams – Complaints about garbage from an eviction at a neighboring rental property. Concerns about elected officials.

Dave Marcus – Concerns about the Finance Department, SPLOST reports, and communication with constituents.

Renee Cail (Email)- Keep Mayor Pro Tem in our prayers after the loss of his wife.

Mayor Pro Tem George Turner stated comments are not taken lightly and will be addressed.

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 - Intent to Opt Out of HB 581 - Michael McCoy, Deputy City Manager & Ed Wall, Financial Advisor

Presentation by Deputy City Manager McCoy, Financial Advisor Ed Wall and Mayor Cobble. There was a review of the opt out timeline along with a detailed explanation of the Homestead Exemption by Mr. Wall, speaking of current Homestead Exemptions and what it could mean in the future for residents. All information is listed on the website, as well as in the meeting packet. There must be a decision made by the council to opt out by March 1, 2025. The council will decide how to provide equity and not over tax residents and business owners. Council would like to hear from citizens before making a decision. There are opportunities to meet virtually and at a scheduled town hall.

Motion – made by Councilmember Terry Fye to approve a time extension for Public Hearing comments on the Intent to Opt Out of HB 581 by 30 minutes, 15 minutes for support and 15 minutes for opposition. Second by Councilmember Tara Graves.

Motion passed unanimously.

In Favor

Joel Thibodeaux

Faye Coffield

Wesley Smith

In Opposition

Donna Priest-Brown

Miranda Daniel

Sam Stuckey

Renee Cail – email

Not For or Against

Dave Marcus

Motion – made by Councilmember Terry Fye to close public hearing for the Intent to Opt Out of HB 581. Second by Councilmember Tammy Grimes.

Motion passed unanimously.

b. Public Hearing - ZMOD 24-004 2193 Panola Road - *Shawanna Qawiy, Division Director Community Development*

Presentation by Director Qawiy who stated this business is outside of the overlay and that the applicant is seeking to amend a non-permitted use condition (1) (d). Barber Shop/Beauty Salon and/or similar personal service establishments to allow one (1) wax establishment. There was a review of the background, zoning map, future land use map, existing approved site plans, building elevation, ariel location map, zoning conditions RZ19-005, public participation, and staff recommendation of approval.

Motion – made by Councilmember Terry Fye to open public hearing for ZMOD 24-004 2193 Panola Road. Second by Councilmember Tara Graves.

Motion passed unanimously.

In Favor

Ariana Ayala

Jose Ayala

In Opposition

Faye Coffield

Motion – made by Councilmember Terry Fye to close public hearing for ZMOD 24-004 2193 Panola Road. Second by Councilmember Tammy Grimes.

Motion passed unanimously.

c. For Decision - Ordinance for ZMOD 24-004 2193 Panola Road - *Shawanna Qawiy, Division Director Community Development*

IX.

The preamble was read by the City Clerk.

The request is to allow an exception to condition D. Attorney Thompson discussed factors the city must follow to have a major or minor change, depending on the percentage you are trying to amend. This request would be a major change.

Motion – made by Councilmember Terry Fye to deny the Ordinance for ZMOD 24-004 2193 Panola Road. Second by Councilmember Tammy Grimes.

Motion passed unanimously.

X. CONSENT AGENDA

XI. APPOINTMENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a. Appointment of City's Finance Director - *Mayor Jazzmin Cobble*

Introduction by Mayor Cobble, stating that council is being asked to appoint Ms. Lakeisha Gaines as the City's Finance Director.

Motion – made by Councilmember Tammy Grimes to approve the Appointment of Lakeisha Gaines as the City's Finance Director. Second by Councilmember Terry Fye.

Motion passed 3-2 with Councilmember Tara Graves and Councilmember Alecia Washington voting Nay.

XII. REPORTS & PRESENTATIONS

- a. Stonecrest Charter Commission, Joel Thibodeaux

Presentation by Mr. Thibodeaux stating there is a Charter Commission meeting scheduled for Wednesday, January 29, 2025 @ 6pm and public comments will be allowed with no time limits. He is asking the public to come out, make your thoughts known and let your voice be heard. Comments can also be addressed to the City Clerk's Office at cityclerk@stonecrestga.gov.

- b. Splinter Group, Sheldon Fleming of Parks and Recreation

Proclamation presented by Director Kelly Ledbetter and Mr. Sheldon Fleming recognizing and thanking the Naturalist Coordinator and Splinter Group for a job well done.

XIII. OLD BUSINESS

- a. **For Decision** - Ordinance for FY25 Personnel Changes, 2nd Read - *Gia Scruggs, City Manager*

2nd read of the preamble by the City Clerk.

Motion – made by Councilmember Terry Fye to approve the Ordinance for FY25 Personnel Changes, 2nd Read. Second by Councilmember Tara Graves.

Motion passed unanimously.

- b. **For Decision** - Resolution for Adoption of Workplace Wellness Policy - *Leona Durden, Human Resources Director*

Presentation by Director Durden stating this item was originally presented at the Work

Session Meeting on January 13, 2025. There was one recommendation to add the definition of Health and Wellness to the policy. Staff recommend approval and adoption of this resolution.

The City Clerk read the preamble.

Motion – made by Councilmember Tammy Grimes to approve the Resolution for Adoption of Workplace Wellness Policy. Second by Councilmember Tara Graves.

Motion passed unanimously.

- c. **For Decision** - Resolution to Adopt Uniform Municipal Court Rules of Procedure - *Chief Judge Curtis W. Miller & Mallory Minor, Court Administrator*

Presentation by Court Administrator Minor, addressing the Uniform Municipal Court Rules of Georgia Resolution. Staff is recommending approval with accordance to the City Charter. These are the rules that the court must operate by and council is asked to make this a part of the governance of the city for the benefit of all the Stonecrest citizens.

The City Clerk read the preamble.

Motion – made by Councilmember Tammy Grimes to approve the Resolution to Adopt Uniform Municipal Court Rules of Procedure. Second by Councilmember Alecia Washington.

Motion passed unanimously.

XIV. NEW BUSINESS

- a. **For Decision** - Amendment of 2025 City Council Meeting Dates - *Mayor Jazzmin Cobble*

Presentation by Mayor Cobble stating there are a few dates on the City Council meeting calendar that needs to be reset due to conflict.

The new requested dates are as follows:

- May 29, 2025 – City Council Meeting
- June 26, 2025 – City Council Meeting
- December 18, 2025 – Combined Work Session & City Council Meeting
- December 26, 2025 – City Closure

Motion – made by Councilmember Terry Fye to approve the Amendment of 2025 City Council Meeting Dates with the stated changes. Second by Councilmember Tammy Grimes.

Motion passed unanimously.

- b. **For Decision** - Resolution Appointing DeKalb County to Conduct the City of Stonecrest General Election - *Sonya Isom, City Clerk*

The City Clerk read the preamble.

Motion – made by Councilmember Tammy Grimes to approve the Resolution Appointing DeKalb County to Conduct the City of Stonecrest General Election. Second by

Councilmember Terry Fye.
Motion passed unanimously.

- c. **For Decision** - Resolution to Set Qualifying Dates and Fees for the November 4, 2025, General Election - *Sonya Isom, City Clerk*

The City Clerk read the preamble.

Motion – made by Councilmember Terry Fye to approve the Resolution to Set Qualifying Dates and Fees for the November 4, 2025, General Election. Second by Councilmember Tara Graves.

Motion passed unanimously.

XV. CITY ATTORNEY COMMENTS

No comments

XVI. CITY MANAGER UPDATE

City Manager Scruggs responded to some of the public comments that were received, going over the importance of the 2021 audit and mentioned a plan to upload financial transparency software to the city website. She also mentioned the city is hiring qualified applicants for open positions and is looking for a Grant Administrator to assist with applying for State and Federal Grants that we would like to apply for in 2025.

XVII. MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS

District 1 – Tara Graves – Welcome back Mayor Pro Tem and appreciates constituents for coming out to the meeting. Asked City Manager for reports and a follow-up on 2024 sponsorships.

District 2 – Terry Fye – Thanks to every citizen that came out to the first public hearing and stated he is holding online interviews from February 6th -22nd to discuss how HB581 affects everyone. Please sign up for a spot.

District 3 – Alecia Washington – Will inform District 3 of townhall to discuss HB581 before March 1st. Feel free to email me and thanks to everyone who came out.

District 5 – Tammy Grimes – Thanks to District 5 for showing up tonight and being engaged. Please email specific questions with concerns regarding HB581. Please also send your email addresses to 470-456-0066 as we prepare for a Talk with Tammy. You can also send an email to tgrimes@stonecrestga.gov.

District 4 – Mayor Pro Tem George Turner – February 16th would have been 40 years of marriage to his wife. Thanks to everyone for your support and everything you did, from the bottom of his heart. He is glad to be back. God bless everyone.

Mayor Cobble - Excited about the Love in the Air ceremonies that are scheduled with the Municipal Court. Please sign up for a time slot from 3:00pm-6:00pm. We are spreading love across the greatest city on the planet.

XVIII. 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 Tara Graves.

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

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

XIX. ADJOURNMENT

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

Motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 9:52pm.

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.