



## CITY OF STONECREST, GEORGIA

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### CITY COUNCIL MEETING – MINUTES

3120 Stonecrest Blvd., Stonecrest, GA 30038

Monday, December 16, 2024 at 6:00 PM

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*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*

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

**I. CALL TO ORDER:** George Turner, Mayor Pro-Tem

The meeting began at 6:48pm.

**II. ROLL CALL:** Sonya Isom, City Clerk

All members were present with Mayor Jazzmin Cobble and Councilmember Terry Fye present via zoom and Councilmember Tara Graves absent.

**III. INVOCATION:** Senior Pastor Bob Lindsay, First Baptist Church of Lithonia

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

**V. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

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

**Motion passed 4-0 with Councilmember Tara Graves being absent.**

**VI. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**a.** Approval of Meeting Minutes - Special Called Meeting, November 7, 2024

**Motion** – made by Councilmember Tammy Grimes to approve the minutes from the November 7, 2024, Special Called Meeting. Second by Councilmember Alecia Washington.

**Motion passed 4-0 with Councilmember Tara Graves being absent.**

**b.** Approval of Meeting Minutes - Work Session, November 12, 2024

**Motion** – made by Councilmember Alecia Washington to approve the minutes from the November 12, 2024, Work Session. Second by Mayor Pro Tem George Turner.  
**Motion passed 4-0 with Councilmember Tara Graves being absent.**

- c. Approval of Meeting Minutes - City Council Meeting, November 25, 2024

**Motion** – made by Councilmember Alecia Washington to approve the minutes from the November 25, 2024, City Council Meeting. Second by Councilmember Tammy Grimes  
**Motion passed 4-0 with Councilmember Tara Graves being absent.**

## 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](mailto: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.*

### In Person

Faye Coffield – concerns about city funding and Metro Green.

Freasia Young – opposing the business license for Metro Green, mentioning concerns about the environmental impact in a residential community.

Renee Cail – comments on Metro Green and would like the status of the Stonecrest Industrial Council and how it will benefit the residents of Stonecrest.

Jeremy Scott – opposed to Metro Green, would like to provide wrap around services for those in need, the increase in homelessness and expressed desire for a moratorium on food marts and smoke shops.

Brenda Whitaker – opposed to Metro Green and concerned about the health of seniors and others.

Gail Andrews / Sent via email – deny Metro Green business license and concerns on the health impacts on the community,

## 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](mailto: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** - RZ 24-004 2680 Panola Road - *Shawanna Qawiy, Planning & Zoning Director*

Presentation by Director Qawiy via zoom stating this is a rezoning request and the applicants are Jesse Clark NVR/Ryan Homes for Pastor J. Williams, Jr. of Salem Bible Church Inc. The request is to rezone the parcel from C-1 (Local Commercial) to MR-2 (Medium Density Residential) for the development of a mixed residential community. There was review of the Zoning Map, Future Land Use Map, Aerial Map, Submitted Site Plan for the proposed northside of the development, Panola Park: Project in Context, Panola Park: Actions Overview, Proposed Building Elevations, Developing Suburb - Unified Growth Policy Map- ARC, Development of Regional Impact (DRI). Staff recommended approval with conditions as listed in the packet.

**Motion** – made by Councilmember Terry Fye to open the public hearing for RZ 24-004 2680 Panola Road. Second by Councilmember Tammy Grimes.

**Motion passed 4-0 with Councilmember Tara Graves being absent.**

**Motion** – made by Councilmember Terry Fye to extend the time for public hearing by six minutes on each side. Seconded by Councilmember Tammy Grimes.

**Motion passed 4-0 with Councilmember Tara Graves being absent.**

**Motion** – made by Councilmember Terry Fye to close the public hearing for RZ 24-004 2680 Panola Road. Second by Councilmember Tammy Grimes

**Motion passed 4-0 with Councilmember Tara Graves being absent.**

**b. For Decision** - Ordinance for RZ 24-004 2680 Panola Road - *Shawanna Qawiy, Planning & Zoning Director*

The preamble was read by the City Clerk.

**Motion** – made by Mayor Pro Tem George Turner to approve the ordinance for RZ 24-004 2680 Panola Road with the conditions stated by the Planning Commission and the additional condition of the HOA. Second by Councilmember Terry Fye.

**Motion passed 4-0 with Councilmember Tara Graves being absent.**

**IX. CONSENT AGENDA**

**X. APPOINTMENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**a. Appointment of Committee Chairs for TIPS and Finance** - *George Turner, Mayor Pro Tem*

Mayor Pro Tem George Turner recommended the appointment of Councilmember Terry Fye as the Chair of the TIPS committee, stating this will be voted on at the first TIPS meeting of 2025. Mayor Pro Tem George Turner also recommended Councilmember Tammy Grimes as Chair of the Finance Committee. This will be voted on at the first Finance Committee meeting of 2025.

- b. Appointment of Certificate Review Hearing Officer - *George Turner, Mayor Pro Tem*

This item was led by Mayor Cobble, stating this appointment is to ensure that the city has an officer to handle appeals for the city's business licenses. The mayor recommended Mark Anthony Scott to serve as Certificate Review Hearing Officer for the City of Stonecrest, for business license appeals.

**Motion** – made by Mayor Pro Tem George Turner to approve the appointment of Mark Anthony Scott as the Certificate Review Hearing Officer. Second by Councilmember Terry Fye.

**Motion passed 4-0 with Councilmember Tara Graves being absent.**

## XI. REPORTS & PRESENTATIONS

## XII. OLD BUSINESS

**Motion** – made by Mayor Pro Tem George Turner to approve a five-minute recess. Second by Councilmember Terry Fye.

**Motion passed 4-0 with Councilmember Tara Graves being absent.**

**Motion** – made by Councilmember Tammy Grimes to return to the regular scheduled session after a five-minute recess. Second by Councilmember Alecia Washington.

**Motion passed 4-0 with Councilmember Tara Graves being absent.**

- a. **For Decision** - Resolution for the Adoption of the FY 2025 Budget - *Gia Scruggs, City Manager*

City Manager Scruggs recommended a deferral of this item due to the timeliness of receiving information that may have a fiscal and personnel impact.

**Motion** – made by Councilmember Tammy Grimes to approve the deferral of the Resolution for the Adoption of the FY 2025 Budget to a date to be named soon. Second by Councilmember Alecia Washington.

**Motion** – made by Councilmember Tammy Grimes to approve the deferral of the Resolution for the Adoption of the FY 2025 Budget to a Special Called Meeting to be held on December 23, 2024 @ 6pm. Second by Councilmember Terry Fye.

**Motion passed 4-0 with Councilmember Tara Graves being absent.**

- b. **For Decision** - Resolution for the Adoption of Boards and Commissions Appointments - *George Turner, Mayor Pro Tem*

Presentation by Mayor Pro Tem Turner stating the council voted to appoint members of the committees to the Planning Commission, Zoning Board of Appeals, Construction Board of Appeals and the Urban Redevelopment Agency at the last meeting.

The City Clerk read the preamble for the listed Boards and Commissions.

**Motion** – made by Councilmember Tammy Grimes to approve all four resolutions with the stated changes. Second by Councilmember Alecia Washington.

**Motion passed 4-0 with Councilmember Tara Graves being absent.**

- c. **For Decision** - Ordinance for City Manager's Signing Authority - *George Turner, Mayor Pro Tem*

Presentation by Mayor Pro Tem George Turner stating that this item was discussed by the Finance Committee and there was a consensus that the threshold of \$50,000 would be the signing limit for the City Manager effective January 1, 2025. Mayor Cobble suggested that contracts with amounts of \$100,000 or more should come before the council to be voted on.

**Motion** – made by Councilmember Tammy Grimes to approve the Ordinance for the City Manager’s Signing Authority for \$49,999.99. Second by Councilmember Alecia Washington.

**Amended Motion** – made by Councilmember Tammy Grimes to approve the Ordinance for the City Manager’s Signing Authority for \$50,000.00. Second by Councilmember Alecia Washington.

**Motion passed 4-0 with Councilmember Tara Graves being absent.**

### XIII. NEW BUSINESS

- a. **For Decision** - Extension to the Charter Commission Completion Date - *George Turner, Mayor Pro Tem*

Presentation by Mayor Pro Tem stating that during the establishment of the Charter Commission a completion date was set for November 2024. Mayor Pro Tem suggested November 2025 as the new completion date.

**Motion** – made by Mayor Pro Tem George Turner to approve the Extension to the Charter Commission Completion Date for November 2025. Second by Councilmember Tammy Grimes.

**Motion passed 4-0 with Councilmember Tara Graves being absent.**

- b. **For Decision** - Official Letter to the General Assembly Delegation of Stonecrest - *George Turner, Mayor Pro Tem*

Presentation by Mayor Pro Tem George Turner stating he has been talking to members of the General Assembly in regard to the two appointees for the City of Stonecrest. Mayor Pro Tem is suggesting sending an official letter to the General Assembly to appoint a representative.

- c. **For Decision** - Browns Mill Park and Fairington Park - Parking Lots Resurfacing - *Hari Karikaran, City Engineer*

Presentation by City Engineer Karikaran stating that the funding for this project will come from ARPA Funding. The contract was awarded to Blount Construction Company for street resurfacing in July 2024 and the council made an amendment in September 2024 to add more streets. Blount Construction has completed all the streets, in addition to Panola Road resurfacing. The contract also included parking lot resurfacing at Wellington Manor. Staff is recommending using the same contract to pave the parking lots at Fairington Park and Browns Mill Park. The total funding amount is \$580,381.51 from ARPA Funding.

Legal commented that the initial contract was rewarded for street resurfacing and the scope of contract that the Fairington Park Project is a different project. They are unsure if the contract will cover Fairington Park. Suggests adding this project to the existing contract instead of amending the current contract.

**d. For Decision - Fairington Park - Installation of Perimeter Fencing - Hari Karikaran, City Engineer**

Presentation by City Engineer Karikaran stating that this project will be funded through ARPA Funding. He is looking to put fencing around Fairington Park. The fence will be steel, with 2 automatic gates and 2 small sliding gates, as well as fencing for the sidewalk. Staff is proposing to remove the fencing that is currently being used. This is a piggyback contract from Rockdale on-call contract.

**Motion** – made by Councilmember Alecia Washington to approve the Fairington Park – Installation of Perimeter Fencing. Second by Councilmember Tammy Grimes.  
**Motion passed 4-0 with Councilmember Tara Graves being absent.**

**XIV. CITY ATTORNEY COMMENTS**

No comments

**XV. CITY MANAGER UPDATE**

Would like to wish everyone a safe holiday season. Thank you to the City of Stonecrest Staff.

**XVI. MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS**

District 1 – Absent

District 2 – Would like to thank Ms. Hudson and Mr. Gregory for hosting a meet and greet to talk to residents and interact. Everyone be careful and stay sanitized.

District 3 – Would like to thank everyone who came out to the district townhall. Be safe and have a Merry Christmas.

District 4 – Light Up Stonecrest was an amazing event that we are looking to make a tradition for the City of Stonecrest. Kudos to the planners and more to come. Stay vigilant and have a safe and Merry Christmas.

District 5 – Shout out to New Birth for the quality Toy Giveaway. District 5 will be supporting 2 groups: “For the Love of Giving”, with Ms. Catherine and “Where Purpose Meets Destiny”, with Wanda Wallace. Final Exams are upcoming, students please get rest.

Mayor Cobble – No Comments

**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 Tammy Grimes to enter Executive Session for personnel, litigation, real estate and cyber security. Second by Councilmember Alecia Washington.

**Motion passed 4-0 with Councilmember Tara Graves being absent.**

**Motion** – made by Councilmember Tammy Grimes to exit Executive Session and return to the scheduled meeting. Second by Councilmember Alecia Washington.

**Motion passed 4-0 with Councilmember Tara Graves being absent.**

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

**Motion passed 4-0 with Councilmember Tara Graves being absent.**

## **XVIII. ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion** – made by Councilmember Tammy Grimes to adjourn the City Council Meeting. Second by Councilmember Alecia Washington.

**Motion passed 4-0 with Councilmember Tara Graves being absent.**

The meeting adjourned at 10:52pm.

### *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.*