



Mayor and City Council Special Called Meeting

Tuesday, April 01, 2025 at 5:30 PM

City Hall, 875 Main Street, Stone Mountain, Georgia 30083

Minutes

**Mayor and Council: Dr. Beverly Jones – Mayor | Post 3: Mayor Pro Tem Ryan Smith
Post 1: Council Member Anita Bass | Post 2: Council Member Mark Marianos
Post 4: Council Member Gil Freeman | Post 5: Council Member Shawnette Bryant
Post 6: Council Member Teresa Crowe**

**Staff: Shawn Edmondson - City Manager | Maggie Dimov - Assistant City Manager -
DDA/Economic Development Director | Shavala Ames - City Clerk | Jeff Strickland - City
Attorney**

Call to Order

Mayor Jones called the meeting to order at 5:32 PM.

PRESENT: Council Member Post 1 Anita Bass, Council Member: Post 2 Mark Marianos, Mayor Pro Tem: Post 3 Ryan Smith, Council Member: Post 4 Gil Freeman (late), Council Member: Post 5 Shawnette Bryant, Council Member: Post 6 Teresa Crowe

Business

1. Consideration of an action on a request to allow DeKalb County to utilize the GMC building for election purposes, requested by City Clerk Shavala Ames

City Clerk Shavala Ames presented a request from DeKalb County to use the GMC building as a polling location for upcoming countywide elections. She explained that the County would be responsible for setup and operations during the election period and recommended a usage fee of \$100 per day to cover facility access and any associated costs incurred by the City. City Manager Edmondson provided additional context, noting that this agreement would serve as an initial step toward broader collaboration with DeKalb County. He indicated that the City of Stone Mountain is expected to enter into a separate agreement with the County at a later date for the administration of its municipal election and that allowing the County to use the GMC facility not only supports the electoral process but also helps strengthen the City's working relationship with DeKalb County.

ACTION: MOTION MADE TO ALLOW DEKALB COUNTY TO UTILIZE THE GMC BUILDING FOR ELECTION PURPOSES

Motion made by Council Member: Post 1 Anita Bass, Seconded by Council Member: Post 2 Mark Marianos

Voting Yea: Council Member Post 1 Anita Bass, Council Member: Post 2 Mark Marianos, Mayor Pro Tem: Post 3 Ryan Smith, Council Member: Post 4 Gil Freeman, Council Member: Post 6 Teresa Crowe

Voting No: Council Member: Post 5 Shawnette Bryant

43 **MOTION PASSED**

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45 **2. HB 581 Opt In, requested by Mayor Pro Tem Ryan Smith**

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47 Mayor Pro Tem Smith provided background information on the decision to further explore the
48 option of opting in to House Bill 581. Several cities including Dunwoody, Brookhaven, Stonecrest,
49 and Doraville have already opted in. Members of the governing body expressed concerns about
50 the potential implications for the City if it follows suit. Attorney Strickland offered legal insight,
51 explaining the provisions of HB 581 and noting that, should the City decide to opt in, the necessary
52 paperwork must be submitted to the Secretary of State's Office by April 30, 2025.

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54 **ACTION: MOTION MADE TO HAVE CITY ATTORNEY TO DRAFT RESOLUTION TO OPT IN**
55 **TO HB 581 FOR FURTHER APPROVAL BY COUNCIL**

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57 Motion made by Mayor Pro Tem: Post 3 Ryan Smith, Seconded by Council Member: Post 6
58 Teresa Crowe

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60 **Voting Yea:** Council Member Post 1 Anita Bass, Council Member: Post 2 Mark Marianos,
61 Mayor Pro Tem: Post 3 Ryan Smith, Council Member: Post 6 Teresa Crowe

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63 **Voting No:** Council Member: Post 4 Gil Freeman, Council Member: Post 5 Shawnette Bryant

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65 **3. Resolution 2025-09 - Enforcement of Adherence to Rules of Decorum for Effective Meeting**
66 **Management**

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68 City Attorney Strickland reminded the governing body that the Rules of Decorum resolution had
69 been formally adopted at a previous meeting. He explained that if there are any proposed
70 amendments or revisions to the current resolution, they must be submitted to him in writing so that
71 a revised version can be properly drafted and reviewed for legal sufficiency. Members of the
72 governing body acknowledged the need to revisit certain provisions and agreed to provide their
73 individual suggestions or concerns to the City Attorney. Once all input has been collected and
74 reviewed, a revised draft of the resolution will be prepared and scheduled for discussion and
75 potential adoption at a future meeting.

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77 **Adjournment**

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79 **ACTION: MOTION TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 6:31 P.M.**

80 Motion made by Mayor Pro Tem: Post 3 Smith, Seconded by Council Member: Post 2 Marianos

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82 **Voting Yea:** Council Member: Post 1 Bass, Council Member: Post 2 Marianos, Mayor Pro Tem:
83 Post 3 Smith, Council Member: Post 5 Bryant, Council Member: Post 6 Crowe

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85 **MOTION PASSED (UNANIMOUSLY)**

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92 **Dr. Beverly Jones, Mayor**

City Clerk, Shavala Ames