



# Mayor and City Council Regular Session Minutes

Tuesday, April 21, 2026 at 6:30 PM

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

## Minutes

1 **Mayor and Council: Jelani Linder – Mayor | Post 3: Mayor Pro Tem Ryan Smith | Post 1: Council**  
2 **Member Anita Bass | Post 2: Council Member Mark Marianos | Post 4: Council Member Kay Nunez**  
3 **Post 5: Council Member Hub Jordan | Post 6: Council Member Elaine Vaughn**

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5 **Staff: Maggie Dimov – City Manager/Economic Development Director/DDA | Shavala Ames - City**  
6 **Clerk | Angela Couch - City Attorney**

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8 Mission Statement: The City of Stone Mountain serves our residents, businesses, and visitors by  
9 providing an enhanced quality of life and a unique sense of place, guided by trust and integrity.

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11 **I. Call to Order**

12 Mayor Linder called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M.

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14 **II. Determination of Quorum**

15 PRESENT: Council Member: Post 1 Anita Bass, Council Member: Post 2 Mark Marianos, Mayor Pro  
16 Tem: Post 3 Ryan Smith, Council Member: Post 4 Kay Nunez, Council Member: Post 5 Hub Jordan,  
17 and Council Member: Post 6 Elaine Vaughn

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19 **III. Invocation and Pledge**

20 Mayor Linder led a 30-second moment of silence, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance

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22 **IV. Citizen Comments – Including comments from public/stakeholders**

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24 **Citizen Comment 1: Bill Marsh** – Discussed parking lot issues and would like to see action taken  
25 to open the new parking lot.

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27 **Citizen Comment 2: Joan Monroe** – Discussed details of the HPC report. WLA Studios are not  
28 listed with the state. Expressed concern that there are no crime reports.

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30 **Citizen Comment 3: Karylyn Sanderson** – Expressed concerns regarding the submission timeline  
31 of the RFQ proposal for the museum, as well as questions related to the structure and  
32 implementation of other entities involved in museum management and operations.

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34 **Citizen Comment 4: Ginger Criswell** – Requested that the City do something about the control of  
35 traffic when the bridge opens at JBR. Shared concerns of Willow Lake and urge people to embrace  
36 the community. Discussed the clean up near Willow Lake spearheaded by Commissioner Johnson  
37 and the falling Stone Mountain Village sign.

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39 **Citizen Comment 5: C. Monroe** – Concerns were raised regarding the need to repair the  
40 microphone system. It was also noted that decisions made by the City Council should be guided by  
41 sound policy and a commitment to achieving the best outcomes for the community. Additionally,

42 concerns were expressed regarding the camping ordinance, noting that it presents potential  
43 challenges and unintended consequences.

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45 *Note: (1) comment was not recorded. Speaker did submit an address for the record.*  
46

47 **V. Review of the Journal - None**

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49 **VI. Reading of Communications - None**

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51 **VII. Adoption of The Agenda of The Day**

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53 **ACTION: MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA OF THE DAY AS PRESENTED**

54 Motion made by Mayor Pro Tem: Post 3 Ryan Smith, Seconded by Council Member: Post 4 Kay  
55 Nunez

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57 **Voting Yea:** Council Member: Post 2 Mark Marianos, Mayor Pro Tem: Post 3 Ryan Smith, Council  
58 Member: Post 4 Kay Nunez, Council Member: Post 5 Hub Jordan, Council Member: Post 6 Elaine  
59 Vaughn

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61 **MOTION PASSED (UNANIMOUSLY)**

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63 **VIII. Committee Reports**

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65 **ACTION: MOTION TO MOVE FORWARD WITH REPORTS AS SUBMITTED WITH NO**  
66 **VERBAL UPDATES**

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

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70 **Voting Yea:** Council Member: Post 2 Mark Marianos, Mayor Pro Tem: Post 3 Ryan Smith, Council  
71 Member: Post 4 Kay Nunez, Council Member: Post 5 Hub Jordan, Council Member: Post 6 Elaine  
72 Vaughn

73  
74 **MOTION PASSED (UNANIMOUSLY)**

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76 1. Stone Mountain Community Garden – Council members noted that progress has been made on the  
77 bathrooms  
78  
79 2. Planning Commission – Report Submitted as Written (No Verbal Updates)  
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81 3. Historic Preservation Commission - Report Submitted as Written (No Verbal Updates)  
82

83 **IX. Staff Reports**

- 84 1. Public Safety - Police Chief James Westerfield – reviewed report as outlined in the meeting  
85 packet.  
86

87 City Council members raised several inquiries to the Police Chief, including a request for a report on  
88 vacant properties, clarification regarding a homicide case referenced in the presented police statistics,  
89 and a desire for enhanced parking enforcement. Chief Westerfield also provided an update on the  
90 anticipated timeline for proposed ordinances related to juveniles and loitering.

91  
92 Additional discussion was held regarding the traffic signal at the intersection of Main Street and Mountain  
93 Street, and the Chief confirmed that the signal is under the jurisdiction of DeKalb County.  
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96 X. **City Manager’s Report**

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98 1. Operations Report – City Manager Maggie Dimov – reviewed report as outlined in the meeting packet.  
99

100 City Council members inquired about several ongoing projects and administrative matters, including the  
101 timeline for outdoor gym repairs, the use of SPLOST funding for street paving, parking concerns on  
102 Second Street, and a missing sign on Ridgemere Court.  
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104 Additional discussion included self-watering planters and landscaping improvements, finance and audit-  
105 related matters, and aligning future Council agendas with the priorities established during the Council  
106 retreat. An update was also requested regarding the status of the caboose.  
107

108 2. Discussion update on partnership with Discover Dekalb  
109

110 James Tsismanakis with Discover Dekalb came forward to discuss how the City will benefit from their  
111 services. A video presentation was shown of give an idea of the services offered.  
112

113 City Council expressed appreciation for the update and asked questions regarding printing marketing  
114 materials in magazines, return on investment for the services and utilizing influencers to obtain and push  
115 content.  
116

117 **NO ACTION TAKEN**

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119 XI. **Council Policy Discussion Topics - None**

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121 XII. **Unfinished Business**

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123 1. Consideration of an action on a request to approve Change Order No. 3 regarding the Zachary Court  
124 and Ridgemere Court paving project, requested by City Manager Maggie Dimov  
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126 The governing body expressed concerns regarding the paving project, including the source of funding in  
127 relation to SPLOST II, the need to address existing stormwater issues, and the prioritization of Zachary  
128 Court due to its condition and need for paving.  
129

130 Additional discussion was held regarding the use of core samples and the differences between concrete  
131 and asphalt materials.  
132

133 After further deliberation, the governing body agreed to defer the item to a future meeting once the City  
134 has a clearer understanding of the status of SPLOST funds.  
135

136 **ACTION: MOTION TO TABLE CHANGE ORDER NO. 3 REGARDING THE ZACHARY COURT**  
137 **AND RIDGEMERE COURT PAVING PROJECT UNTIL THE MAY 5, 2026 CITY COUNCIL**  
138 **MEETING**

139 Motion made by Mayor Pro Tem: Post 3 Ryan Smith, Seconded by Council Member: Post 2 Mark  
140 Marianos  
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142 **Voting Yea:** Council Member: Post 1 Anita Bass, Council Member: Post 2 Mark Marianos, Mayor  
143 Pro Tem: Post 3 Ryan Smith, Council Member: Post 4 Kay Nunez, Council Member: Post 5 Hub  
144 Jordan, Council Member: Post 6 Elaine Vaughn  
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146 **MOTION PASSED (UNANIMOUSLY)**  
147

- 148 2. Consideration of an action on a request to approve Change Order No. 2 for the City Hall parking lot  
149 project, closeout of the parking lot project and approval of the fence component removal and material  
150 reimbursement, requested by City Manager Maggie Dimov  
151

152 **ACTION: MOTION TO TABLE CHANGE ORDER NO. 2 FOR THE CITY HALL PARKING LOT**  
153 **PROJECT, CLOSEOUT OF THE PARKING LOT PROJECT AND APPROVAL OF THE FENCE**  
154 **COMPONENT REMOVAL AND MATERIAL REIMBURSEMENT UNTIL THE MAY 5, 2026 CITY**  
155 **COUNCIL MEETING**

156 Motion made by Council Member: Post 1 Anita Bass, Seconded by Council Member: Post 2 Mark  
157 Marianos  
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159 **Voting Yea:** Council Member: Post 1 Anita Bass, Council Member: Post 2 Mark Marianos, Mayor  
160 Pro Tem: Post 3 Ryan Smith, Council Member: Post 4 Kay Nunez, Council Member: Post 5 Hub  
161 Jordan, Council Member: Post 6 Elaine Vaughn  
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163 **MOTION PASSED (UNANIMOUSLY)**  
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165 **XIII. New Business**  
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- 167 1. Consideration of an action on a request to utilize the Historic Preservation Fund Grant on a  
168 Consultant Contract with WLA Studio, requested by Planning Manager Tamaya Huff  
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170 Planning Manager Tamaya Huff provided a general overview of WLA Studios and their professional  
171 credentials.  
172

173 City Council discussed the proposal and suggested considering the preservation of historical homes in  
174 lieu of designating a centralized historical district. Concerns were also expressed regarding the potential  
175 impact on homeowners and whether the process could create undue hardship.  
176

177 Additional discussion was held regarding the scope of work, with questions raised about project  
178 boundaries and overall limits of the proposed study or initiative.  
179

180 **ACTION: MOTION TO APPROVE TO UTILIZE THE HISTORIC PRESERVATION FUND**  
181 **GRANT ON A CONSULTANT CONTRACT WITH WLA STUDIO**

182 Motion made by Council Member: Post 2 Mark Marianos, Seconded by Council Member: Post 1  
183 Anita Bass  
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185 **Voting Yea:** Council Member: Post 1 Anita Bass, Council Member: Post 2 Mark Marianos, Mayor  
186 Pro Tem: Post 3 Ryan Smith, Council Member: Post 4 Kay Nunez, Council Member: Post 5 Hub  
187 Jordan, Council Member: Post 6 Elaine Vaughn  
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189 **MOTION PASSED (UNANIMOUSLY)**  
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191 **XIV. New Ordinances and Resolutions**  
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- 193 1. Resolution 2026-05 Employee Benefits  
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195 **ACTION: MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 2026-05 EMPLOYEE BENEFITS**

196 Motion made by Mayor Pro Tem: Post 3 Ryan Smith, Seconded by Council Member: Post 1  
197 Anita Bass  
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199 **Voting Yea:** Council Member: Post 1 Anita Bass, Council Member: Post 2 Mark Marianos, Mayor  
200 Pro Tem: Post 3 Ryan Smith, Council Member: Post 4 Kay Nunez, Council Member: Post 5 Hub  
201 Jordan, Council Member: Post 6 Elaine Vaughn

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**MOTION PASSED (UNANIMOUSLY)**

2. Resolution 2026-06 City Bank Account Management

**ACTION: MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 2026-06 CITY BANK ACCOUNT MANAGEMENT**

Motion made by Mayor Pro Tem: Post 3 Ryan Smith, 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 Kay Nunez, Council Member: Post 5 Hub Jordan, Council Member: Post 6 Elaine Vaughn

**MOTION PASSED (UNANIMOUSLY)**

3. Ordinance 2026-03 – New Urban Camping – First Read Only – No Action  
4. Ordinance 2026-04 – Loitering Amendment – First Read Only – No Action  
5. Ordinance 2026-05 – Curfew Regulations – First Read Only – No Action

**XV. Remarks of Privilege**

Council Member Bass discussed activating the Neighborhood Watch initiative through the Ambassadors Program; Council Member Marianos congratulated Chief Westerfield on 20 years of service; Council Member Nunez encourage the community to follow the social media outlets; Council Member Jordan recognized Council Member Vaughn as being named a trailblazer in the community.

- XIV. **Announcements by The Mayor** – Mayor Linder encouraged all elected officials to attend the State of Dekalb to be held on May 7, 2026.

**XV. Executive Session to Discuss Litigation**

**ACTION: MOTION TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 8:46 P.M. TO DISCUSS LITIGATION**

Motion made by Mayor Pro Tem: Post 3 Ryan Smith, Seconded by Council Member: Post 1 Anita Bass

**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 Kay Nunez, Council Member: Post 5 Hub Jordan, and Council Member: Post 6 Elaine Vaughn

**MOTION PASSED (UNANIMOUSLY)**

**ACTION: MOTION TO ADJOURN EXECUTIVE SESSION AND RECONVENE THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING AT 9:02 P.M. - (2) ITEMS DISCUSSED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Motion made by Mayor Pro Tem: Post 3 Ryan Smith, 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 Kay Nunez, Council Member: Post 5 Hub Jordan, and Council Member: Post 6 Elaine Vaughn

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**MOTION PASSED (UNANIMOUSLY)**

**XVI. Adjournment**

**ACTION: MOTION TO ADJOURN MEETING AT 9:04 P.M.**

Motion made by Mayor Pro Tem: Post 3 Ryan Smith, 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 Kay Nunez, Council Member: Post 5 Hub Jordan, and Council Member: Post 6 Elaine Vaughn

**MOTION PASSED (UNANIMOUSLY)**

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**Jelani Linder, Mayor**

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**City Clerk, Shavala Ames**