



Special Called Meeting – Millage Rate Public Hearing #2

June 8, 2026, at 9:00 A.M.

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**
3 **Nunez | Post 5: Council Member Hub Jordan | Post 6: Council Member Elaine Vaughn**

4
5 **Staff: Maggie Dimov – City Manager | Angela Couch – City Attorney | City Clerk – Shavala Ames**
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7 ***Mission Statement:*** *The City of Stone Mountain serves our residents, businesses, and visitors by*
8 *providing an enhanced quality of life and a unique sense of place, guided by trust and integrity.*

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10 **I. Call to Order**

11 Mayor Linder called the Meeting to order at 6:30pm.
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13 **II. Determination of Quorum**

14 PRESENT: Council Member: Post 2 Mark Marianos, Mayor Pro Tem: Post 3 Ryan Smith, Council
15 Member: Post 4 Kay Nunez, Council Member: Post 6 Elaine Vaughn, Mayor Jelani Linder
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17 ABSENT: Council Member: Post 1 Anita Bass, Council Member: Post 5 Hub Jordan
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19 City Clerk Shavala Ames came forward with a request to add the First Read of the Millage Rate Ordinance
20 to the agenda.
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22 **ACTION: MOTION TO ADD MILLAGE RATE ORDINANCE FIRST READ TO THE AGENDA**

23 Motion made by Mayor Pro Tem: Post 3 Ryan Smith, seconded by Council Member: Post 4 Kay
24 Nunez
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26 **Voting Yea:** Council Member: Post 2 Mark Marianos, Mayor Pro Tem: Post 3 Ryan
27 Smith, Council Member: Post 4 Kay Nunez, Council Member: Post 6 Elaine Vaughn
28

29 **MOTION PASSED (UNANIMOUSLY)**
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31 **III. Public Hearing**

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33 **1. Millage Rate – Public Hearing**
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35 City Manager Maggie Dimov reviewed the outline of the Millage Rate scenarios based on the preliminary
36 digest provided by Dekalb County.
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38 *Mayor Linder opened the public hearing.*
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40 **Public Comment 1: Eileen Smith** – Expressed disappointment that there has been no update regarding
41 the Preliminary Digest from Dekalb County since May 15th. Discussed the calculations of the Budget
42 Deficit and Collections. Expressed disappointment that the Millage Rate has been decided on and does
43 not think that everything has been done.
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45 **Public Comment 2: Cheryl Dudley** – Expressed that if the governing body does nothing and keeps the
46 current Millage Rate, the City will wind up with a 31% raise in the tax space. Feels that an incompetent
47 administration has been created with no accountability, infrastructure, and public safety.
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49 **Public Comment 3: Ms. Thomas** – Did not provide address. Comment not a part of record.
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51 **Public Comment 4: Michael Nally** – Inquired what specific departments or projects require the
52 additional funds, how much of the increase is for ongoing operating expenses versus one-time capital
53 projects, if staffing benefits or salaries increased in the last year, if any non-property tax revenue sources
54 were evaluated before proposing a Millage increase, what new revenue initiatives have been
55 implemented in the last 5 years, and if so how much did they generate. In addition, inquired if there's an
56 update on the City obtaining a grant writer, how much funding was awarded versus what was requested
57 in the last two budget cycles, what spending reductions were considered before recommending a higher
58 Millage Rate, if any City positions have been added since 2020 and if so what's the impact on the budget.
59 Lastly, inquired whether the Millage Rate is approved, what measurable outcome the citizens can expect
60 and if it is not approved, what services could be eliminated as well as if this is a one-time adjustment.
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62 **Public Comment 5: Day Joyles** – Expressed that is already tough for people with the increase in
63 everything. Inquired what repairs are coming to the City with the Millage Rate increase. Inquired
64 regarding grant opportunities.
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66 *Mayor Linder closed the public hearing.*
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68 **IV. Millage Rate Ordinance 2026 – First Read Only - No Action Taken**
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70 **V. Adjournment**
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72 **ACTION: MOTION TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 6:49 P.M.**

73 Motion made by Mayor Pro Tem: Post 3 Ryan Smith, Seconded by Council Member: Post 4 Kay
74 Nunez
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76 **Voting Yea:** Council Member: Post 2 Mark Marianos, Mayor Pro Tem: Post 3 Ryan
77 Smith, Council Member: Post 4 Kay Nunez, Council Member: Post 6 Elaine Vaughn
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79 **MOTION PASSED (UNANIMOUSLY)**
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84 **Jelani Linder, Mayor**

City Clerk, Shavala Ames

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