



Special Called Meeting – Budget Retreat
October 18, 2025 at 9:00 A.M.
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: Maggie Dimov – Interim City Manager | Shavala Ames - City Clerk

Call to Order

Mayor Jones called the meeting to order at 9:15 a.m.

Determination of Quorum

PRESENT: Mayor Pro Tem: Post 3 Ryan Smith, Council Member: Post 2 Mark Marianos, Mayor Pro Tem: Post 3 Ryan Smith, Council Member: Post 5 Shawnette Bryant, Council Member: Post 6 Teresa Crowe, Mayor Beverly Jones

ABSENT: Council Member: Post 4 Gil Freeman

1. Adoption of the Agenda of the Day

ACTION: MOTION TO ADOPT THE AGENDA OF THE DAY

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 5 Shawnette Bryant, Council Member: Post 6 Teresa Crowe

MOTION PASSED (UNANIMOUSLY)

2. Presentation of Fiscal Year 2026 Proposed Budget, Interim City Manager Maggie Dimov

Interim City Manager Maggie Dimov presented an overview of the proposed budget as outlined in the meeting packet, detailing the City of Stone Mountain's responsibilities in reviewing and adopting the annual budget. She highlighted key components of the proposal, including staff salary adjustments, the realignment of the Manager of Special Events and Communications under the Visitor Center, and revisions to the salary ranges for the City Manager and Finance Director positions.

Council Member Freeman arrived at 9:22 p.m.

Council Members discussed the possibility of adopting a fiscal year from July to June instead of following the calendar year. They emphasized that new positions should only be added through the

budget amendment process and reviewed a proposed Public Works position to handle custodial services for the City. It was also recommended that the City explore options for a new Public Works facility.

Discussion addressed Public Works equipment, including the potential acquisition of a street sweeper. After thorough dialogue, it was suggested that the City coordinate with the county to utilize existing resources, while ensuring that Public Works maintains adequate equipment to manage the City's workload.

Further dialogue focused on Police Department salary increases. Interim City Manager Dimov proposed a standard process for department-wide salary adjustments of approximately two percent, with the potential for additional increases based on performance evaluations. Council Members also emphasized that salaries should remain competitive.

A discussion was held regarding the Downtown Development Authority (DDA) and its responsibilities to the City. Council Members questioned the City's funding of the DDA, given that it operates as an independent entity. An inquiry was made regarding the DDA's year-to-date financial figures, but Interim City Manager Dimov noted that this information was not available at the time.

It was clarified that cemetery landscaping expenses are funded through the Public Works Department. Council Members also discussed the possibility of establishing a temporary moratorium to allow time to review cemetery operations, maintenance needs, and long-term planning for the site.

Interim City Manager Maggie Dimov provided an overview of the SPLOST (Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax) program, outlining the current and upcoming projects supported through these funds and their intended impact on city infrastructure and community improvements.

Financial Consultant Angelia Adediran offered a detailed explanation of the Asset Forfeiture process, describing how these funds are collected, managed, and appropriately applied within city departments in accordance with state and federal regulations.

3. Adjournment

ACTION: MOTION TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 12:19 P.M.

Motion made by Council Member: Post 2 Mark Marianos, 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 Gil Freeman, Council Member: Post 5 Shawnette Bryant, Council Member: Post 6 Teresa Crowe

MOTION PASSED (UNANIMOUSLY)

Dr. Beverly Jones, Mayor

City Clerk, Shavala Ames