



Mayor and City Council Special Called Meeting

Monday, April 07, 2025 at 6:30 PM

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

Agenda

**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 | Bolarin Kushanu - Assistant City Clerk | Jeff Strickland -
City Attorney**

Call to Order

Mayor Jones called the meeting to order at 6:34 PM

PRESENT: 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

ABSENT: Council Member: Post 4 Gil Freeman

[Council member Freeman's items were moved to the bottom of the agenda, as he was not present when the meeting was called to order].

New Business

1. Discussion: Decorum, requested by Council Member Shawnette Bryant

Council Member Bryant requested that the item be moved to the Regular Session in order to gather all necessary information on the topic.

2. Discussion: Property Taxes, requested by Council Member Shawnette Bryant

City Manager Edmondson shared the results of his research regarding the upcoming tax increase and outlined potential adjustments to prevent an increase in 2026. He also noted that Homestead Exemption applications are still being accepted and that an increasing number of residents are taking advantage of the opportunity.

3. Discussion: Pre-Planning for the 2026 Comprehensive Plan, requested by Council Member Anita Bass

Council Member Bass provided an overview of what a comprehensive plan entails. City Manager Edmondson followed by outlining proposed changes to help meet the 2026 deadline proactively, rather than waiting until the last minute. He highlighted ongoing and upcoming studies, emphasizing that this will be a collaborative effort with the Council to ensure the process stays organized and

addresses any shortcomings from 2025. Mr. Edmondson also discussed previous workshops and past issues that are being used to help improve the planning process, in response to a question from the governing body.

4. Discussion: GMC building used as a multipurpose facility, bingo night , workshops, Mentorship, Virtual office, requested by Mayor Dr. Beverly Jones

Mayor Jones clarified that businesses operating with a virtual office must also maintain a presence within the community. City Manager Edmondson noted the positive feedback regarding the building's use as a multi-purpose facility and confirmed that users will be charged accordingly. Assistant City Manager Dimov added that permits and ordinances are currently being drafted to regulate proper use of the building, as pricing for its use had not previously been addressed.

5. Discussion: 1-hour parking, requested by Councilmember Teresa Crowe

Council Member Crowe explained that the item was included on the agenda as a concept for consideration. She also shared feedback from local businesses regarding a previous discussion on paid parking. Members of the governing body joined the discussion on how 1-hour or 2-hour parking limits could impact businesses. The City Manager noted that workable agreements could be established with business owners to accommodate their customers and foster strong partnerships, adding that the Methodist Church is also open to collaborating. Further discussion included concerns that the proposed parking fees may be too high. Additionally, the City Manager mentioned that the blue house demolition site is the most ready parking project, and explained how work on it could begin as early as next week.

6. Discussion: New Employees and Code Enforcement Officer, requested by Council Member Shawnette Bryant

City Manager Edmondson announced that former Code Enforcement Officer T.D. Johnson, who previously trained Officer Roseberry, has returned to the City. He highlighted the excellent work Mr. Johnson has already accomplished, along with positive feedback from residents. Officer Harris will serve as Mr. Johnson's part-time Assistant Code Enforcement Officer, having successfully passed all required exams for the position.

7. Discussion: Check signing resolution to ensure all account numbers are listed on the resolution (e.g., SPLOST-1, etc.), requested by Mayor Dr. Beverly Jones

Mayor Jones explained this item will be moved to the next meeting because of items needing to be discussed still with Mr. Edmondson.

8. City Manager's Report – Shawn Edmonson

City Manager Edmondson noted that his report would be postponed to the next meeting, as there were no urgent matters to address at this time. However, he did highlight details of the upcoming City-Wide Clean-Up on May 17th from 8:00 AM to 11:00 AM, followed by a community cookout at 11:30 AM on the lawn.

9. March Employee of the Month

This item was moved to the next meeting.

10. Downtown Development Authority/DDA Report

Assistant City Manager/Economic Development Director Maggie Dimov presented a report covering January 2025 through March 2025. She noted the reappointment of two members and provided an update on the grant application process for local businesses, which took place in March. Ms. Dimov also elaborated on the grant procedures and highlighted ongoing business projects within the City.

11. Consideration of an action on a request to approve Change Order #005-A: Traffic Calming on 4th Street in the amount of \$22,000.00 for the installation of 4 speed tables with cap blocks, striping and signage on the 4th Street between Mason Lane and Lucille Avenue through contractor A&S Paving, Inc.

The governing body inquired about the size and cost of the proposed speed bumps. In response, City Manager Edmondson provided a detailed explanation and offered further insights into the overall project.

ACTION: MOTION MADE TO APPROVE CHANGE ORDER #005-A: TRAFFIC CALMING ON 4TH STREET IN THE AMOUNT OF \$22,000.00 FOR THE INSTALLATION OF (4) SPEED TABLES WITH CAP BLOCKS, STRIPING, AND SIGNAGE ON 4TH STREET BETWEEN MASON LANE AND LUCILLE AVE THROUGH CONTACTOR A&S PAVING, INC.

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 5 Shawnette Bryant, Council Member: Post 6 Teresa Crowe

12. Consideration of an action on a request to approve the position of City Planning Manager, requested by City Manager Shawn Edmondson

City Manager Edmondson provided a detailed explanation of the reasoning behind the request, outlining the benefits the position would bring to the City.

ACTION: MOTION MADE TO APPROVE THE POSITION OF CITY PLANNING MANAGER

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 5 Shawnette Bryant, Council Member: Post 6 Teresa Crowe

13. Ordinance No. 2025-03: Ordinance to Establish Regulations Governing Special Events and Permits, requested by Assistant City Manager/Economic Development Director Maggie Dimov

It was decided to postpone this item to the next meeting in order to gather additional information.

14. Resolution No. 2025-10: Resolution to Set Permit Fee for Special Events, requested by Assistant City Manager/Economic Development Direction Maggie Dimov

It was decided to postpone this item to the next meeting in order to gather additional information.

[Mayor Jones called for a brief five-minute break to contact Council Member Freeman for an update on whether he would still be attending the meeting, as his items had been moved to the bottom of the agenda].

149 *[The remaining items were not discussed at the meeting].*

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151 15. Adjournment

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153 **ACTION: MOTION MADE TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 7:53 PM.**

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155 Motion made by Council Member: Post 3 Ryan Smith, Seconded by Council Member: Post 6
156 Teresa Crowe

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158 **Voting Yea:** Council Member Post 1 Anita Bass, Council Member: Post 2 Mark Marianos,
159 Mayor Pro Tem: Post 3 Ryan Smith, Council Member: Post 4 Shawnette Bryant, Council
160 Member: Post 6 Teresa Crowe

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171 **Dr. Beverly Jones, Mayor**

City Clerk, Shavala Ames