



Mayor and City Council Regular Session

Tuesday, June 03, 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/Economic Development Director/DDA | Shavala Ames - City Clerk | Angela Couch - City Attorney

City of Stone Mountain, GA Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/CityofStoneMtn/>

Link to join Webinar: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82303400686>

- I. **Public Hearing**
 1. Public Hearing - Millage Rate #2
- II. **Adjournment**
- III. **Call to Order**
- IV. **Determination of Quorum**
- V. **Invocation and Pledge**
- VI. **Citizen Comments – Including comments from public/stakeholders (3 minutes per comment)**

Comments from the Public

The public comments are reserved exclusively for comments from the public and not for immediate reply. The purpose of public comment is to allow the public to voice city related requests, concerns or opinions only during the public comment portion of the City Council meeting. I. The Mayor and City Council reserves the right to extend or limit the length of public comments based on: (1) the issue under discussion; (2) the number of items on the agenda; and (3) the extent to which the speaker remains constructive in their comments and questions. II. The public may not directly confront the public speaker but must direct all comments and questions to the Mayor and City Council. III. Public harassment of or confrontation with a public speaker will not be tolerated. Members of the public violating tenets two or three will be asked to sit down or leave the premises.

- VII. **Review of the Journal (City Clerk)**
- VIII. **Reading of Communications**
- IX. **Adoption of The Agenda of The Day**
- X. **City Manager's Report**
 1. City Manager - Shawn Edmondson
- XI. **Council Policy Discussion Topics**

XII. New Business

1. Consideration of an action on a request to clean out the Train Depot for facility rental purposes, requested by Council Member Anita Bass
2. Consideration of an action on a request to veto Ordinance 2025-02 Council Interference, requested by Mayor Beverly Jones
3. Consideration of an action on a request for the City Attorney to draft resolutions impartially, without bias or favoritism, requested by Council Member Freeman
4. Consideration of an action on a request for the City Manager to ensure that all council members are equally and promptly informed about all matters, requested by Council Member Freeman
5. Consideration of an action on a request to update the Purchasing Policy, requested by Council Member Anita Bass

XIII. New Ordinances and Resolutions

1. Ordinance No. 2025-03: Ordinance to Establish Regulations Governing Special Events and Permits (SECOND READ), requested by Assistant City Manager & DDA Director Maggie Dimov
2. Ordinance 2025-04 - Stone Mountain Parks and Recreation Committee (FIRST READ)
3. Resolution No. 2025-10: Resolution to Set Permit Fees for Special Events, requested by Assistant City Manager & DDA Director Maggie Dimov
4. Resolution 2025-09 Rules of Decorum Amendment

XIV. Remarks of Privilege

1. Discussion: Draft a proposal to be included in the State Budget, requested by Council Member Mark Marianos
2. Discussion: Change the City's budget calendar year to a fiscal year from July to July, instead of December to December, requested by Council Member Mark Marianos
3. Discussion: McCurdy Park restrooms, requested by Council Member Bryant
4. Discussion: Parking Lot (Blue House), requested by Council Member Shawnette Bryant
5. Discussion: Demolition of the Depo, requested by Council Member Anita Bass
6. Discussion: Update on outdoor gym classes, requested by Council Member Anita Bass

XV. Announcements by The Mayor

XVI. Executive Session to Discuss Personnel, Legal, Cyber Security and/or Real Estate (if needed)

1. Personnel

XVII. Adjournment

File Attachments for Item:

1. Public Hearing - Millage Rate #2

PT-32.1 - Computation of MILLAGE RATE ROLLBACK AND PERCENTAGE INCREASE IN PROPERTY TAXES - 2025

COUNTY: 002-DEKALB	TAXING JURISDICTION: STONE MOUNTAIN
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ENTER VALUES AND MILLAGE RATES FOR THE APPLICABLE TAX YEARS IN YELLOW HIGHLIGHTED BOXES BELOW

DESCRIPTION	2024 DIGEST	REASSESSMENT OF EXISTING REAL PROP	OTHER CHANGES TO TAXABLE DIGEST	2025 DIGEST
REAL	226,087,552	2,628,870	4,135,520	232,851,942
PERSONAL	18,830,373		(3,216,272)	15,614,101
MOTOR VEHICLES	600,510		(166,280)	434,230
MOBILE HOMES	570		0	570
TIMBER -100%	0		0	0
HEAVY DUTY EQUIP	0		0	0
GROSS DIGEST	245,519,005	2,628,870	752,968	248,900,843
EXEMPTIONS	5,530,459	0	269,741	5,800,200
NET DIGEST	239,988,546	2,628,870	483,227	243,100,643
	(PYD)	(RVA)	(NAG)	(CYD)
2024 MILLAGE RATE:	16.000		2025 MILLAGE RATE:	16.000

CALCULATION OF ROLLBACK RATE

DESCRIPTION	ABBREVIATION	AMOUNT	FORMULA
2024 Net Digest	PYD	239,988,546	
Net Value Added-Reassessment of Existing Real Property	RVA	2,628,870	
Other Net Changes to Taxable Digest	NAG	483,227	
2025 Net Digest	CYD	243,100,643	(PYD+RVA+NAG)
2024 Millage Rate	PYM	16.000	PYM
Millage Equivalent of Reassessed Value Added	ME	0.173	(RVA/CYD) * PYM
Rollback Millage Rate for 2025	RR - ROLLBACK RATE	15.827	PYM - ME

CALCULATION OF PERCENTAGE INCREASE IN PROPERTY TAXES

If the 2025 Proposed Millage Rate for this Taxing Jurisdiction exceeds Rollback Millage Rate computed above, this section will automatically calculate the amount of increase in property taxes that is part of the notice required in O.C.G.A. § 48-5-32.1(c) (2)	Rollback Millage Rate	15.827
	2025 Millage Rate	16.000
	Percentage Tax Increase	1.09%

CERTIFICATIONS

I hereby certify that the amount indicated above is an accurate accounting of the total net assessed value added by the reassessment of existing real property for the tax year for which this rollback millage rate is being computed.

Chairman, Board of Tax Assessors Date

I hereby certify that the values shown above are an accurate representation of the digest values and exemption amounts for the applicable tax years.

Tax Collector or Tax Commissioner Date

I hereby certify that the above is a true and correct computation of the rollback millage rate in accordance with O.C.G.A. § 48-5-32.1 for the taxing jurisdiction for tax year 2025 and that the final millage rate set by the authority of this taxing jurisdiction for tax year 2025 is _____

CHECK THE APPROPRIATE PARAGRAPH BELOW THAT APPLIES TO THIS TAXING JURISDICTION

☐ If the final millage rate set by the authority of the taxing jurisdiction for tax year 2025 exceeds the rollback rate, I certify that the required advertisements, notices, and public hearings have been conducted in accordance with O.C.G.A. §§ 48-5-32 and 48-5-32.1 as evidenced by the attached copies of the published "five year history and current digest" advertisement and the "Notice of Intent to Increase Taxes" showing the times and places when and where the required public hearings were held, and a copy of the press release provided to the local media.

☐ If the final millage rate set by the authority of the taxing jurisdiction for tax year 2025 does not exceed the rollback rate, I certify that the required "five year history and current digest" advertisement has been published in accordance with O.C.G.A. § 48-5-32 as evidenced by the attached copy of such advertised report.

Responsible Party Title Date

NOTICE

The City of Stone Mountain,GA does hereby announce that the millage rate will be

scheduled for adoption on July 8th at 6:30pm at City Hall

Following the presentation of the current year's tax digest and levy, along with the history of the tax digest and levy for the past five years.

Item # 1.

CURRENT 2025 PROPERTY TAX DIGEST AND 5 YEAR HISTORY OF LEVY

CITY WIDE		2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
CITY AREA	V A L U E	Real & Personal	114,243,936	125,902,113	143,162,123	175,792,863	225,211,962	248,555,140
		Motor Vehicles	1,013,690	893,700	757,750	668,340	601,850	434,230
		Mobile Homes	704	704	633	633	570	570
		Timber - 100%						
		Heavy Duty Equipment						
		Gross Digest	115,258,330	126,796,517	143,920,506	176,461,836	225,814,382	248,989,940
		Less Exemptions	3,064,866	3,419,836	3,962,174	4,510,024	5,488,988	5,800,318
		NET DIGEST VALUE	112,193,464	123,376,681	139,958,332	171,951,812	220,325,394	243,189,622
	R A T E	Gross Maintenance & Operation Millage	21.0000	20.0000	17.8180	16.5000	16.0000	16.0000
		Less Rollback (Local Option Sales Tax)						
		NET M&O MILLAGE RATE	21.0000	20.0000	17.8180	16.5000	16.0000	16.0000
	TAX	TOTAL M&O TAXES LEVIED	\$2,356,063	\$2,467,534	\$2,493,778	\$2,837,205	\$3,525,206	\$3,891,034
		Net Tax \$ Increase	\$253,648	\$111,471	\$26,244	\$343,427	\$688,001	\$36,142
		Net Tax % Increase	12.06%	4.73%	1.06%	13.77%	24.25%	1.03%

CONSOLIDATION AND EVALUATION OF DIGEST 2025

COUNTY NAME: DeKalb				COUNTY NO: 44				Sheet # 47 - CITY OF STONE MOUNTAIN (84,A,TSM1,TSMA)				Total Parcel Count: 2,351				Item # 1.																	
RESIDENTIAL								FOREST LAND CONSERVATION USE								EXEMPT PROPERTY								SUMMARY									
Code		Count		Acres		40% Value		Code		Count		Acres		40% Value		Code		Count		40% Value		PROPERTY CLASS		COUNT		ACRES		ASSESSED VALUE					
R1		1,975				141,015,645		J3		0		0.00		0		E0		0		0		Residential Real		2,121		552.54		187,523,440					
R3		2,109		516.03		46,360,675		J4		0		0.00		0		E1		47		7,764,800		Residential Personal		0				0					
R4		1		7.10		147,120		J5		0		0.00		0		E2		29		2,016,736		Residential Total		2,121		552.54		187,523,440					
R5		0		0.00		0		J6		0		0		0		E3		8		587,638		Residential Trans.		0		0.00		0					
R6		0				0		FLPA FAIR MARKET ASMT								E4		1		94,040		Historic		0		0.00		0					
R9		11		29.41		0		Code		Count		Acres		40% Value		E5		0		0		Agricultural Real		0		0.00		0					
RA		0				0		F3		0		0.00		0		E6		3		2,541,050		Agricultural Personal		0				0					
RB		0				0		F4		0		0.00		0		E7		0		0		Agricultural Total		0		0.00		0					
RF		0				0		F5		0		0.00		0		E8		0		0		Preferential		0		0.00		0					
RI		0				0		F6		0		0		0		E9		0		0		Conservation Use		0		0.00		0					
RZ		0				0		Total				0		0		TOTAL		88		13,004,264		Environmentally Sen		0		0.00		0					
RESIDENTIALTRANSITIONAL								ENVIRONMENTALLY SENSITIVE								HOMESTEAD & PROPERTY EXEMPTIONS																	
Code		Count		Acres		40% Value		Code		Count		Acres		40% Value		Code		Count		M&O AMOUNT		BOND AMOUNT											
T1		0				0		W3		0		0.00		0		S1		0		0		0											
T3		0		0.00		0		W4		0		0.00		0		SC		0		0		0											
T4		0		0.00		0		W5		0		0.00		0		S3		0		0		0											
HISTORIC								COMMERCIAL								DO NOT USE L1 THRU L9 CODES ON STATE SHEET																	
Code		Count		Acres		40% Value		Code		Count		Acres		40% Value		L1		0		0		0											
H1		0				0		C1		116				36,259,539		S5		17		1,650,464		0											
H3		0		0.00		0		C3		128		51.68		6,155,363		SD		4		389,080		0											
AGRICULTURAL								INDUSTRIAL								TYPE																	
Code		Count		Acres		40% Value		Code		Count		Acres		40% Value		I1		11				1,138,145		MILLAGE		ASSESSED		TAX					
A1		0				0		I3		11		3.32		311,175		I4		0		0.00		0				VALUE							
A3		0		0.00		0		I5		0		0.00		0		I9		0		0.00		0											
A4		0		0.00		0		IA		0				0		IB		0				0											
A5		0		0.00		0		CF		91				4,120,761		IF		0				0											
A6		0				0		CI		58				836,105		II		0				0											
A9		0		0.00		0		CP		0				0		IP		0				0											
AA		0				0		CZ		0				0		IZ		0				0											
AB		0				0		PUBLIC UTILITY								L6								0		0		0					
AF		0				0		Code		Count		Acres		40% Value		L7								0		0		0					
AI		0				0		U1		0				0		L8								0		0		0					
AZ		0				0		U2		11		0.00		10,701,884		L9								0		0		0					
PREFERENTIAL								BROWNFIELD PROPERTY								L10								0		0		0					
Code		Count		Acres		40% Value		Code		Count		Acres		40% Value		L11								0		0		0					
P3		0		0.00		0		B1		0				0		L12								0		0		0					
P4		0		0.00		0		B3		0		0.00		0		L13								0		0		0					
P5		0		0.00		0		B4		0		0.00		0		L14								0		0		0					
P6		0				0		B5		0		0.00		0		L15								0		0		0					
CONSERVATION USE								Qualified Timberland								L16								0		0		0					
Code		Count		Acres		40% Value		Code		Count		Acres		40% Value		TOTAL								260		5,800,318		80,774					
V3		0		0.00		0		Q4		0		0.00		0																			
V4		0		0.00		0		Q5		0		0.00		0																			
V5		0		0.00		0																											
V6		0				0																											

I, Irvin J. Johnson, receiver of tax returns in and for said county, do hereby certify that the above and foregoing is a true and correct consolidation of all the tax returns received from the taxpayer (or assessed against defaulters) in said county of DeKalb for the year 2025, and duplicate digests have been made and delivered to the county governing authority and tax collector of said county as required by law.

Witness my hand and official signature, this 25th day of July 2025.

R.T.R.

Tax Commissioner

File Attachments for Item:

2. Consideration of an action on a request to veto Ordinance 2025-02 Council Interference, requested by Mayor Beverly Jones

**STATE OF GEORGIA
COUNTY OF DEKALB**

ORDINANCE NO. 2025-02

**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 2 (ADMINISTRATION), OF
THE CODE OF THE CITY OF STONE MOUNTAIN, GEORGIA, TO
ESTABLISH POLICY GOVERNING VIOLATIONS OF ARTICLE II,
SECTION 2.30 OF THE CITY CHARTER**

WHEREAS, pursuant to its Charter and other laws of the State of Georgia, the City of Stone Mountain, Georgia (the “City”), has the power to adopt reasonable ordinances, resolutions and regulations for the protection and preservation of the public health, safety and welfare of its citizens; and

WHEREAS, Section 2.30 of the City Charter provides that “[e]xcept for the purpose of inquiries and investigations under Section 2.15 of this Charter, the City Council or its members shall deal with City officers and employees who are subject to the direction and supervision of the City Manager solely through the City Manager, and neither the City Council nor its members shall give orders to any such officer or employee, either publicly or privately”; and

WHEREAS, the City Council desires to establish a policy governing violations of Article II, Section 2.30 of the City Charter.

NOW THEREFORE, it is hereby ordained by the governing authority of the City of Stone Mountain as follows:

SECTION 1. Chapter 2 of the Code of the City of Stone Mountain, Georgia, is hereby amended to add a new Article XII titled “Council’s Interference with Administration” as set out in Exhibit A, attached hereto and incorporated herein by this reference.

SECTION 2. All ordinances, parts of ordinances, or regulations in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

SECTION 3. This Ordinance shall become effective in accordance with City Charter Sec. 2.34.

SECTION 4. This Ordinance was proposed by Council Member Mariagos with a motion to adopt. Thereafter, the motion was seconded by Council Member Bass. 4 Council Members voted in favor of the motion and 2 Council Members voted against the motion.

[SIGNATURES BEGIN ON NEXT PAGE]

SO ORDAINED this ____ day of _____, 2025.

Dr. Beverly Jones, Mayor

Attest:

Shavala Ames, City Clerk

[CITY SEAL]

Approved as to form:

Angela Couch, City Attorney

CITY CHARTER SEC. 2.21 REQUIREMENTS

- Date of First Reading: May 6, 2025
- Date of Second Reading: May 20, 2025
- Date Adopted: May 20, 2025

City Charter, Section 2.21. (Ordinance form; procedures), provides as follows:

- (a) Every proposed ordinance should be introduced in writing and in the form required for final adoption. No ordinance shall contain a subject which is not expressed in its title. The enacting clause shall be "It is hereby ordained by the governing authority of the City of Stone Mountain..." and every ordinance shall so begin. Prior to the submission of any ordinance for consideration by the Mayor and City Council, the same shall be submitted to the City Attorney and be approved by him or her as to form and to ensure such ordinance is not covered by, or in conflict with, any law of general application or other City ordinance.
- (b) An ordinance may be introduced by any member of the City Council and be read at a regular meeting, work session, or special meeting of the City Council. Ordinances shall be considered and adopted or rejected by the City Council in accordance with the rules which it shall establish; provided, however, an ordinance shall not be adopted the same day it is introduced, except for emergency ordinances provided for in Section 2.23 of this Charter. Upon introduction of any ordinance, the City Clerk shall as soon as possible distribute a copy to the Mayor and to each Councilmember and shall file a reasonable number of copies in the office of the City Clerk and at such other public places as the City Council may designate.
- (c) The reading of the preamble to an ordinance shall be sufficient to meet the requirements of a "read" or "reading." By an affirmative vote of a majority of the City Council, a reading of the ordinance in its entirety shall be required.

CITY CHARTER SEC. 2.34 REQUIREMENTS

- Date ordinance presented to Mayor: 5/21/2025 (within three days after its adoption)
- Date ordinance returned to City Clerk: _____ (within four days of receipt from Clerk)

City Charter, Section 2.34. (Submission of ordinances to the mayor; veto power) provides as follows:

- (a) Every ordinance adopted by the City Council shall be presented by the City Clerk to the Mayor within three days after its adoption.
 - (b) The Mayor shall within four days of receipt of an ordinance return it to the City Clerk with or without his or her approval or with his or her disapproval. If the ordinance has been approved by the Mayor, it shall become law upon its return to the City Clerk; if the ordinance is neither approved nor disapproved, it shall become law on the fifteenth day after its adoption; if the ordinance is disapproved, the Mayor shall submit to the City Council through the City Clerk a written statement of the reasons for the veto. The City Clerk shall record upon the ordinance the date of its delivery to and receipt from the Mayor.
 - (c) Ordinances vetoed by the Mayor shall be presented by the City Clerk to the City Council at its next meeting when a quorum shall be present, and should the City Council then or at its next general meeting adopt the ordinance by an affirmative vote of a majority of the quorum then present, it shall become law.
 - (d) The Mayor may disapprove or reduce any item or items of appropriation in any ordinance. The approved part or parts of any ordinance making appropriations shall become law, and the part or parts disapproved shall not become law unless subsequently passed by the City Council over the Mayor's veto as provided in this section. The reduced part or parts shall be presented to the City Council as though disapproved and shall not become law unless overridden by the City Council as provided in subsection (c) of this section.
- Date this ordinance becomes law: _____

EXHIBIT A

THE CODE OF THE CITY OF STONE MOUNTAIN

CHAPTER 2 - ADMINISTRATION

ARTICLE XII – COUNCIL’S INTERFERENCE WITH ADMINISTRATION

Sec. 2-321. – Purpose.

It is essential to the proper administration and operation of the City that the members of the City Council do not interfere with City officers and employees who are subject to the direction and supervision of the City Manager.

Consistent with the separation of powers doctrine, the City Charter prohibits the City Council from giving orders to City officers or employees, either publicly or privately. The direction and supervision of City officers and employees are specifically reserved for the City Manager and members of the City Council may only deal with City officers and employees solely through the City Manager.

To safeguard the City Council from interfering with the City Manager’s scope of authority, this article is enacted by the City Council to provide a uniform procedure for addressing violations of Section 2.30 of the City Charter.

Sec. 2-322. – Definitions.

The following words, terms and phrases, when used in this article, shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this section, except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning:

City means the City of Stone Mountain.

City Council means the legislative authority of the government of the City and consists of the mayor and six Councilmembers.

City Manager means the person appointed by the City Council to act as the chief executive and administrative officer of the City and who is responsible to the City Council for the administration of all City affairs placed in the City Manager’s charge under the City Charter.

City employees and administrative officers mean the individuals appointed by the City Manager for the administration of the City’s affairs.

Sec. 2-323. – Prohibitions; exceptions.

(1) The City Council shall have no dealings with City officers and employees except solely through the City Manager. This prohibition does not apply to inquiries and investigations under Section 2.15 of the City Charter.

(2) The City Council shall not give orders to City officers and employees, either publicly or privately.

Sec. 2-324. – Complaints; investigations; hearings.

(a) Any person who believes a member of the City Council has violated Section 2.30 of the City Charter or this article, may file a written complaint with the City Manager.

(b) Upon receiving a complaint, the City Manager shall initiate an investigation solely based upon his personal observations and render a preliminary determination as to the credibility and validity of the complaint. If the City Manager determines that the allegations or basis for the complaint are reasonably supported by evidence, the City Manager shall submit the matter before the City Council for consideration.

(c) The City Council shall hold a hearing within sixty (60) days after the receipt of the City Manager's submission. The City Council shall cause a written copy of the complaint required by this section to be served on the member of the City Council subject to the complaint as soon as practicable, but not later than fifteen (15) days prior to the date set for the hearing. Service may be by personal service or by certified mail, return receipt requested.

(d) At any hearing, the City Council may administer oaths and examine witnesses. All testimony taken by the City Council shall be under oath. At any hearing held under this section, the member of the City Council against whom the complaint is brought shall have the right to be represented by legal counsel, to hear and examine the witnesses against such member and to present evidence and witnesses in opposition or in extenuation.

(e) The City Council shall render a final decision whether or not a violation of Section 2.30 of the City Charter or this article occurred. The City Council's decision must be approved by affirmative vote of four (4) members of the City Council and recorded by a resolution of the City Council.

Sec. 2-325. – Authority to discipline.

(a) If any member of the City Council is found to have violated Section 2.30 of the City Charter or this article, the City Council, acting as a whole, may discipline that member of the City Council in accordance with this article.

(b) Any City officer or employee who knowingly files a false complaint against the Mayor or a City Council Member alleging a violation of Section 2.30 of the City Charter or this article shall be subject to discipline under Code Sec. 20-91.

Sec. 2-326. – Penalties.

Upon the City Council's finding of a violation, the violating member of the City Council is subject to:

- (1) First offence – Verbal warning issued by the City Council.
- (2) Second offence – Censure issued by the City Council via resolution.
- (3) Third offence – Suspension from office in any manner authorized by the general laws of the State of Georgia.
- (4) Fourth offence – Removal from office in accordance with Section 5.16 of the City Charter.

The City Council reserves the right to impose a higher level of penalty for a violation if the nature or circumstances of the violation warrant a higher level of penalty.

**CITY OF STONE MOUNTAIN, GEORGIA
MAYOR'S VETO**

Pursuant to the City of Stone Mountain Charter Section 2.34, in the event the Mayor wishes to veto an ordinance, the Mayor must submit to the Council through the City Clerk a written statement of the reasons for the veto. The City Clerk shall record upon the ordinance the date of the ordinance's delivery to and receipt of the veto from the Mayor. Ordinances vetoed by the Mayor shall be presented by the City Clerk to the Council at its next meeting when a quorum is present, and should the Council then or at its next meeting adopt the ordinance by an affirmative vote of a majority of the quorum then present, it will become law.

I, Beverly Jones, Mayor of the City of Stone Mountain, hereby exercise my veto power as follows:

Ordinance: 2025-02

Reason(s): The proposed Ordinance limits Mayor and Council Members!!

- (1) Lack of Clarity and over breadth (2) Violating Civil and Legal Rights
 (3) 1st Amendment Rights Violated (4) Unconstitutional Power
 (5) Legal liability for the city (6) Coercion & Isolation

This 23rd day of May, 2025.

RECEIVED

MAY 27 2025

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE

Beverly Jones
 Beverly Jones, Mayor
 City of Stone Mountain, Georgia

RECEIVED

JAN 1 1963

OUT. CLERK'S OFFICE

File Attachments for Item:

5. Consideration of an action on a request to update the Purchasing Policy, requested by Council Member Anita Bass

ARTICLE III. - PURCHASING[3]

Footnotes:

--- (3) ---

Editor's note— Ord. No. 08-14, adopted November 4, 2008, amended the Code by repealing former art. III, §§ 2-51—2-61, and adding a new art. III. Former art. III pertained to similar subject matter, and derived from ordinances of February 6, 1990; April 6, 1993; March 1, 1994.

Charter reference— Procurement, property management, § 6.27; purchasing, § 6.28.

State Law reference— Multiyear lease, purchase or lease purchase contracts, O.C.G.A. § 36-60-13; purchases through the state, O.C.G.A. § 50-5-100.

Sec. 2-51. - Introduction.

(a)Purchasing is the procurement of supplies, equipment and services at the lowest prices consistent with the quality needed for the effective operations of the departments of the city. This procurement is an important function of the city, and for any purchasing department to be truly effective, there must be full cooperation between all departments. Serving the needs of each department will be the foremost consideration of the purchasing department. However, to obtain the greatest value for every dollar spent it is necessary to follow a set of procedures when purchases are made.(b)The procedures outlined are to be used by all city employees in requesting and purchasing equipment and supplies.(c)Changes will be issued as new procedures are approved.

(Ord. No. 08-14, 11-4-08)

Sec. 2-52. - Office of purchasing agent.

(a)There is hereby created the position of purchasing agent, who shall be the city's principal public purchasing official.(b)The purchasing agent shall be the city manager or his designated representative.

(Ord. No. 08-14, 11-4-08)

Sec. 2-53. - Objectives.

(a)To conduct city business in such an open manner that potential vendors will be impressed by the fairness of the system and thus be encouraged to furnish competition which will ensure that the city will secure the best product at the lowest price at all times.(b)To encourage competitive purchasing.(c)To develop and maintain an adequate supply of materials, services and supplies as required.(d)To give due consideration to ethical and quality standards and also to real value rather than price alone.(e)To establish and build good relations with suppliers and departments.(f)To discourage, as far as possible, any procedure other than that of competitive purchasing.(g)To purchase the highest quality in supplies, equipment and contractual services at the least expense.

(Ord. No. 08-14, 11-4-08)

Sec. 2-54. - Powers and duties of the purchasing agent.

(a)Observe and enforce the procedures outlined in this manual.(b)Procure for the city the highest quality in supplies and services at the least expense.(c)Supervise and be held responsible for a decentralized purchasing system, whereas department heads have purchasing authority.(d)Encourage competitive bidding at all possible times.(e)Explore the possibilities of buying in bulk to take full advantage of discounts.(f)Prepare written specifications for supplies, equipment and services as required. Specifications shall be developed with information available through governmental and private sources and in cooperation with city departments.(g)Prescribe and maintain such forms as necessary for the operation of the purchasing department.(h)Maintain such files as necessary to the operation of the purchasing department in an organized manner.(i)Authority to declare vendors who default on their quotations irresponsible and to disqualify them from receiving any business from the city for a specified period of time.(j)Authority to remove a bidder from bid list under certain conditions.(k)Obtain all federal and state tax exemptions to which the city is entitled.(l)Investigate and report any possibilities of collusion.(m)Join with other governmental agencies in cooperative purchasing when it is for the best interest of the city.(n)Keep abreast of current developments in the field of purchasing.(o)Advise and assist in formulation of policies concerning purchasing.(p)Responsible for the disposal of city property declared surplus. No city employee shall dispose of city property by trade-in or otherwise without first consulting with the purchasing agent. Departments having property that is no longer needed should submit a description of such to purchasing.

(Ord. No. 08-14, 11-4-08)

Sec. 2-55. - Functions of the departments.

Commented [JS1]: I know this is existing language but it appears to conflict with the Charter, Sec. 6.32 which authorizes City Council to adopt procedures for a system of "centralized" purchasing for the city.

This has impact on further edits below where department heads are given more authority to purchase directly (further decentralizing the City's purchasing).

(a) Departments should plan their work so that "rush orders" and emergencies will be held to a minimum. Requests should be forwarded to the purchasing department far enough in advance to allow sufficient time for delivery. (b) Departments should assist the purchasing department by suggesting the names of vendors that have access to particular items being requested, especially items of a technical nature. However, the purchasing department is in no way confined to the vendors suggested. The purchasing department maintains a list of vendors and any responsible firm may be added to that list upon application by telephone or mail. (c) The city is not obligated to purchase equipment or accessories that are delivered for use on a "trial" basis. (d) No department has the authority to order directly from a vendor or negotiate purchases in excess of **five hundred dollars (\$500.00 \$10,000)**. (e) No city employee shall purchase supplies, material or equipment of any kind for personal use. (f) Department heads will be called upon to assist in writing specifications for bids. Specifications should not be written which are considered "closed" (written around one (1) specific brand). Brand names, model numbers, etc., may be submitted as a guideline as to the type and quality of merchandise desired. However, the wording "or approved equal" will always be added so as not to discriminate against any vendor's merchandise. Competition must be kept in mind throughout the writing of specifications.

(Ord. No. 08-14, 11-4-08)

Sec. 2-56. - Purchasing procedures.

(a) Based on dollar amount. The purchasing procedures to be followed by the City based on the dollar amount of the purchase are as follows, unless under state contract (note: these procedures apply on a per item basis); state contract bidding should be used if available.

~~(1) Up to five hundred dollars (\$500.00) and line item budgeted—direct purchase by the purchasing agent. Each department director shall have the authority to purchase individual goods costing less than \$10,000 each as long as costs remain within the approved budget. The City Manager may approve other employees to be given purchasing authority of less than \$10,000. The City Manager shall have the authority to purchase individual goods costing more than \$10,000 each as long as costs remain within the approved budget or as directed by council.~~

~~(2) Five hundred dollars (\$500.00) up to two thousand dollars (\$2,000) and line item budgeted—minimum of three (3) email or fax quotations. Results of quotations and award to be recorded and filed. Up to (\$10,000) and line item budgeted – the department director should provide the City Manager with a minimum of (3) email or fax~~

Commented [JS2]: See comment above about departmental authority to direct purchasing.

Commented [JS3]: Please note that "purchasing" is not the same as "contracting." Purchasing, outside of a written contracting, is generally limited to the acquisition of goods only and will not include the procurement of services. When purchases include purchasing services, that will generally include some form of written agreement (i.e., corresponding terms and conditions).

Commented [JS4]: Moving away from "purchasing agent" to allow department heads to make direct purchases shifts to a "decentralized" form of purchasing. See comment above about restrictions listed in Charter provision. As stated above, the "purchasing manager" is the City Manager.

Commented [JS5]: This appears to tie into the provision above. Here, though, the department director is providing information to the City Manager (consistent with a centralized purchasing model).

quotations and the department director shall have the authority to approve the purchase and sign service agreements and task orders with approved vendors up to \$10,000 as long as cost remains within the approved budget. Results of quotations and award to be recorded and filed.

~~(3) Two thousand dollars (\$2,000.00) up to three thousand five hundred dollars (\$3,500.00) and line item budgeted—minimum of three (3) written quotations and submitted to the city manager. Results of quotations and award to be recorded and filed.~~
Above (\$10,000) and line item budgeted – the department director should provide the City Manager with a minimum of (3) email or fax quotations and the City Manager shall have the authority to approve the purchase and sign service agreements and task orders with approved vendors above \$10,000 as long as cost remains within the approved budget. Results of quotations and award to be recorded and filed

Commented [JS6]: No maximum amount listed here. Is this paragraph meant to apply to any and all purchases above \$10,000?

~~(4) Three thousand five hundred dollars (\$3,500.00) up to ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00) and budgeted—minimum of three (3) written quotations. Purchasing agent and city manager make recommendation to city council and they award the bid. Results of written quotations and award to be recorded and filed.~~

~~(5) Above ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00) and budgeted—requires solicitation of advertised formal sealed bids. Purchasing agent and city manager make recommendation to city council and they award the bid. Results of bids and award to be recorded and filed.~~

Commented [JS7]: The retention of this requirement and the addition of the “three quote” provision above for all purchases above \$10,000 creates a conflict.

~~(6) Nonbudgeted items—approved by city manager and purchasing agent in amounts up to two ten-thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500.00 (\$10,000.00)). Amounts above two a hundred-thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500.00 (\$100,000.00)) require approval of the mayor and council. Once approval has been granted, comply with the procedures of subsections (1)—(5) above (whichever applies).~~

Commented [JS8]: Because this section relates to “nonbudgeted items,” it is intentionally a low number. How do you propose to handle expenditures up to \$100k that are non-budgeted without any council approval in advance? Plus, a budget amendment will likely be needed, correct?

(7) Budgeted vehicles—direct purchase from state contract, by department heads with city manager and financial officer approval.

(8) Professional services—mayor and city council may appoint vendors for professional services annually based upon qualifications and experience of the respective vendors. These professional services shall include, but not be limited to, auditor, attorney, solicitor, judge, judge pro tem, engineers, architects, and surveyors.

~~(9) Council review—Items over one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) not otherwise required to be awarded by council, the city manager or purchasing agent shall bring those items forward for discussion at council committee/work session meetings. Only the department director shall have authority to sign~~
service agreements or task orders with approved vendors on behalf of the City costing less than \$10,000 as long as costs remain within the approved budget. The City Manager is authorized to sign service

Commented [JS9]: Under the Charter, execution of contracts on behalf of the City falls to the Mayor. Task orders, if issued under a prior-approved agreement, may be ok to administratively execute.

agreements and task orders with approved vendors above \$10,000 as long as cost remains within the approved budget.

Commented [JS10]: Same comment as above.

(10)Exceptions—The requirements of (a)(1)-(5) above shall not apply to public road contracts (as defined in O.C.G.A. Title 32) or public works construction contracts (as defined in O.C.G.A. Title 36). (b)Bond and insurance requirements. (1)Public road project contracts over one hundred five thousand dollars (\$5100,000.00) require performance bond and payment bond as well as public liability and property damage insurance bonds or policies, and bonds to maintain in good condition; such completed construction for a period of not less than five (5) years, pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 32-4-119. The amount of insurance depends on the size of the project. (2)Public works contracts over one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000.00) require a bid bond, performance bond, and payment bond in accordance with O.C.G.A. §§ 36-91-50, 36-91-70 and 36-91-90, respectively. (3)Any contractor entering a contract with the city must carry a worker's compensation policy at the minimum statutory limit, unless such contractor is exempt under O.C.G.A. § 34-9-1 et seq. (4)Licensed professionals contracting with the city for services in the amount of forty thousand dollars (\$40,000.00) or more must provide professional liability coverage of at least one million dollars (\$1,000,000.00).

Commented [JS11]: This must stay at \$5,000 level to comply with O.C.G.A. § 32-4-119.

(Ord. No. 08-14, 11-4-08; Ord. No. 2021-02, § 1(Exh. A), 2-2-21)

Sec. 2-57. - Formal bids.

(a)Bid requirements. (1)Public roads. All contracts for public roads exceeding two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000.00) shall be let by competitive sealed bids after advertising same once a week for at least two (2) weeks prior to the opening of sealed bids, all in accordance with O.C.G.A. §§ 32-4-90 through 32-4-123. Provided, however, that contracts listed in O.C.G.A. § 32-4-113 may be let without advertising and without competitive sealed bids. All contracts for public roads valued at more than twenty fifty thousand dollars (\$250,000.00) but less than two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000.00) shall be let only upon receipt and review of at least two (2) estimates or quotes therefor. (2)Public works. Unless otherwise exempt pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 36-91-22, all public works construction contracts exceeding one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000.00) shall be let by competitive sealed bids or competitive sealed proposals after advertising same for a minimum of four (4) weeks in accordance with O.C.G.A. § 36-91-20 prior to the opening of sealed bids and posting a written notice at city hall for the same length of time. All contracts for public works construction contracts valued at more than twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000.00) but less than one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000.00) shall be let only upon receipt and review of at least two (2) estimates or quotes therefor. (3)Utility system contracts. Contracts for utility system work, as defined in O.C.G.A. § 43-14-2(17), for which costs exceed one hundred

Commented [JS12]: This needs to stay at \$20k in order to comply with O.C.G.A. § 32-4-113(b).

Commented [JS13]: You can consider deleting this sentence. State law only requires competition on contracts estimated above \$100K. Further, there is pending legislation that, once signed into law, will increase this to \$250k.

thousand dollars (\$100,000.00) must be performed by a state licensed utility contractor. Bidders for utility contracting must have a valid license pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 43-14-8.2 or intend to have the work performed by a state licensed contractor.(4)Other contracts. All other contracts not hereinbefore provided for which are required under this article to be competitively procured shall be let by competitive sealed bids or competitive sealed proposals after advertising same once a week for at least two (2) weeks prior to the opening of the sealed bids or proposals.a.Pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 36-80-27, if a bid or proposal opportunity is extended by the city for goods, services, or both, valued at one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000.00) or more, such bid or proposal opportunity shall be advertised by the city in the Georgia Procurement Registry, as established in O.C.G.A. § 50-5-69(b), at no cost to the city. Such bid or proposal opportunity shall be advertised on such registry for the same period of time, as set by ordinance or policy, if any, as the city advertises bid or proposal opportunities in the official legal organ of the city. Each advertisement shall include such details and specifications as will enable the public to know the extent and character of the bid or proposal opportunity.b.Pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 36-91-20(b), prior to entering into a public works construction contract other than those exempted by O.C.G.A. § 36-91-22, the city shall publicly advertise the contract opportunity. Such notice shall be posted conspicuously in the city's administrative office and shall be advertised on the Georgia Procurement Registry as provided for in O.C.G.A. § 50-5-69 at no cost to the city. Such advertisement on such registry shall be for the same period of time specified under O.C.G.A. § 36-91-20(b)(3). Such notice may be advertised in the legal organ of the city or by electronic means on the city's website or any other appropriate websites identified by the city.

(Ord. No. 08-14, 11-4-08; Ord. No. 2021-02, § 1(Exh. A), 2-2-21)

Sec. 2-58. - Purchasing orders required.

(a)No officer or employee of the city shall request any merchant, dealer or other vendor to deliver goods to the city or any department or officer or employee thereof, except on a regular purchase order approved by the city manager or his designee except as provided hereinafter for emergencies.(b)All purchase orders must be executed by the city manager or his designee(c)Any purchases made without obtaining a purchase order in advance shall be disallowed and payment refused. No purchase order will be issued after the fact. Vendors, merchants and dealers will be deemed to have dealt with any employee or officer who does not have a purchase order at their own risk.

(Ord. No. 08-14, 11-4-08)

Sec. 2-59. - Emergency purchases.

In all cases where there is immediate need for any materials, supplies, goods, wares or merchandise by any department, such department must advise the city manager, and if he cannot be located, the officer or employee must immediately notify the mayor or chairman of the finance committee or chairman of the committee having jurisdiction over that subject matter for action pursuant to section 2-54. In the event none of the above can be reached and an emergency purchase of the item is absolutely necessary, such purchase must be reported to the city manager within twenty-four (24) hours of such purchase.

(Ord. No. 08-14, 11-4-08)

Sec. 2-60. - Discretion on purchases.

In all purchases where quality as well as price and service is involved, the city manager or finance clerk at his direction shall exercise discretion in making the purchase. In all cases where patented items or special purpose items are requested, the city manager or finance clerk at his direction has the discretionary authority to decide whether similar products of equal quality and at a lower price shall be ordered in lieu of items requested.

(Ord. No. 08-14, 11-4-08)

New Section: City Credit Cards

The list of authorized persons shall be determined by the Finance Department and City Manager's office; however, authorized users will include City Manager, Assistant City Manager, Department Heads, and Business Managers. All authorized users must have a signed Credit Card Agreement, acknowledging receipt and understanding of this policy, on file with the City. A copy of the Credit Card Agreement is an attachment to this policy. The City Manager's office must notify the Finance Department of any additional authorized users.

All City credit cards are issued through the Finance Department which establish credit limits upon distribution of the credit card. Transaction limits are established to ensure compliance with state purchasing laws, maintain proper budgetary controls, and to minimize excessive use of any individual credit line. Credit limits vary per authorized

Commented [JS14]: See also, Ordinance 2016-02 (Jan. 5, 2016) regarding "Purchasing Card Policy for Elected Officials." Also, see my email dated July 31, 2024, regarding analysis of state law, this ordinance and city policies wherein I point out that this 2016 Ordinance does not appear to have ever been codified.

Commented [JS15]: Is this intended to be incorporated into the ordinance?

individual and cannot exceed those established by the Finance Department unless authorized by the City Manager's Office. The monthly aggregate spending limit for each card must be no greater than \$5,000.00 unless otherwise documented and authorized by the Finance Director and City Manager for a specific purpose.

All persons assigned a City credit card are responsible for ensuring the safeguarding of the card, the proper use of the card, and the submission of any receipts and appropriate backup for purchases, the City Manager, ~~Assisatnt~~Assistant City Manager, Department Heads and Business Managers are responsible for ensuring their own and their departmental employees are managing and complying with the use of City credit cards as outlined in the procurement credit card policy.

Commented [JS16]: Should clarify that this "policy" is a separate document? Perhaps something adopted administratively?

File Attachments for Item:

1. Ordinance No. 2025-03: Ordinance to Establish Regulations Governing Special Events and Permits (SECOND READ), requested by Assistant City Manager &DDA Director Maggie Dimov

**STATE OF GEORGIA
COUNTY OF DEKALB**

ORDINANCE NO. 2025-03

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CODE OF THE CITY OF STONE MOUNTAIN, GEORGIA, TO ESTABLISH REGULATIONS GOVERNING SPECIAL EVENTS AND PERMITS

WHEREAS, pursuant to its Charter and other laws of the State of Georgia, the City of Stone Mountain, Georgia (the “City”), has the power to adopt reasonable ordinances, resolutions and regulations for the protection and preservation of the public health, safety and welfare of its citizens; and

WHEREAS, the City Council desires to update and amend Chapter 18 (Parade and Assembly) of The Code of the City of Stone Mountain, Georgia, to establish procedures related to special event permits; and

WHEREAS, to effectuate this goal, the City County desires to amend Appendix A (Zoning), Article II (Administration), Section 2-1 (Administration and procedure) of the Code of the City of Stone Mountain, Georgia, by deleting subsection 2-1.13 (Special permits) in its entirety.

NOW THEREFORE, it is hereby ordained by the governing authority of the City of Stone Mountain as follows:

SECTION 1. Chapter 18 of the Code of the City of Stone Mountain, Georgia, is hereby amended to modify Article I and to add a new Article IV titled “Special Events,” as set out in Exhibit A, attached hereto and incorporated herein by this reference.

SECTION 2. Appendix A of the Code of the City of Stone Mountain, Georgia, is hereby amended to delete Article II, Section 2-1, subsection 2-1.13 in its entirety.

SECTION 3. All ordinances, parts of ordinances, or regulations in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

SECTION 4. This Ordinance shall become effective in accordance with City Charter Sec. 2.34.

SECTION 4. This Ordinance was proposed by Council Member _____ with a motion to adopt. Thereafter, the motion was seconded by Council Member _____. _____ Council Members voted in favor of the motion and _____ Council Members voted against the motion.

SO ORDAINED this ____ day of _____, 2025.

Attest:

Shavala Ames, City Clerk

[CITY SEAL]

Dr. Beverly Jones, Mayor

Approved as to form:

Angela Couch, City Attorney

CITY CHARTER SEC. 2.21 REQUIREMENTS

- Date of First Reading: _____
- Date of Second Reading: _____
- Date Adopted: _____

City Charter, Section 2.21. (Ordinance form; procedures), provides as follows:

- (a) Every proposed ordinance should be introduced in writing and in the form required for final adoption. No ordinance shall contain a subject which is not expressed in its title. The enacting clause shall be "It is hereby ordained by the governing authority of the City of Stone Mountain..." and every ordinance shall so begin. Prior to the submission of any ordinance for consideration by the mayor and city council, the same shall be submitted to the city attorney and be approved by him or her as to form and to ensure such ordinance is not covered by, or in conflict with, any law of general application or other city ordinance.
- (b) An ordinance may be introduced by any member of the city council and be read at a regular meeting, work session, or special meeting of the city council. Ordinances shall be considered and adopted or rejected by the city council in accordance with the rules which it shall establish; provided, however, an ordinance shall not be adopted the same day it is introduced, except for emergency ordinances provided for in Section 2.23 of this charter. Upon introduction of any ordinance, the city clerk shall as soon as possible distribute a copy to the mayor and to each councilmember and shall file a reasonable number of copies in the office of the city clerk and at such other public places as the city council may designate.
- (c) The reading of the preamble to an ordinance shall be sufficient to meet the requirements of a "read" or "reading." By an affirmative vote of a majority of the city council, a reading of the ordinance in its entirety shall be required.

CITY CHARTER SEC. 2.34 REQUIREMENTS

- Date ordinance presented to Mayor: _____ (within three days after its adoption)
- Date ordinance returned to City Clerk: _____ (within four days of receipt from Clerk)

City Charter, Section 2.34. (Submission of ordinances to the mayor; veto power) provides as follows:

- (a) Every ordinance adopted by the city council shall be presented by the city clerk to the mayor within three days after its adoption.
- (b) The mayor shall within four days of receipt of an ordinance return it to the city clerk with or without his or her approval or with his or her disapproval. If the ordinance has been approved by the mayor, it shall become law upon its return to the city clerk; if the ordinance is neither approved nor disapproved, it shall become law on the fifteenth day after its adoption; if the ordinance is disapproved, the mayor shall submit to the city council through the city clerk a written statement of the reasons for the veto. The city clerk shall record upon the ordinance the date of its delivery to and receipt from the mayor.
- (c) Ordinances vetoed by the mayor shall be presented by the city clerk to the city council at its next meeting when a quorum shall be present, and should the city council then or at its next general meeting adopt the ordinance by an affirmative vote of a majority of the quorum then present, it shall become law.
- (d) The mayor may disapprove or reduce any item or items of appropriation in any ordinance. The approved part or parts of any ordinance making appropriations shall become law, and the part or parts disapproved shall not become law unless subsequently passed by the city council over the mayor's veto as provided in this section. The reduced part or parts shall be presented to the city council as though disapproved and shall not become law unless overridden by the council as provided in subsection (c) of this section.

- Date this ordinance becomes law: _____

ZONING ORDINANCE REQUIREMENTS

Appendix A – Zoning, Section 2-1.4 (Public hearing and decision) provides as follows:

Authority. The mayor and city council shall make all final zoning decisions. The mayor and city council shall hold the public hearing required by this article prior to said zoning decisions following the public notice requirements herein. The term "zoning ordinance" shall mean this zoning ordinance (known as appendix A to the City Code of Ordinances) as well as the official zoning map adopted herewith and made a part thereof, as amended.

The term "zoning decision" shall mean final legislative action by the mayor and city council which results in:

- A. The adoption of a zoning ordinance;
- B. The adoption of an amendment to the zoning ordinance which changes the text of the zoning ordinance;
- C. The adoption of an amendment to the zoning ordinance which rezones property from one zoning classification to another; or
- D. The adoption of an amendment to the zoning ordinance which zones property to be annexed to the city.

Public hearing. Before a zoning decision is made, the mayor and city council shall hold a public hearing on the proposed action;

- A. At least 15 but not more than 45 days prior to the date of the hearing, the mayor and city council shall cause to be published within a newspaper of general circulation within the territorial boundaries of the city a notice of the hearing before the mayor and city council. The notice shall state the time, place, and purpose of the hearing.
 - B. At least 15 but not more than 45 days prior to the date of the hearing, the mayor and city council shall post the announcement and notice of the hearing at the city hall building. The notice shall state the time, place and purpose of the hearing.
- Date of notice of the hearing published within a newspaper of general circulation:

 - Date of posting the announcement and notice of the hearing at the city hall building:

EXHIBIT A

1. Chapter 18 of the Code of the City of Stone Mountain, Georgia, is hereby amended by deleting Sec. 18-1. in its entirety and replacing it with the following new Sec. 18-1.

“Sec. 18-1. – Short title.

This chapter shall be known and may be cited as the “Parade, Assembly, and Special Events Ordinance of the City of Stone Mountain.”

2. Chapter 18 of the Code of the City of Stone Mountain, Georgia, is hereby amended by adding the following to the end of Sec.18-2. thereof.

“*Special Event* is any activity organized for-profit or nonprofit having as its purpose entertainment, recreation and/or education which (i) takes place on public property or (ii) takes place on private property but requires special public services and which is permitted by the city under this article. Gatherings or activities that take place on private property and that make no use of city streets, or other public services other than for lawful parking, are not subject to the provisions of this article, but shall comply with all other requirements specified by ordinance.

“*Special Event permit* is a permit as required by this chapter to conduct a Special Event within the city.”

3. Chapter 18 of the Code of the City of Stone Mountain, Georgia, is hereby amended by adding the following new Article IV which shall read as follows:

“ARTICLE IV. SPECIAL EVENTS

Sec. 18-19. – Purpose.

This article is adopted to work with events sponsors to host successful events in the city while protecting the public health, safety and welfare of the city's inhabitants and safeguarding the interests of the city's residents, businesses and property. This article allows the city's departments and staff to review an application for a special event permit to determine any impact a special event permit may have on the ordinary use of parks, public streets, rights-of-way, or sidewalks and to make the necessary recommendations and allowances.

Sec. 18-20. – Administration.

The city manager and his designee(s) shall have the power and authority to make and publish reasonable rules and regulations not inconsistent with this article or other laws of the city and the state, or the constitution of the state or the United States, for the administration and enforcement of the provisions of this article and the collection of application fees.

Sec. 18-21 – Permit Requirements.

- (a) It shall be unlawful for a special event to occur in the city without having first obtained a permit for such special event.
- (b) All permits issued pursuant to this article shall be temporary and shall not vest in the holder any permanent property rights in the permit.
- (c) No special event shall be allowed to exceed six days in any 30-day consecutive period of time.
- (d) The location of a special event must include sufficient parking, which may be reduced when, for instance, an event is located near public transit.
- (e) An application for a permit shall be subject to review by the city manager or designee to determine compliance with this Code.
- (f) Unless specifically provided otherwise, a special event is subject to and must comply with all other applicable city ordinances.

Sec. 18-22 – Permit Application.

- (a) The producer of a special event shall make application for a permit for the special event on a form prescribed by the city.
- (b) An application for a special event permit shall be filed at least 120 days prior to the date the special event is scheduled to take place; provided, however, no application shall be accepted earlier than one year prior to the date of the special event.
- (c) Each application for a special event permit shall be accompanied by a nonrefundable application fee in such amount as may be set according to the provisions outlined in this article.
- (d) All producers of a special event shall be properly identified on the application; provided, however, a special event permit shall be issued only to an individual person. Therefore, if a group, organization, association, or other entity is producing the special event, a designated agent of the producer shall be named for purposes of the permit, and this individual shall be solely and fully responsible for compliance with all provisions, including all financial requirements of this article and other applicable laws and ordinances.
- (e) The application for a special event permit shall include the following information:
 - (1) Event details and description;
 - (2) Name, address, e-mail address, and telephone number of the sponsoring entity or person in addition to the person named in subsection (d) of this section;

(3) Proposed date, location, and hours of operation;

(4) Overall site plan of the event location. Plan must be drawn to scale and must include:

i. all property boundaries and setbacks for proposed location of the special event;

ii. All existing buildings, structures, parking, and curb cuts permanently located on site; and

iii. Any proposed temporary structures including buildings, structures, and parking;

(5) Schedule of proposed activities;

(6) Projected attendance at the special event;

(7) Plans for parking, restroom facilities, and sanitation concerns;

(8) First aid/medical support plan;

(9) Plan for crowd and traffic control;

(10) Producer shall provide proof all affected residents/businesses both on and adjacent to a proposed street closure are to be notified 30 days prior to the proposed event. The event producer shall provide residents/businesses a copy of the proposed street closure map. Additionally, notification signs may be required at the event producer's expense in the neighborhood during the street closure for traffic routing purposes.

(11) In addition, the city or any of its departments may require any other information deemed reasonably necessary to determine that the permit meets the requirements of this article.

(f) Each city department and/or agency whose services would be impacted by the special event shall review the application and recommend in writing any conditions or restrictions deemed necessary. Special conditions or restrictions recommended by the city manager, or his designee, shall become a condition of the permit.

(g) The following standards shall be considered in reviewing the application:

(1) A special event permit may be issued only after an adequate plan for crowd and traffic control, as well as security has been presented, and, when deemed necessary, employment of off-duty, uniformed Stone Mountain Police Officer(s) shall be

utilized. If Stone Mountain Police Officer(s) are not available, then a DeKalb County police officer(s) may be utilized.

(2) A special event permit may be issued only after an adequate plan for fire inspection/prevention and/or fire code enforcement and, when deemed necessary, employment of off-duty, uniformed fire personnel have been verified by the city and obtained by the producer.

(3) A special event permit may be issued only after an adequate EMS plan and, when deemed necessary, employment of off-duty medics who are state-certified EMT or paramedics has been verified by the city and obtained by the producer.

(4) A special event permit may be issued only after adequate waste disposal facilities have been determined by the city and obtained by the producer. The producer shall be required to clean the right-of-way and public/private property of rubbish and debris, returning it to its pre-special event condition, within 24 hours of the conclusion of the special event. If the producer fails to clean up such refuse, cleanup shall be arranged by the city, and the costs incurred for this service shall be charged to the producer.

(5) A special event permit granted by the city may provide for the city to close designated streets and intersections to allow use of the public right-of-way for the special event during designated hours and days.

(6) The sound level of any special event must comply with the city noise ordinance, found at Chapter 15 of this Code.

(h) After all of the requested information pertaining to the special event has been submitted, reviewed, and approved, a permit may be issued upon payment of all applicable fees and costs. The special event permit, as well as any other permits required in conjunction with the special event, shall be posted on site during the special event.

Sec. 18-23 – Permit denial.

The city reserves the right to deny a special event permit application as it deems necessary. If a permit is denied, the city manager or his designee shall give written notice to the applicant setting forth the reasons for permit denial. The applicant or producer shall have an opportunity to respond to a denial within seven (7) business days after receipt of the denial notice by presenting written or oral evidence to the city manager or his designee. A final written decision will be issued by the city manager or his designee within fifteen (15) business days after the applicant or producer has appealed the denial.

Sec. 18-24 – Permit modification, suspension or cancellation.

(a) After receiving a permit, a permittee may request a modification of the permit at any time by submitting a change request in writing to the city manager or his designee. The

city manager or his designee shall process the change request in the same manner established for processing initial applications.

- (b) If the city suspends, revokes or cancels a permit prior to the special event, the city will refund the permit fee upon written request.

Sec. 18-25 – Permit Fees.

- (a) Application fees for special event permits shall be set by resolution of the Mayor and City Council. Application fees are non-refundable and must be paid, in full, at the time of application.
- (b) Additional fees and charges may be assessed based upon specific requirements, including fees for the monitoring of public safety or special services by a city department, based upon labor, time and equipment necessary to provide the service. When using city-owned buildings or property other than public road rights-of-way, for production activities, a separate rental fee or charge may be negotiated.

Sec. 18-26 – Penalties for violation

Any producer of a special event that does not receive a special event permit or violates the material terms of a permit, or is otherwise in violation of this article, upon citation or summons by the police chief, code enforcement officer or other authorized city employee, and judgment or conviction by the Municipal Court of the City of Stone Mountain or any other court of competent jurisdiction, shall be subject to the penalties set forth in Section 1-11 of this Code. Each day a violation continues shall constitute a separate offense.

Sec. 18-27 – Insurance and liability.

- (a) At the discretion of the city, prior to issuance of a permit, the producer shall provide to the city proof of comprehensive liability insurance naming the city as an additional insured. The producer's comprehensive liability insurance shall be primary over any other policy of the city.
- (b) At the discretion of the city, the producer, at all times during the special event, shall maintain comprehensive general liability insurance combined single limits coverage including bodily injury and property damage with limits of \$1,000,000.00 for each occurrence, personal and advertising injury with a limit of \$1,000,000.00 per occurrence and \$2,000,000.00 general and auto liability insurance including owner, hired, and non-owned vehicles with combined single limits including bodily injury and property damage of \$1,000,000.00 for each occurrence and workers' compensation as required by law. The City of Stone Mountain shall be named as an additional insured on all policies and said policies shall be primary to any insurance maintained by the city.

- (c) The producer of any special event shall provide a written agreement in a form satisfactory to the city providing the producer shall defend, pay, and save harmless the city, its officers, employees, and agents from liability of all personal injury or property damages arising from any acts or omissions emanating from the special event and from any and all claims, attorney fees or lawsuits for personal injury or property damage arising from or in any way connected to the special event. The agreement shall be filed with, and made a part of, the application form.
 - (d) The city, its officials, employees, or agents shall not incur any liability or responsibility for any injury or damage to any person or any property in any way connected to the use for which the permit has been issued. The city, its officials, employees, or agents shall not be deemed to have assumed any liability or responsibility by reasons of inspections performed, the issuance of any permit, or the approval of any use of the right-of-way or other public property.”
4. Appendix A of the Code of the City of Stone Mountain, Georgia, is hereby amended by deleting Sec. 2-1.13 in its entirety and replacing it with the following new Sec. 2-1.13.
- “Sec. 2-1.13 – Reserved.”

File Attachments for Item:

2. Ordinance 2025-04 - Stone Mountain Parks and Recreation Committee (FIRST READ)

STATE OF GEORGIA
COUNTY OF DEKALB

ORDINANCE NO. 2025-__

**AN ORDINANCE TO CREATE THE CITY OF STONE MOUNTAIN
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE**

WHEREAS, pursuant to its Charter and other laws of the State of Georgia, the City of Stone Mountain, Georgia (the “City”), has the power to adopt reasonable ordinances, resolutions and regulations for the protection and preservation of the public health, safety and welfare of its citizens; and

WHEREAS, the City Council desires to create a committee of resident volunteers who are committed to receiving direction from the City Council and providing recommendations back to the City Council regarding the use, operation, management, recreational programming, and capital improvement of the City’s park, recreation and greenspace facilities.

NOW THEREFORE, it is hereby ordained by the governing authority of the City of Stone Mountain as follows:

SECTION 1. The Code of the City of Stone Mountain, Georgia, is hereby amended to include the provisions as set out in Exhibit A, attached hereto and incorporated herein by this reference, related to the formation of the City’s Parks and Recreation Committee.

SECTION 2. All ordinances, parts of ordinances, or regulations in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

SECTION 3. Any prior City parks and recreation committee, whether formally created or not, and any appointments thereto, are hereby abolished and terminated.

SECTION 4. This Ordinance shall become effective in accordance with City Charter Sec. 2.34.

SECTION 5. This Ordinance was proposed by Council Member _____ with a motion to adopt. Thereafter, the motion was seconded by Council Member _____. _____ Council Members voted in favor of the motion and _____ Council Members voted against the motion.

SO ORDAINED this ____ day of _____, 2025.

Approved as to form:

Dr. Beverly Jones, Mayor

Angela Couch, City Attorney

Attest: _____
Shavala Ames, City Clerk

[City Seal]

CITY CHARTER SEC. 2.21 REQUIREMENTS

- Date of First Reading: _____
- Date of Second Reading: _____
- Date Adopted: _____

City Charter, Section 2.21. (Ordinance form; procedures), provides as follows:

- (a) Every proposed ordinance should be introduced in writing and in the form required for final adoption. No ordinance shall contain a subject which is not expressed in its title. The enacting clause shall be "It is hereby ordained by the governing authority of the City of Stone Mountain..." and every ordinance shall so begin. Prior to the submission of any ordinance for consideration by the mayor and city council, the same shall be submitted to the city attorney and be approved by him or her as to form and to ensure such ordinance is not covered by, or in conflict with, any law of general application or other city ordinance.
- (b) An ordinance may be introduced by any member of the city council and be read at a regular meeting, work session, or special meeting of the city council. Ordinances shall be considered and adopted or rejected by the city council in accordance with the rules which it shall establish; provided, however, an ordinance shall not be adopted the same day it is introduced, except for emergency ordinances provided for in Section 2.23 of this charter. Upon introduction of any ordinance, the city clerk shall as soon as possible distribute a copy to the mayor and to each councilmember and shall file a reasonable number of copies in the office of the city clerk and at such other public places as the city council may designate.
- (c) The reading of the preamble to an ordinance shall be sufficient to meet the requirements of a "read" or "reading." By an affirmative vote of a majority of the city council, a reading of the ordinance in its entirety shall be required.

CITY CHARTER SEC. 2.34 REQUIREMENTS

- Date ordinance presented to Mayor: _____ (within three days after its adoption)
- Date ordinance returned to City Clerk: _____ (within four days of receipt from Clerk)

City Charter, Section 2.34. (Submission of ordinances to the mayor; veto power) provides as follows:

- (a) Every ordinance adopted by the city council shall be presented by the city clerk to the mayor within three days after its adoption.
- (b) The mayor shall within four days of receipt of an ordinance return it to the city clerk with or without his or her approval or with his or her disapproval. If the ordinance has been approved by the mayor, it shall become law upon its return to the city clerk; if the ordinance is neither approved nor disapproved, it shall become law on the fifteenth day after its adoption; if the ordinance is disapproved, the mayor shall submit to the city council through the city clerk a written statement of the reasons for the veto. The city clerk shall record upon the ordinance the date of its delivery to and receipt from the mayor.
- (c) Ordinances vetoed by the mayor shall be presented by the city clerk to the city council at its next meeting when a quorum shall be present, and should the city council then or at its next general meeting adopt the ordinance by an affirmative vote of a majority of the quorum then present, it shall become law.
- (d) The mayor may disapprove or reduce any item or items of appropriation in any ordinance. The approved part or parts of any ordinance making appropriations shall become law, and the part or parts disapproved shall not become law unless subsequently passed by the city council over the mayor's veto as provided in this section. The reduced part or parts shall be presented to the city council as though disapproved and shall not become law unless overridden by the council as provided in subsection (c) of this section.

- Date this ordinance becomes law: _____

EXHIBIT A

[The following text of The Code of the City of Stone Mountain, Georgia, is to be amended by removing the ~~strike through~~ language and adding the **bold** language.]

PART II – CODE OF ORDINANCES CHAPTER 2 – ADMINISTRATION ARTICLE ____ . PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

Sec. 2-____. Purpose.

The City of Stone Mountain, Georgia (referred to in this article as the “City”) owns and manages multiple park, recreational and greenspace facilities throughout the City. This article is created by the City Council of Stone Mountain (hereinafter in this article referred to as the “City Council”) to provide an organizational structure for a committee of appointed volunteers who are committed to receiving direction from the City Council and providing recommendations to the City Council regarding the public use, recreational programming, and capital improvement of the City’s park, recreation and greenspace facilities.

Sec. 2-____. Creation, appointment and compensation.

A standing committee is hereby created called the “City of Stone Mountain Parks and Recreation Committee” (hereinafter in this article referred to as the “Committee”).

- (1) *Membership, qualifications and terms of office.* The Committee shall consist of at least three (3) members but no more than five (5) members, each of whom shall be appointed by the City Council as provided below. To be eligible for appointment to the Committee, individuals must be residents of the City for at least one (1) year prior to taking office. Appointees shall serve a maximum of three (3) consecutive two-year terms, except as otherwise provided herein. A period of two (2) years shall elapse before any member serving the maximum three (3) consecutive terms shall be eligible to serve again on the Committee.
- (2) *Nomination, appointment and vacancies.*
 - a. Nominations for appointment to the Committee may be made by the Mayor and City Council members in their discretion. The Mayor or any member of the City Council may move for the appointment of a qualified individual to fill an open position on the Committee. Upon majority vote of the City Council, such nominated individual shall be appointed to fill the open position to serve in accordance herewith.
 - b. If requested by the City Council, when appointing Committee members, the City Clerk shall take action as may reasonably be required to inform City residents that an opening exists on the Committee, including the publication of a notice on the City’s website and in the City’s legal organ for a period no less than three (3) days

or more than ten (10) days. The City Clerk shall accept applications from interested individuals. The City Council shall review the applications and may appoint one or more individuals to fill open positions on the Committee membership.

- c. If an appointed member is unable to complete a term of office, then an appointment to fill the unexpired term shall be made in the same manner as making an initial appointment. A member appointed to serve the remainder of an unexpired term shall be eligible for reappointment for a maximum of two (2) consecutive two-year terms.
 - d. The term of the initial appointments to the Committee shall expire on January 31, 2026.
- (3) Members shall serve without compensation but may be reimbursed for reasonable expenses as approved, in advance, by the City Council.
- (4) Members shall serve at the will of the City Council and may be removed from the Committee at any time with or without cause.

Sec. 2-_____. Duties of the Committee.

The Committee shall:

- (1) Upon receipt of any specific direction from the City Council, provide recommendations and/or deliverables back to the City Council within a reasonable timeframe.
- (2) Periodically, but at a minimum, annually, review the City's Parks and Recreation Facility Rules and, if appropriate, propose amendments to the City Council for its consideration.
- (3) Propose recommended recreational programming opportunities to the City Council for its consideration.
- (4) Propose recommended capital improvements to the City's park, recreation and/or greenspace facilities to the City Council for its consideration.
- (5) Report to the City Council at least quarterly throughout the calendar year, in person at an open City Council meeting or by written submission to the City Council, regarding the activities of and business conducted by the Committee over the previous quarter and what is anticipated for the next quarter following the date of such report.

Sec. 2-____. Assistance by the City.

The City administration shall provide technical and clerical assistance as the Committee may require and shall maintain permanent and complete records of the activities of the Committee.

Sec. 2-____. Bylaws, officers and quorum.

- (a) The Committee shall adopt rules and procedures, such as bylaws for the transaction of its business. The Committee shall have the prerogative to adopt reasonable rules and bylaws consistent with this article and without the necessity of a further vote of the City Council. The Committee shall provide for the time and place of regular meetings and a method for the calling of special meetings. The Committee shall meet in January and at least quarterly throughout the calendar year. Meetings shall be conducted in accordance with the Georgia Open Meetings Act, O.C.G.A. § 50-14-1 et seq., as amended.
- (b) A quorum shall consist of a majority of the members.
- (c) The Committee shall elect a chair and such other officers as it deems appropriate from among its members. Officers shall serve one-year terms and shall be eligible for reelection. The Committee shall elect its officers at its January meeting.

File Attachments for Item:

3. Resolution No. 2025-10: Resolution to Set Permit Fees for Special Events, requested by Assistant City Manager & DDA Director Maggie Dimov

RESOLUTION # _____**A RESOLUTION TO SET PERMIT FEES FOR SPECIAL EVENTS**

WHEREAS, pursuant to its Charter and other laws of the State of Georgia, the City of Stone Mountain, Georgia (the “City”), has the power to adopt reasonable ordinances, resolutions and regulations for the protection and preservation of the public health, safety and welfare of its citizens; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Council amended Chapter 18 of the code of ordinances for the City of Stone Mountain by adopting a new Article IV titled “Special Events” (“Parade, Assembly, and Special Events Ordinance of the City of Stone Mountain”); and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 18-24 of the Parade, Assembly, and Special Events Ordinance of the City of Stone Mountain, all application fees and other related fees shall be set by resolution of the Mayor and City Council; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and City Council of the City of Stone Mountain, Georgia, and it is hereby resolved by authority of the same that the following fees are hereby adopted for Special Event permits.

Special Event Fees (This is in addition to any fee charged in another department):

Event Permit Level	Permit Fee (nonrefundable)
Special Events Application (Non-refundable)	\$50.00
Tier 1 – Under 250 participants	\$1,000.00
Tier 2 – 251 to 500 participants	\$1,500.00
Tier 3 - 501 to 1000 participants	\$2,000.00
Tier 4 – Over 1000 participants	\$2,500.00
Georgia Military College Building (5325 Manor Drive)	\$500.00
Train Depot Building (922 Main Street)	\$200.00
** Special Effects (Fireworks and other) **Fire Marshal Officer will be required	\$250.00

[SIGNATURES ON NEXT PAGE]

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that any and all resolutions, or any part thereof, in conflict with this resolution are hereby repealed. This resolution shall be effective immediately upon adoption.

ADOPTED by the Mayor and City Council, this the ____ day of _____, 2025.

Attest: _____
Shavala Ames, City Clerk

Approved: _____
The Honorable Dr. Beverly Jones,
Mayor of City of Stone Mountain, GA

(Seal)

File Attachments for Item:

4. Resolution 2025-09 Rules of Decorum Amendment

RESOLUTION 2025-09

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF STONE MOUNTAIN, GEORGIA, TO ADHERE TO RULES OF DECORUM AND TO ENSURE EQUITABLE AND EFFECTIVE MEETING MANAGEMENT

WHEREAS, the City Charter, Section 2.16(b) provides that, “In addition to all other powers conferred upon it by law, the city council shall have the authority to adopt and provide for the execution of such ordinances, resolutions, rules, and regulations, not inconsistent with this charter and the Constitution and the laws of the State of Georgia, which it shall deem necessary, expedient, or helpful for the peace, good order, protection of life and property, health, welfare, sanitation, comfort, convenience, prosperity, or well-being of the inhabitants of the City of Stone Mountain and may enforce such ordinances by imposing penalties for violation thereof”; and

WHEREAS, the City Charter, Section 2.19 requires City Council to adopt rules of procedure consistent with the Charter; and

WHEREAS, the City of Stone Mountain City Council values participatory democracy, civil discourse, and adherence to the established Rules of Decorum, which are designed to promote respect, inclusivity, and fairness in public meetings; and

WHEREAS, the City’s adopted Rules of Decorum emphasize the importance of treating all participants courteously, focusing on issues rather than personalizing debates, and uniformly enforcing order at public meetings; and

WHEREAS, instances of prolonged discussions, selective recognition of speakers, avoidance of certain topics, and debates centered on personal views undermine the effectiveness of meetings, discourage participation, and conflict with the Rules of Decorum; and

WHEREAS, the role of the Presiding Officer is crucial in ensuring adherence to these rules and maintaining a public meeting environment conducive to open and respectful public discourse.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Stone Mountain, Georgia, this _____ day of _____, 2025, as follows:

Section 1: Affirmation of the Rules of Decorum. The Rules of Decorum, as adopted by the City Council on September 6, 2022, are hereby reaffirmed as the guiding principles for all public meetings in the City of Stone Mountain.

Section 2: Public Meeting Requirements.

(a) The Presiding Officer shall ensure equitable treatment of all attendees and participants by:

1. Allowing all individuals a fair opportunity to speak during public comment periods, without favoritism or bias;

2. Adhering to established time limits and agenda structures to ensure orderly and efficient meetings; and
 3. Preventing personal or extended debates that detract from agenda topics.
- (b) The time allotted for citizen comments may only be extended upon a majority vote of the members of City Council present at such meeting.
 - (c) Upon conclusion of the citizen comments portion of the agenda, no meeting attendees shall speak during the meeting without consent from a majority vote of the members of City Council present at such meeting. Meeting attendees who violate this rule will be removed from the meeting.
 - (d) A City Council member may motion to have a disruptive attendee removed from the meeting. By majority vote of the City Council members present at such meeting, the disruptive attendee shall be removed.
 - (e) All City Council meetings shall end no later than 10:00 pm, and any unfinished agenda items will appear on the agenda for the next scheduled or special-called meeting.
 - (f) At a work session, for each item on the agenda, City Council members shall be allotted a total of twelve (12) minutes to speak so that each member is allowed two (2) minutes, and the Mayor shall be allowed two (2) minutes to speak. Speakers will be called in order of his/her Post, and the Mayor will be the last speaker. Any Council member may yield his/her time to other selected Council members and/or the Mayor, but the order of speakers will not change. The Mayor is not required to speak, and no portion of the Mayor's time may be yielded. No member of Council is required to speak or yield his/her time. Response of staff to questions related to the agenda item will not count toward any speaking time allotment. Only urgent matters or sound/technical difficulties may interrupt a speaker. A majority vote of the members of Council present at the meeting is required to extend speaking times.
 - (g) At meetings where agenda items will be voted on, for each item on the agenda, City Council members shall be allotted a total of six (6) minutes to speak so that each member is allowed one (1) minute, and the Mayor shall be allowed one (1) minute to speak. Speakers will be called in order of his/her Post, and the Mayor will be the last speaker. Any Council member may yield his/her time to other selected Council members and/or the Mayor, but the order of speakers will not change. The Mayor is not required to speak, and no portion of the Mayor's time may be yielded. No member of Council is required to speak or yield his/her time. Response of staff to questions related to the agenda item will

not count toward any speaking time allotment. Only urgent matters or sound/technical difficulties may interrupt a speaker. A majority vote of the members of Council present at the meeting is required to extend speaking times.

- (h) If a Council member makes a motion, which is seconded, and another Council member moves to substitute his/her motion for the original motion, if the substituted motion is seconded, discussion will continue on both motions. Speaking times of those Council members who spoke prior to the substitute motion will start over, and those members will be called to speak in order after the Post 6 member has spoken. After all speakers, a vote will be taken on the substitute motion, and if it does not pass, a vote will immediately be taken on the original motion.
- (i) No meeting agenda may be modified during a meeting to add new business items except in cases of emergency which shall be articulated and captured in the minutes of the meeting. If additional documents are available to be distributed at a meeting where those documents were not previously included in the meeting's agenda packet, those documents may be distributed during the meeting and will not be considered a new business item. Copies of such additional documents must be made available to the general public prior to the start of the meeting.
- (j) No City Council member shall act in an aggressive or combative manner towards the public or with other City Council members or the Mayor.
- (k) The Mayor shall not act in an aggressive or combative manner towards the public or with the City Council members.
- (l) No applause is allowed from attendees except for recognition of an achievement and in conjunction with applause from the City Council.
- (m) The Presiding Officer shall call published agenda items in the order as they appear on the published agenda. The published agenda will clearly state whether the meeting is a work session or Council meeting for voting. Except for special called meetings, agenda packets will be distributed the Thursday prior to the Monday scheduled meeting.
- (n) Except for special called meetings, if a Council Member or the Mayor wishes to have an item placed on the agenda of a particular meeting, the request must be made in writing and submitted to the City Manager and City Clerk, along with any related documentation to be included in the agenda packet, at least seven (7) days prior to the Monday scheduled meeting.

- (o) All actions and rulings by the Presiding Officer shall align with the adopted Rules of Decorum and shall serve to:
 - 1. Prevent disruptions caused by disorderly conduct or unstructured debates; and
 - 2. Promote robust and inclusive dialogue that respects differing viewpoints.

Section 3: Monitoring and Enforcement

- (a) The City Council may review adherence to this Resolution and the Rules of Decorum through periodic assessments of meeting conduct.
- (b) Persistent violations of these principles by the Presiding Officer shall result in a formal review of conduct by the City Council.
- (c) Potential corrective actions, including censure or other measures as deemed appropriate by the City Council.
- (d) The City Attorney is authorized to call “point of order” when any portion of any meeting conflicts with the Rules of Decorum and/or this Resolution. The Presiding Officer shall then call the meeting back to order to reflect the Rules of Decorum and/or this Resolution.
- (e) The City Clerk shall be the timekeeper at all meetings.

(signature page follows)

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption and shall serve as a directive to maintain the integrity, fairness, and decorum of all public meetings within the City of Stone Mountain.

**CITY OF STONE MOUNTAIN, GEORGIA, by
and through its City Council**

Beverly Jones, Mayor

Anita Bass, Post 1

Mark Marianos, Post 2

Ryan Smith, Post 3

Gil Freeman, Post 4

Shawnette Bryant, Post 5

Teresa Crowe, Post 6

[Affix City Seal]

ATTEST: _____
City Clerk