



**MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE/WORK SESSION MEETING**  
**Tuesday, October 16, 2018 @ 6:30 pm**  
**City Hall, 875 Main Street, Stone Mountain, Georgia 30083**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 6:41pm by Mayor Wheeler. Councilmembers Mailman, Hollis, Johnson, and Bryant were present. Councilmembers Wells and Little were absent.

**DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM**

Mayor Wheeler determined that a quorum was present during the Special Called City Council Meeting at 6:33pm prior to Work Session.

**INVOCATION AND PLEDGE**

Councilmember Hollis led invocation and Councilmember Mailman led the pledge of allegiance during the Special Called City Council Meeting prior to the Work Session.

**CITIZEN COMMENTS – NON-AGENDA ITEMS ONLY**

Mark Keyton  
5380 Hill Street

He expressed his frustration about what happened 2 years ago regarding plans to reflect the correct property lines where he resides and not where the engineer accidentally put them, and he is upset that it has not been corrected.

Sara Abrams  
905 Gordon Street

She mentioned that owners are taking their dogs to McCurdy Park and VFW Park and letting the dogs off their leash. She stated that we don't have a dog park and the City parks are not for dogs to be off leash even on the athletic fields. She advised that they are still awaiting signage at VFW Park so people will be warned of no dogs allowed. She has called the police a few times. She would like for there to be a citizens committee for the parks in regard to how the SPLOST moneys should be spent. She would like to see City receptacles on Gordon, Cloud, Ridge and E. Mountain where there is a lot of walking. She thinks that these receptacles could be purchased with the SPLOST funds or received by ad sponsorships.

Bernie Waller  
5496 E. Mountain Street

He expressed his concerns that at Rankin and JBR there are cyclists who come down that area fast to head to the park and the visibility is bad in that area, and he is afraid that someone will be struck.

Richard Mailman asked Jim to go out to that same area that Mr. Waller was speaking of to find out if a bush that is overgrown is in our jurisdiction and if so, it needs to be cut back. He stated that you must go out far from the stop sign to avoid the bush.

**READING OF COMMUNICATIONS**

None.

**ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA OF THE DAY**

Mayor Wheeler passed over this since it was done during the Special Called Meeting.

**COMMITTEE DISCUSSION ITEMS**

- A. Planning and Zoning – None.
- B. Economic Development/Downtown Development Authority – Mayor Pro Tem Johnson had no report but wanted to remind everyone of the DDA meeting on Monday at 6:30pm.
- C. Historic Preservation Commission – None.

**STAFF REPORTS**

- A. Code Compliance Officer – Sgt. Roseberry & Officer Bob Hillis  
Bob reported on two properties, one on Chinguapin and the other on Hill Street. He reported on inoperable vehicles on Chinguapin are now gone. He stated that Hill Street looks a lot different now that the residents have complied. At Tuggle and Moore someone had parked their trailer, but after a couple of stickers were placed on the unit, it is now gone.

Mayor Pro Tem Johnson asked Officer Hillis if he was still working with DeKalb County on those properties and if they have been resolved and Officer Hillis reported no.

City Manager Thornton stated that DeKalb County would only help during the demo process after the nuisance abatement process.

Sgt Roseberry clarified that Officer Hillis deals with most of the underdeveloped lots and she deals with residential and commercial properties regarding permitting and issues with tractor-trailers. She highlighted a house on Chinquapin and the home being in a Trust, but permits have been obtained. She also spoke on a property at 800 & 804 Fourth Street and use of the redemption law helped to win the case and clean off the property.

Officer Hillis stated that the Old Stone Mountain Inn is on Historic Preservation Commission Agenda and he and Sgt Roseberry will be there to speak on the property.

B. Public Works Director – Jim Tavenner

He stated that they are still obtaining quotes for the resurfacing of the basketball courts at Medlock Park and Leila Mason. He stated that bids will be due this Friday, November 19 at 2pm for Cherrywood Drive, 610 Rockborough Drive and S. Rockborough Court for pipe replacement of stormwater. The 2019 fund for resurfacing is \$64,407.78. Pepperwood Lane will be included in the use of these funds for patching and resurfacing. Train Depot construction still going well. He is still waiting on the FEMA money.

Councilmember Bryant asked Jim if we could add the Gazebo to the list of things to spruce up and repaint. Jim stated that it needs a new roof as well.

City Manager Thornton stated that they are looking into quotes for graveling to the parking lot next door to City Hall.

C. Chief of Police – Chief Troutman

Chief Troutman reported on activity of the Police Department and stated that stats went down due to training. He gave a good report to Code Compliance.

Mayor Pro Tem Johnson wanted to thank Officer Cruse for her help to get the children to the Movie Night and her interaction with the children. She wanted to go official on record that Officer Cruse is doing a great job in the community.

D. Visitor center Manager – Kim Cumbie

Visitor Center Manager was not there at the time to report, but Mayor Wheeler highlighted some areas of her report such as Trunk or Treat night and the Christmas Parade.

### UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Request for Traffic Control Devices – Procedures for Request and Installation Policies for Traffic Control Devices

City Manager Thornton spoke on there being many requests for stop signs in several intersections; therefore, the Administration has suggested to put together a protocol for fulfilling those requests. Director Tavenner has put together the steps and a form for that type of request.

Mayor Pro Tem Johnson had a question that if a stop sign is approved will there be some type of signage informing that a stop sign will be erected. City Manager Thornton stated that it can be done.

### NEW BUSINESS

Under New Business an addition, Item E. – Chamber of Commerce 2019 Keepsake Coffee Table Guide

A. Consent Agenda

None.

B. Discussion of 2018 Budget Process – Proposed Public Hearing Date for FY2019 Budget Hearing – November 20, 2018

City Manager stated that there is a memo for tentative agenda for budget adoption asking for consent to hold public hearing on November 20. A legal advertisement was placed in Champion newspaper on October 25 to run November 1.

Administration will formerly submit the budget Council at the Regular City Council Meeting on November 13. By ordinance the budget must be provided to Council 45 days by year end and we are at 49. Public Hearing will be held on November 20, first read of budget ordinance is scheduled for November 20 and second read and adoption of the budget is scheduled for December 4.

C. Bid Award – Rockborough Dr., Cherrywood Dr., and South Rockborough Dr. Drainage – TBD – Bid Opening 10/19/18

City Manger Thornton asked for this to be a place holder for November 13 meeting. We won't have a recommendation from the engineers until we receive and had an opportunity to review those bids. She stated that Administration would send the recommendation by the Engineer to Council ahead of the November 13 meeting.

D. Application of City Sign Ordinance - Reconstruction of Rockborough Subdivision Entrance Sign – Intersection of Rockbridge and Rockborough Drive

City Manager Thornton advised City Council that Administration had an inquiry about a permit for a sign that the residents of Rockborough wanted to construct. According to ordinance a permit to be obtained to construct a residential development sign. The problem is that Administration in this case wouldn't know to whom the permit would be issued because the property that the sign is on doesn't belong to any of the residents of Rockborough and there has been some dispute to the kind of sign that is in place currently. She spoke with City Attorney Fowler and he confirmed that no resident has more right over the other. Therefore, a stop work has been issued on the sign until resolution is met.

Councilmember Mailman asked who owns the property that the sign sits, and City Manager Thornton stated that the City has allowed for the sign to be placed in the City's right of way. According to Attorney Fowler we wouldn't be responsible.

Mailman couldn't we give permission for the sign and City Manager Thornton stated that to whom would we give permission since there is no HOA for the subdivision.

Melvin Wood  
514 Rockborough Drive

He conducted a presentation of the subdivision sign, answered any questions and asked for the work on the sign to continue.

There were many questions, comments and suggestions from the citizens in the audience and from our City Council in regarding this subdivision sign.

Mayor Wheeler expressed that this is not a voting meeting and we can possibly get something worked out between now and the regular meeting.

Kim Cumbie came up to make report for the Visitor's Center.

- E. Chamber of Commerce 2019 Keepsake Coffee Table Guide  
City Manager Thornton went over the possible purchase of these guides and asked Council to review to determine if and how much we will purchase.

### **NEW ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS**

- A. Resolution 2018-21 – FY2018 Budget Amendment  
City Manager Thornton referred to revision 1 of the proposed resolution will amend the 2018 budget.  
No discussion or questions from City Council.

### **CITY MANAGER'S REPORT**

City Manager Thornton went over the Finance Report for the month.  
She also went over some information given by Gary Peet regarding the parking study through ARC and the scope which she will hand out to City Council for review.  
She requested an executive session to discuss Real Estate and Personnel.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE MAYOR**

Mayor Wheeler announced a meeting at St. Paul AME Church on November 1 at 7:00pm.

City Manager gave over a copy of the revisions of Chapter 4 – Animal Ordinance by Officer Hillis and Councilmember Hollis to City Council and stated that she had not completed her revisions yet and that it is with the City Attorney as well for review.

Mayor Pro Tem Johnson moved to adjourn to Executive Session to discuss Real Estate and Personnel, seconded by Councilmember Hollis  
Motion approved 5-0.

Adjourned into Executive Session at 7:52pm.

No action was taken out of Executive Session.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting adjourned at 8:20pm.

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**Patricia Wheeler, Mayor**

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**Alicia Daniels, Assistant City Clerk**