CALL TO ORDER

DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE

CITIZENS COMMENTS (Citizens are encouraged to speak but to keep their comments to three minutes)

READING AND APPROVAL OF THE JOURNAL
A. Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting – February 7, 2017
B. Minutes of City Council Committee/Work Session – February 20, 2017
C. Minutes of the Special Call Meeting – February 24, 2017

READING OF COMMUNICATIONS


CONSIDERATION OF ANY LEGISLATION VETOED BY THE MAYOR

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS
A. Consent Agenda
B. Maintenance Agreement – City of Stone Mountain and Fulton Communications – Phone Systems (Mitel 5000), Digital Phones and T1/PRI Maintenance Agreement - $968.00
C. Discussion of the Relocation of the Dog Park
E. Discussion of Communications Strategy and Procedures Policy

NEW ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS
A. Ordinance 2017-02 –To amend Chapter 12, Article III Outdoor Cafes and Display of Merchandise to include prohibition exception as it relates to alcohol consumption within the outdoor café area - Second Reading

COMMITTEE DISCUSSION ITEMS
A. Planning and Zoning
B. Community Affairs
C. Economic Development/Downtown Development Authority
D. Finance
E. Community Outreach
F. Public Works
G. Public Safety
H. Historic Preservation Commission
I. Visitor Center

REMARKS OF PERSONAL PRIVILEGE

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE MAYOR

ADJOURNMENT

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 limit the length of public comments based on: (1) the time under discussion, (2) the number of issues on the agenda and (3) the amount of time 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 items two or three will be asked to sit down or leave the proceedings.
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
875 Main Street, Stone Mountain, GA 30083
Tuesday, March 7, 2017 at 6:30 P.M.

MINUTES

PRESENT: Mayor Patricia Wheeler, Mayor Pro Tem Chakira Johnson, Council Members Susan Coletti, Steve Higgins, Richard Mailman, Andrea Redmond and Steve Wells.

STAFF: City Manager ChaQuias Thornton, City Attorney Joe Fowler, Chief Chauncey Troutman, Public Works Director Jim Tavenner, City Clerk Kate Settle

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Wheeler called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m.

DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM: A quorum was present.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE: Council Member Redmond gave the invocation. Council Member Wells led the Pledge of Allegiance.

CITIZENS COMMENTS (Citizens are encouraged to speak but to keep their comments to three minutes): The following citizens came to express their concerns, suggestions and opinions: Joan Monroe, Norm Joss and Mark Keaton and Diana Hollis.

READING AND APPROVAL OF THE JOURNAL
A. Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting – February 7, 2017: Council Member Johnson made the motion to approve the minutes as presented. Council Member Coletti seconded the motion.
   Motion approved 6-0.

B. Minutes of the City Council Committee/Work Session Meeting – February 20, 2017: Council Member Johnson made the motion to approve the minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Council Member Coletti. Council Member Redmond referred to page 2, first paragraph and corrected the name of the Theme School as Marbut. The motion and the second were amended to include the correction.
   Motion approved 6-0.

C. Minutes of Special Call Meeting – February 24, 2017: Council Member Johnson made the motion to approve the minutes as presented. Council Member Coletti seconded the motion.
   Motion approved 6-0.

READING OF COMMUNICATIONS: None.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA OF THE DAY: Request for unanimous consent to add under New Business Item F. Facilities Use Agreement between DeKalb County School District and the City of Stone Mountain – Historic Rock Gym. Council Member Johnson made the motion to adopt the agenda of the day and request under unanimous consent to add under New Business, Item F. Facilities Use Agreement between DeKalb County School District and the City of Stone Mountain – Historic Rock Gym. Council Member Coletti seconded the motion.
   Motion approved 6-0.

CONSIDERATION OF ANY LEGISLATION VETOED BY THE MAYOR: None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS
A. Consent Agenda: None
B. Maintenance Agreement – City of Stone Mountain and Fulton Communications – Phone Systems (Mitel 5000), Digital Phones and T1/PRI Maintenance Agreement - $968.00: Council Member Johnson made the motion to approve the maintenance agreement between the City of Stone Mountain and Vertical Communications for the phone Systems (Mitel 5000) digital phones and T1/PRI Maintenance Agreement for the amount of $968.00. Council Member Coletti seconded the motion.

Motion approved 6-0.

C. Discussion of the Relocation of the Dog Park: Mayor Wheeler reported she and Council Member Coletti have received phone calls from citizens in favor of finding a dog park. Council Member Coletti is keeping a list of interested parties and they hoped to have a meeting with those interested parties to see how serious they are about assisting the City in managing the Dog Park. Council Member Coletti added some of the interested citizens have already gotten together to discuss how they would like to manage the park. She and others are looking at all viable alternatives that would not be a cost to the City. Council Member Mailman expressed, after the City’s last experience with a dog park, the rules will be enforced and it will be a privilege to use the dog park. Council Member Wells felt the City was going in the right direction and thanked Ms. Hollis for her comments was grateful to hear both sides of the issue. He had received more positive comments about the Dog Park than negative comments.

D. Appointment to Historic Preservation Commission – Three Year Term – Anita Bass – Term to expire March 31, 2020: Council Member Johnson made the motion to appoint Ms. Anita Bass to the Historic Preservation Commission. Council Member Coletti seconded the motion.

Motion approved 6-0.

E. Discussion of Communications Strategy and Procedures Policy: City Manager Thornton hoped the Communication Plan would allow the flow of information to internal and external customers would be clear for those who are responsible for imparting information. The Council reviewed the proposed policy. Discussion included utilizing the calendar on the website on a more regular basis; updating events on the website; allowing for the Village Business Association to publish events on the website calendar and overall keeping the website updated for those who visit it.

F. Facilities Use Agreement between DeKalb County School District and the City of Stone Mountain – Historic Rock Gym: Council Member Johnson made the motion to approve the Facilities Use Agreement between DeKalb County School District and the City of Stone Mountain, Historic Rock Gym. Council Member Coletti seconded the motion. City Manager Thornton spoke of her conversation with the Legal Department at the DeKalb County Schools. Discussion included the City being liable for outside of the building; the indemnity clause being too broad; the amount of rent vs. the limited uses the City; scheduling a meeting with DeKalb County Schools with Council Members Higgins and Redmond; the law as it pertains sidewalk upkeep; the parking lot traffic after school has ended and the City being liable for any accident that may occur; contacting the school board members regarding the indemnity clause and for those members to be given a tour of the building. It was the consensus of Council for City Manager Thornton to organize a meeting with the DeKalb County Schools with Council Members Higgins and Redmond. Council Member Johnson and Council Member Coletti withdrew the motion and the second.

Motion approved 6-0.

NEW ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

A. Ordinance 2017-02 –To amend Chapter 12, Article III Outdoor Cafes and Display of Merchandise to include prohibition exception as it relates to alcohol consumption within the outdoor café area - Second Reading. Council Member Johnson made the motion to approve Ordinance 2017-02, to amend Chapter 12, Article III Outdoor Cafes and Display of Merchandise to include prohibition exception as it relates to alcohol consumption within the outdoor café area. Council Member Coletti seconded the motion. Council Member Johnson read the preamble into the record. City Manager Thornton clarified the ordinance will allow for a reference in the outdoor café ordinance to the alcohol ordinance.
COMMITTEE DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Planning and Zoning: None.

B. Community Affairs: Council Member Coletti reported the Community Garden would like to have four post for signage to guide people through the garden. She asked Public Works if there were any poles available. Director Tavenner indicated there are a few posts available at the Public Works Building. Council Member Coletti noted the last couple of years the City Wide Yard Sale has not had the interest it once had and was wondering if the Council would like to suspend it for a while. Mayor Wheeler asked that we put the topic on the Work Session Agenda. She encouraged all business owners to join or attend the Business Association. They have increased their membership and have great speakers at each meeting. City Manager Thornton reported on the Gym-On Fitness Walk scheduled for March 25. They have been working with Chief Troutman and Lt. Manning on the route in the City.

C. Economic Development/Downtown Development Authority: Council Member Johnson DDA will hold a Work Session on Monday; newsletter is to be out this week; the Kick-Off on March 23 at 7:00 p.m. at Stone Mountain Manor. Mayor Wheeler reported at a meeting that she and Jelani Linder attended, the Director of the Council for Quality Growth spoke to the Mayor and Mr. Linder and said he would be coming to Stone Mountain to see what they could do for the City. Susan Coletti and her husband met with General Rauhut. The General met with members of the DDA and was very impressed with the members he met.

D. Finance: None.

E. Community Outreach: Council Member Redmond reported the Community Watch Group will be meeting at Café Jaya on March 16; the Raising of the Green is at the Art Station on March 17 at 6:00 p.m. The Great American Clean-up will be taking place the week of March 20 and the challenge for the City is “Clean Your Block 2017.” On March 25 at the Sanitation Central Transfer the County on Lee Roy Scott Drive DeKalb will be allowing citizens to drop off your household hazardous waste. March 25, 2017, “The March for the Awareness of Health,” Constance Robinson (Gym on Fitness) is hosting the walk. The Women’s Club is hosting the “Jawbones vs Sawbones” basketball tournament at Mercer University on the evening of the 25th of March. The benefactor of the fundraiser is Side by Side Brain Injury Club House.

F. Public Works: Council Member Wells spoke of a citizen that has been having trouble with trash pick-up and placement of the trash cans once they do pick it up. Council Member Wells will be working with the City Manager to review other options for trash pick-up. Council Member Johnson asked that the contract be reviewed and to find out what the penalty might be to cancel it early. She felt Advance Disposal is not addressing the complaints.

G. Public Safety: None.

H. Historic Preservation Commission: Al Capagrossi announced there will not be a Regular Meeting of Historic Preservation Commission but will be meeting on January 15, 2017.

I. Visitor Center: Kim Cumbie reported at Work Session.

REMARKS OF PERSONAL PRIVILEGE: Council Member Mailman thanked those that attend the meetings on a regular basis.

City Manager Thornton asked for the Mayor’s signature on letters of support from the EFFORT Foundation to assist the City in rebuilding Medlock Park.
Council Member Johnson reported Victor Economy, owner of West Gate Plaza, has been approved for the Downtown Development Revolving Loan Fund which will help pay for the repaving of the parking lot. The DDA and the City are not a party to a loan but he has requested a resolution of support from both the DDA and the City.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE MAYOR:** The Mayor reported House Bill 204 and Senate Bill 2 will affect small cities in a negative way should they pass. She asked all to contact their state officials and convey their sentiments about the legislation. On March 23, the DeKalb Municipal Association will be meeting for lunch at Emory University.

Council Member Johnson made the motion to recess the Regular Meeting to go into Executive Session at 7:39 p.m. Council Member Coletti seconded the motion.

**Motion approved 6-0.**

The Regular Meeting reconvened at 8:44 p.m.

Council Member Johnson made the motion for the Construction Contract Attorney to inform Construction 57 the City’s intention to hold them to the original contract for the East Mountain Street Contract. The motion was seconded by Council Member Coletti.

**Motion approved 6-0.**

Mayor Wheeler reported the City has heard from the Capitol and the City will be receiving a bill number for annexation.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Motion by Council Member Johnson, seconded by Council Member Coletti to adjourn the meeting at 8:46 p.m.

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Mayor Patricia Wheeler

Kathleen E. Settle, City Clerk