REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
875 Main Street, Stone Mountain, GA 30083
Monday, July 5, 2017 at 6:30 P.M.

MINUTES

PRESENT: Mayor Patricia Wheeler, Mayor ProTem Chakira Johnson, Council Members: Susan Coletti, Andrea Redmond, Steve Wells and Richard Mailman. Council Member Steve Higgins was absent.

STAFF: City Manager ChaQuias Thornton, Chief of Police Chancey Troutman, Public Works Director Jim Tavenner and Assistant City Clerk Alicia Daniels.

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Wheeler called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM: A quorum was present.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE: Council Member Higgins 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: Judy Asher (Concerns about CSX Ridge over the tracks and the overgrown trees, also 5277 Mt. Village Ct. for limbs in gutters and chipped paint, also working with homeowners to keep properties kept up and to regulate trees all over the city and not just in the historic area) and Huber Jordan (Comments and points on home vacation occupancy).

READING AND APPROVAL OF THE JOURNAL
A. Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting – June 6, 2017: Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Johnson to approve, seconded by Council Member Coletti. Motion approved 7/0.

B. Minutes of the Special Called Work Session – June 17, 2017: Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Johnson to approve, seconded by Council Member Coletti. Motion approved with correction 7/0.

C Minutes of the City Council Committee/Work Session – June 19, 2017: Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Johnson to approve, seconded by Council Member Coletti with the corrections as noted. Motion approved 7/0.

D Minutes of the Special Called Meeting – June 26, 2017: Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Johnson to approve, seconded by Council Member Coletti with the corrections as noted. Motion approved 7/0.

READING OF COMMUNICATIONS: None.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA OF THE DAY:
Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Johnson, seconded by Council Member Coletti to adopt the agenda of the day with a request to add by unanimous consent under New Ordinances and Resolutions: Item D Resolution 2017-17 Item to Appoint an Election Superintendent for the year 2017, seconded by Council Member Coletti. Motion approved 7/0.

CONSIDERATION OF ANY LEGISLATION VETOED BY THE MAYOR: None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:
A. Ordinance 2017-04 To Amend Appendix A, Zoning Article XV: Bed and Breakfast Facilities. This is a discussion only as this item will be going to Planning & Zoning on July 10th and a hearing will be held on July 17th. Council Member Coletti stated that on page 1 of 3, 1-C still says “no less than 4” but it should be “3”.

Page 1 of 3 06/06/2017
Council Member Wells said that on the discussion of 10 days or 14 days, he thought the settlement was for 14 days. City Manager Thornton stated that all documents will say 14 days. Council Member Higgins asked if there was any thought to a minimum and it was concurred a good idea and a suggestion of a minimum of 2 days was to be added. There was also discussion on the reason for keeping this to DeKalb County.

B. Ordinance 2017-05 To Amend Appendix A, Zoning, Article VI: Supplemental Regulations, Section 6-9 Home Occupations. This is a discussion only item. Council Member Wells discussed our city being a model for other cities. Mayor Wheeler also stated that GMA is looking at ours compared to their ordinance.

NEW BUSINESS
A. Consent Agenda: None

Application for Variance – EMDG 791 Main, LLC – Variance to Sign Ordinance. Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Johnson to approve, seconded by Council Member Coletti with the corrections as noted. Motion approved 7/0.

B. Planning and Zoning also made a recommendation to approve at their 07/28/17 meeting. Approved 7/0.

NEW ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS
A. Ordinance 2017-06 Ad Valorem Tax Rates to be included in the amendments. Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Johnson; Mayor Pro Tem Johnson read the ordinance; Mayor Wheeler called for the vote. Approved 7/0.

B. Ordinance 2017-15 Appointment of City Clerk. Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Johnson, seconded by Council Member Redmond. Approved 7/0.

C. Ordinance 2017-07 To Amend Appendix A, Zoning, by Establishing Article XVI: Vacation Home Facilities. Discussion only.

D. Resolution 2017-17 To Appoint an Election Superintendent for the year 2017. Motion made by Mayor Pro Tem Johnson, seconded by Council Member Coletti. Approved 7/0. Newly appointed City Clerk Rhonda Blackmon was named and Mayor Wheeler administered the oath to Ms. Blackmon.

COMMITTEE DISCUSSION ITEMS
A. Planning and Zoning: City Manager Thornton stated there will be meeting on July 10th at 5:30 pm to consider the Bed and Breakfast - Vacation Home Facility ordinance.

B. Community Affairs: No report.

C. Economic Development/Downtown Development Authority: Council Member Johnson reported that the new Executive Director Errol Newark reported for his first day today.

D. Finance: No report.

E. Community Outreach: Council Member Redmond reported that 1) there will be a mosquito documentary on the Discovery Channel at 9:00 pm on Thursday, July 6th, 2) thanking the Hollis family for providing food to the police on the 4th 3) the yard of the month is 5157 Poplar Springs (the Jackovich family) 4) be in prayer for Mr. Jackovich as he is in hospice care due to lung cancer 5) the vacant house next to the Jackovich family is unacceptable and has no street numbers on the house or the mailbox and the yard is bad 6) received information on Jim’s Place at McCurdy Park but still no documented town history and we may lose the grant to do a restoration.

F. Public Safety: Council Member Mailman 1) thanked Council Member Wells for initiating parking of cars in certain locations and the City Manager for putting this in place 2) we still have a monster problem in the
Rockborough Subdivision with the area looking bad with items left out to be picked up and that we need to make sure code enforcement is going out 2) heard from a lot of people on the fireworks and the noise along with possible firearms going off 3) appreciated the citizen coming forward about the Bed and Breakfasts; this is a safety issue as well 4) Council Member then asked Council Member about a tree falling down and the occupant being a rental tenant; Council Member Mailman gave instruction; Council Member Redmond brought up some other occupant issues.

G. Public Works: Council Member Wells 1) commended Public Works on keeping the grass cut in the city 2) noticed that E. Mountain St. and Second St. are paved 3) the bushing date is scheduled for July 11th 4) commended the Library on the $2185.00 made at the book sale 5) the state is considering allowing the local governments to regulate fireworks 6) we apparently have a coyote problem and he will be working on a plan 7) on the city-wide tree ordinance…City Manager Thornton stated she spoke to a consultant with a Georgia forestry commission and they will be coming out to work with the city on an ordinance and also working on becoming a tree city; Council Member Wells also asked that the community provide feedback on this item.

H. Historic Preservation Commission: Provided at the previous work session.

I. Visitor Center: Provided at the previous work session.

Mayor Wheeler asked for any additional comments. Council Member Mailman wanted to thank Mike Cooper for being persistent and Steve Bradshaw regarding the library. Mayor Wheeler stated we will be presenting Mr. Bradshaw with a proclamation at the next regular council meeting.

Mayor Pro Tem Johnson wanted to thank the Stone Mountain Historical Society for the July 4th breakfast and the fundraiser went well as there was a great turnout. Looking forward to the next Friday porch time which is always the last Friday of the month on July 28th from 4pm to 7pm at the Wells Brown House and mention the annual barbeque on August 19th.

Council Member Redmond extended sympathy to Chief for the passing of his mother and to commend Chief and the officers for their help at the 4th of July event.

City Manager Thornton stated that several people have come to City Hall on the Homestead Exemption and the qualifications. City Manager Thornton read the qualifications on record.

The Mayor asked that we keep the Sabatelle’s in our prayers.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Motion by Council Member Johnson to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Council Member Coletti. The meeting adjourned at 7:30pm.