



# City of Statham

## COUNCIL MEETING

MAY 28, 2020

6:00 P.M.

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The Special Called Meeting of the City of Statham City Council was called to order by Mayor Joe Piper at 6:00 p.m.

Members present were Mayor Joe Piper and Council Members Tammy Crawley, Betty Lyle, Dwight McCormic, Hattie Thrasher, and Gary Venable. Also in attendance was City Attorney Jody Campbell and City Clerk Susan Gabriel.

Mayor Piper opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**2. EXECUTIVE SESSION – LITIGATION AND ATTORNEY-CLIENT COMMUNICATIONS**

Gary Venable made a motion to go into executive session. Betty Lyle seconded the motion, unanimous. The council went into executive session at 6:02 p.m.

Dwight McCormic made a motion to come out of executive session. Hattie Thrasher seconded the motion, unanimous. The council came out of executive session at 6:09 p.m.

City Attorney Jody Campbell made the following statement: “On May 28, 2020, the Mayor and City Council of the City of Statham entered into a closed, executive session to allow for protected attorney-client discussions related to pending litigation involving the City. No votes or actions were taken during this closed session. A copy of the Resolution signed by the Mayor and City Council as well as the Affidavit signed by the Mayor attesting to these facts will be included with the minutes.”

**3. APPROVE SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT WITH CATHERINE CORKREN**

Gary Venable made a motion to approve the Settlement Agreement with Katie Corkren as drafted. Tammy Crawley seconded the motion, unanimous.

**4. ADJOURN**

There being no further business before the Council, Hattie Thrasher made a motion to adjourn. Gary Venable seconded the motion, unanimous. The special called meeting of the City of Statham City Council adjourned at 6:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Susan Gabriel, City Clerk

**MOTION TO ENTER INTO A CLOSED MEETING OF A CITY COUNCIL**

Council Member Bary Verable makes the following motion.

Council Member Betty Lyle seconded the motion.

- (1) That this Mayor and Council now into closed session as allowed by O.C.G.A. §50-14-4 and pursuant to advice by the City Attorney, for the purpose of discussing the following:

litigation and attorney-client communications

- (2) That this body, in open session, adopt a resolution authorizing and directing the mayor or presiding officer to execute an affidavit in compliance with O.C.G.A. §50-14-4, and that this body ratify the actions of the council taken in closed session and confirm that the subject matters of the closed session were within exceptions permitted by the open meetings law, said resolution to be in the form as attached hereto.

**Motion approved**

Those voting in **favor** of the motion for closure: Council Members: Betty Lyle  
Carlynn Hattie Shrasher Dwight McCarri  
Sammy Crawley

Those voting **against** the motion for closure: Council Members: \_\_\_\_\_

**AFFIDAVIT**

Personally appeared before the undersigned attesting officer, duly authorized to administer oaths, Joe D. Piper, who, after being duly sworn, deposes and on oath states the following:

(1) I was the presiding officer of a meeting of the Statham City Council held on the 28th day of May, 2020.

(2) That it is my understanding that O.C.G.A. §50-14-4(b) provides as follows:  
When any meeting of an agency is closed to the public pursuant to subsection (a) of this Code section, the chairperson or other person presiding over such meeting shall execute and file with the official minutes of the meeting a notarized affidavit stating under oath that the subject matter of the meeting or the closed portion thereof was devoted to matters within the exceptions provided by law and identifying the specific relevant exception.

(3) The subject matter of the closed meeting or closed portion of the meeting held on the 28th of May, 2020, which was closed for the purpose(s) of litigation & attorney-client communications as allowed by O.C.G.A., Title 50, Chapter 14, was devoted to matters within those exceptions and as provided by law.

(4) This affidavit is being executed for the purpose of complying with the mandate of O.C.G.A. §50-14-4(b) that such an affidavit be executed.

This 28th day of May, 2020.

[Signature]  
Mayor/Presiding Officer

Sworn to and subscribed before me this

28th day of May, 2020



Susan B. Gabriel  
Notary Public



**RESOLUTION OF THE STATHAM CITY COUNCIL**

BE IT RESOLVED by the Statham City Council as follows: At the meeting held on the 28th day of May, 2020, the Council entered into closed session for the purpose of discussing litigation + attorney-client communications. At the close of the discussions, the Council did vote to re-enter into open session and herewith takes the following action in open session: approve settlement agreement with Catherine Corkren

(1) The actions of the council and the discussions of the same regarding the matter set forth for closed session purposes are hereby ratified.

(2) Each member of this body does hereby confirm that to the best of his or her knowledge, based upon the advice of the City Attorney, the said subject matter of the meeting and of the closed session portion was devoted to matters within the specific relevant exception(s) as set forth above.

(3) The Mayor, or the presiding officer, is hereby authorized and directed to execute an affidavit, with full support of this Council, in order to comply with O.C.G.A. §50-14-4(b).

(4) The affidavit shall be included and filed with the official minutes of the meeting and shall be in a form as required by the statute.

Approved this 28th day of May, 2020.

Attest: Insa Gabriel  
City Clerk

[Signature]  
Mayor