

**MAYOR**  
Robert Bridges

**CITY CLERK**  
Harriet Kilpatrick

**ASSISTANT CITY CLERK**  
Patti Powell

# City of Statham

P.O. Box 28, 327 Jefferson Street  
Statham, Georgia 30666  
(770) 725-5455 • Fax (770) 725-0202  
www.cityofstatham.com

**CITY COUNCIL**  
Perry Barton  
David Huth  
Betty Lyle  
Gayle Steed  
Hattie Thrasher

*City of Statham*  
**COUNCIL MEETING**  
**June 17, 2014**  
**7:00 P.M.**

**1. CALL TO ORDER:**

The regular business meeting of the City of Statham City Council was called to order by Mayor Robert Bridges at 7:02 p.m. Members present were Mayor Robert Bridges and Council Members Perry Barton, David Huth, Betty Lyle, Gayle Steed, and Hattie Thrasher. Also in attendance were Police Chief Steve Martin, Code Enforcement Officer, Randy Gordon, City Attorney Thomas Mitchell, and City Clerk Harriet Jett Kilpatrick. The media was represented by Bonnie Harper of the Barrow County News.

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

**(A) COUNCIL MEETING – May 20, 2014**

Gayle Steed made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 20, 2014 council meeting as written. David Huth seconded the motion. Unanimous.

**3. PUBLIC HEARING FOR ALCOHOL LICENSE:**

**(A) Statham Circle Express, 2059 Atlanta Highway, SE**

At this time, background and fingerprinting information had not been received by the City so Mayor Bridges tabled this item until all paperwork was received by the City.

**4. 1<sup>st</sup> READING OF RECODIFICATION OF CODE OF ORDINANCES**

Gayle Steed made a motion to waive the first reading of the Recodification of the Code of Ordinances. Perry Barton seconded the motion. Unanimous.

**5. OLD BUSINESS:**

There was no old business.

**6. NEW BUSINESS:**

There was no new business.



7. **OTHER BUSINESS:**

**Mary Spencer** with the Statham Library addressed the council regarding the proposed library budget cuts. She thanked the council for listening with open minds and hearts. Mary advised that as soon as the proposed cuts are made, two staff members would immediately be terminated and the three remaining staff's hours would be cut. It would "effectively cut the Library's hours in half". They would also be forced to discontinue programs such as "ready to read" story time; on-site reading programs at Statham Elementary and Statham Helping hands as examples. The cuts Statham's budget has proposed puts the library "back where it was seven years" ago at a time when patronage has increased.

**Annette Weeks** -- also spoke as a resident in support of the library, especially in support of the children's programs, computer usage for adults who are looking for jobs, etc.

**James Church** -- is a resident of Statham on Wall Road. He is a regular patron of the Statham Library and especially supports the children's programs. He asked what the reasoning is behind the proposed budget cuts/funding to the Library.

Mayor Bridges emphasized that proposed cuts were made in every department in the proposed budget and that funds were tight. He also responded to the question with information from an informal survey that was taken by the City that reflected that 60% of the patrons that utilized the library during that time were outside of the city limits of Statham. He explained that the City has been funding the library at 100% except for this last year when Barrow County contributed \$7,000.00+ towards the funding of the Library. He explained that Statham is trying to get the County to step up with funding

Councilman Perry Barton stressed that the City loves the library, the services that the library offers, the people who work in the library, and the patrons. He gave specific examples of other cuts that were made in the proposed budget that directly affect the city (i.e., city employees have not had a pay raise in six years, we are down to two police cars, etc.). He also informed everyone that members of the City have a meeting set up with the County within the next few weeks regarding sharing the costs of the Library as well as several other areas such as roads, recreation, etc.

**Sherell Nance** -- works for the Statham Library. She informed us that the State of Georgia just cut their funding also; so if the County refuses to pay more toward the operation of the library, the library "is done" and will have to close its doors.

David Huth and Perry Barton urged the citizens to contact their representatives on the matter also.

8. **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

There were no committee reports.

8. **EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

N/A

9. **ADJOURN:**

There being no further business before the Council, David Huth made a motion to Adjourn. Hattie Thrasher seconded the Motion. The meeting of the City of Statham City Council adjourned at 7:19 p.m.