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Mayor makes surprising cancer announcement during weekend retreat

Stonecrest, GA – Mayor Jason Lary announced today that he may be battling a third round of cancer. The mayor said that he is seeking further treatments and medical opinions and will know more later this week. The announcement was made during the Stonecrest City Council Retreat, a two-day, virtual event in which the council discussed the city’s vision and future projects.

The mayor returned from his second cancer battle in January, two months ahead of his scheduled time. During a November 2020 meeting, the mayor received approval from the council for medically excused absences from council meetings until March 2021.

During the mayor’s retreat comments, he expressed why he displays such a sense of urgency in moving the city forward. He urged the council to pick one of the four candidates that he submitted earlier this month for acting city manager. Referring to the council, the mayor said, “To you all who have a choice of words that I use, I apologize. I just want us to be the best city that we can be. I may have to go out for a third cancer surgery. So, when I use the words you better pick someone [for city manager] and we have to grow up or mature up, it’s because I may not be here.” The mayor added that he came back too early and that he didn’t give his body time enough to heal. Mayor Lary said that he used the words out of a sense of urgency and not out of disrespect.

The mayor said that if he could not be here as mayor and Plez Joyner, the deputy city manager has to go out, then the city has no one to run it, which he said was unacceptable.

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