



City of Laurel

401 N. 5th Avenue
Laurel, MS 39440
www.laurelms.com

Regular Meeting Minutes
City Council

Tuesday, April 22, 2025	9:00 AM	Council Chambers
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CALL TO ORDER

- Present:** 7 - Councilperson Jason Capers, Councilperson Kevin Kelly, Council President Tony Thaxton, Vice President George Carmichael, Councilperson Andrea Ellis, Councilperson Grace Amos and Councilperson Shirley Jordan
- Staff:** 3 - Mayor Johnny Magee, City Council Clerk Sharon King and City Attorney Brett Robinson

PRAYER

Councilperson Jason Capers

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Councilperson Carmichael moved, seconded by Councilperson Jordan that the Council moved into Closed Session to discuss the necessity of an Executive Session.

Upon roll call vote, the result was as follows:

YEAS: Capers, Kelly, Thaxton, Carmichael, Ellis, Amos, Jordan
NAYS: None
ABSTAINING: None
ABSENT: None

The President thereupon declared the motion carried, this the 22nd day of April, A. D., 2025.

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Councilperson Capers moved to go into Executive Session to discuss litigation, seconded by Councilperson Carmichael.

YEAS: Capers, Kelly, Thaxton, Carmichael, Ellis, Amos, Jordan
NAYS: None
ABSTAINING: None
ABSENT: None

The President thereupon declared the motion carried, this the 22nd day of April, A. D., 2025.

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Following discussion, Councilperson Kelly moved, seconded by Councilperson Capers that the Council move back into Open Session.

Upon roll call vote, the results were as follows:

YEAS: Capers, Kelly, Thaxton, Carmichael, Ellis, Amos, Jordan
NAYS: None
ABSTAINING: None
ABSENT: Ellis

The President thereupon declared the motion carried and proceeded with the meeting, this the 22nd day of April, A. D., 2025.

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APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. [ID 25-7709](#) April 8, 2025

Attachments: [CoL Minutes of 04082025](#)

A motion was made by Councilperson Jason Capers, seconded by Councilperson Andrea Ellis, that the Minutes be approved. Upon roll call vote the President declared the motion carried by the results as follows:

Yea: 7 - Jason Capers, Kevin Kelly, Tony Thaxton, George Carmichael, Andrea Ellis, Grace Amos and Shirley Jordan

1. CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Vice President George Carmichael, seconded by Councilperson Jason Capers, that the agenda be amended as follows. Upon roll call vote the President declared the motion carried by the results as follows:

Delete Agenda Item 3A2(d)., Consider adopting a Resolution to conduct a public hearing on April 22, 2025 in regards to a property located at 703 S. 6th Ave., belonging to Ricky Lee Maye to determine demolition.

Delete Agenda Item 4A., Consider adopting a Resolution giving the administration authority to award construction of the 2025 Citywide Paving Project.

Add Agenda Item 4I., Consider adopting an ORDER AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AGREEMENT FOR POLLING PLACE FOR WARD 4 FOR THE CITY OF LAUREL 2025 MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS.

Add Agenda Item 4J., Consider adopting a Resolution Authorizing Mayor Johnny Magee, Acting on Behalf of the City of Laurel, to Execute a Memorandum of Understanding With Housing Economic Resources & Education (HERE) Related to the City of Laurel Homeowner Rehabilitation Project.

Yea: 7 - Jason Capers, Kevin Kelly, Tony Thaxton, George Carmichael, Andrea Ellis, Grace Amos and Shirley Jordan

2. PRESENTATION AGENDA

A. [ID 25-7712](#)

Consider hearing a presentation from Laurel Main Street Executive Director Caroline Burks on LMS activities, plans and projects.

Attachments: [Laurel Main Street Presentation04222025 0001](#)

Caroline Burks, Laurel Main Street Executive Director came before the Council and presented the statistics attached and elaborated. (See attached)

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B. [ID 25-7705](#)

Monthly Report Privilege Taxes March 2025.

Attachments: [Cover Letter](#)
[BL Monthly Transaction Report - 8026](#)
[New Business License List #1](#)

There came on before the City Council a report of privilege licenses that have been issued for the month of March, 2025. This report can be reviewed in the City Clerk's

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3. PUBLIC AGENDA

A. PUBLIC HEARING

1. SET PUBLIC HEARING

A. [ID 25-7722](#)

Consider adopting an Order to set a date of May 20, 2025 to conduct a public hearing in regards to the properties listed to determine whether or not the property is in such a state of dilapidation so as to be a menace to public health of the community:

- A. Robert Earl Brown, dilapidated shed at 812 Jeffrey Dr. PPIN 14998, Ward 3
- B. Federal National Mortgage Assoc.(James Saul Kindred Jr.), dilapidated residence at 4208 University Ave. PPIN 14937, Ward 3
- C. TFW Consultants & Management Serv % Voice of Freedom Bible Church, dilapidated residence at 1919 Meridian Ave. PPIN 9428, Ward 4
- D. Terry & Glenda Gilliam, dilapidated residence at 128 S. Cook Ave. PPIN 9893 Ward 5
- E. Larry Junior Breland, dilapidated residence at 460 E. Oak St. PPIN 14656 Ward 5
- F. ATS Property Ventures LLC(Carlos Sanchez), dilapidated shed at 1044 Euclid Ave. PPIN 12067 Ward 5
- G. Cherylyn Lynn Rainer, dilapidated structure at 610 Chantilly PPIN 12735 Ward 5

Attachments: [Sets 5-20-25](#)

[Notices 5-20-25-04152025111956](#)

A motion was made by Councilperson Grace Amos, seconded by Councilperson Jason Capers, that the Order to Set Hearing be adopted. Upon roll call vote the President declared the motion carried by the results as follows:

Yea: 7 - Jason Capers, Kevin Kelly, Tony Thaxton, George Carmichael, Andrea Ellis, Grace Amos and Shirley Jordan

2. CONDUCT PUBLIC HEARING

A motion was made by Councilperson Shirley Jordan, seconded by Councilperson Jason Capers, to conduct a public hearing. Upon roll call vote the President declared the motion carried by the results as follows:

Yea: 7 - Jason Capers, Kevin Kelly, Tony Thaxton, George Carmichael, Andrea Ellis, Grace Amos and Shirley Jordan

A. [ID 25-7715](#)

Consider adopting a Resolution to conduct a public hearing on April 22, 2025 in regards to a property located at 1536 Lindsey Ave, belonging to Terry L. Tolar, to determine whether or not the property is in such a state of dilapidation so as to be a menace to the public health and safety of the community. Property is located in Ward 4.

Attachments: [Resolution 1536 Lindsey Ave.\(demo\)](#)

[1536 LINDSEY AVE - 4-22-2025](#)

[R 1536 LINDSEY AVE-04072025143631](#)

[P 1536 LINDSEY AVE-04072025163422](#)

A motion was made by Vice President George Carmichael, seconded by Councilperson Jason Capers, that the Resolution be adopted. Upon roll call vote the President declared the motion carried by the results as follows:

Yea: 7 - Jason Capers, Kevin Kelly, Tony Thaxton, George Carmichael, Andrea Ellis, Grace Amos and Shirley Jordan

B. [ID 25-7718](#)

Consider adopting a Resolution to conduct a public hearing on April 22, 2025 in regards to a property located at 612 E. Kingston St., belonging to Lawanda Michele Love, to determine whether or not the property is in such a state of dilapidation so as to be a menace to the public health and safety of the community. Property is located in Ward 5.

Attachments: [Resolution 612 E. Kingston St.\(demo\)](#)
[612 E KINGSTON ST - 4-22-2025](#)
[R 612 E KINGSTON ST-04072025144023](#)
[P 612 E KINGSTON ST-04072025163306](#)

A motion was made by Councilperson Andrea Ellis, seconded by Councilperson Kevin Kelly, that the Resolution be adopted as amended, granting a (6) six months extension. Upon roll call vote the President declared the motion carried by the results as follows:

Yea: 7 - Jason Capers, Kevin Kelly, Tony Thaxton, George Carmichael, Andrea Ellis, Grace Amos and Shirley Jordan

C. [ID 25-7719](#)

Consider adopting a Resolution to conduct a public hearing on April 22, 2025 in regards to a property located at 623 E. Kingston St., belonging to Felicia Robinson, to determine whether or not the property is in such a state of dilapidation so as to be a menace to the public health and safety of the community. Property is located in Ward 5.

Attachments: [Resolution 623 E. Kingston St.\(demo\)](#)
[623 E KINGSTON ST - 4-22-2025](#)
[R 623 E KINGSTON ST-04072025143821](#)
[P 623 E KINGSTON ST-04072025163346](#)

A motion was made by Councilperson Andrea Ellis, seconded by Councilperson Kevin Kelly, that the Resolution be adopted. Upon roll call vote the President declared the motion carried by the results as follows:

Yea: 7 - Jason Capers, Kevin Kelly, Tony Thaxton, George Carmichael, Andrea Ellis, Grace Amos and Shirley Jordan

D. [ID 25-7720](#)

Consider adopting a Resolution to conduct a public hearing on April 22, 2025 in regards to a property located at 703 S. 6th Ave., belonging to Ricky Lee Maye, to determine whether or not the property is in such a state of dilapidation so as to be a menace to the public health and safety of the community. Property is located in Ward 6.

Attachments: [Resolution 703 S. 6th Ave.\(demo\)](#)
[703 S 6th Ave pics](#)
[R. 703 S 6TH AVE-04072025135401](#)
[P 703 S 6TH AVE-04142025094306](#)

This Resolution to Conduct Hearing was deleted during Confirmation of Agenda

B. CITIZENS HEARING

C. CITIZENS FORUM

4. POLICY AGENDA

A. [ID 25-7721](#)

Consider adopting a Resolution giving the administration authority to award construction of the 2025 Citywide Paving Project.

Attachments: [Resolution](#)
[Bid Review Letter.pdf](#)
[Certified Bid Tab.pdf](#)

This Resolution was deleted during Confirmation of Agenda

B. [ID 25-7723](#)

Consider hearing the First Reading of a SECOND AMENDED ORDINANCE ENLARGING, EXTENDING, AND DEFINING THE CORPORATE LIMITS AND BOUNDARIES OF THE CITY OF LAUREL, JONES COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI; SPECIFYING THE IMPROVEMENTS TO BE MADE IN THE ANNEXED TERRITORY AND THE MUNICIPAL OR PUBLIC SERVICES TO BE RENDERED THEREIN; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES RELATED THERETO.

Attachments: [ORDINANCE- First Reading of Second Amended Annexation Ordinance 4.22.25](#)

A motion was made by Councilperson Jason Capers, seconded by Councilperson Kevin Kelly, that the Ordinance be approved on first reading. Upon roll call vote the President declared the motion carried by the results as follows:

Yea: 7 - Jason Capers, Kevin Kelly, Tony Thaxton, George Carmichael, Andrea Ellis, Grace Amos and Shirley Jordan

C. [ID 25-7711](#)

Consider adopting an Order requesting the Laurel Fire Department be allowed to partner with Tyler Scott with Police, Fire, and EMS Calendars to solicit ads for the 2026 department calendar and accept a check totaling 30% of the sales from the ads. The funds will be placed in the Specific Department Outlay account 001.260.939.0 and will be used in areas the Department deems necessary.

Attachments: [calendar ad](#)

A motion was made by Councilperson Jason Capers, seconded by Vice President George Carmichael, that the Order be adopted. Upon roll call vote the President declared the motion carried by the results as follows:

Yea: 7 - Jason Capers, Kevin Kelly, Tony Thaxton, George Carmichael, Andrea Ellis, Grace Amos and Shirley Jordan

D. [ID 25-7717](#)

Consider adopting an Order accepting a check of one hundred dollars (\$100.00) donated by Mr. Tyler Scott. These funds will be put in the Donation account 001.000.109.2, to be used for purchasing water or energy drinks for the Department.

Attachments: [donation order](#)
[donation check](#)

A motion was made by Councilperson Kevin Kelly, seconded by Councilperson Jason Capers, that the Order be adopted. Upon roll call vote the President declared the motion carried by the results as follows:

Yea: 7 - Jason Capers, Kevin Kelly, Tony Thaxton, George Carmichael, Andrea Ellis, Grace Amos and Shirley Jordan

E. [ID 25-7713](#)

Consider adopting an Order to approve out-of-state travel for City Clerk, Kristal Jones, to attend a Veolia Training at Veolia North America Municipal Water Headquarters in Paramus, New Jersey.

Attachments: [ORDER - Travel VEOLIA New Jersey](#)

A motion was made by Councilperson Grace Amos, seconded by Councilperson Andrea Ellis, that the Order be adopted. Upon roll call vote the President declared the motion carried by the results as follows:

Yea: 7 - Jason Capers, Kevin Kelly, Tony Thaxton, George Carmichael, Andrea Ellis, Grace Amos and Shirley Jordan

F. [ID 25-7714](#)

Consider adopting an Order to approve in-state travel for City Clerk, Kristal Jones and Program Director, Kristi Howard to attend the 2025 Governor's Initiative for Volunteer Excellence Awards in Jackson, MS on April 24, 2025.

Attachments: [Order - Travel AmeriCorps 2025 GIVE AWARDS](#)
[GIVE Awards Invite](#)

A motion was made by Councilperson Kevin Kelly, seconded by Councilperson Andrea Ellis, that the Order be adopted. Upon roll call vote the President declared the motion carried by the results as follows:

Yea: 7 - Jason Capers, Kevin Kelly, Tony Thaxton, George Carmichael, Andrea Ellis, Grace Amos and Shirley Jordan

G. [ID 25-7706](#)

Consider adopting an Order request to approve registration and travel expenses for Jeanette Grantham to attend the MS Office of Highway Safety FY 2025 Grant Implementation Meeting in Canton, Mississippi on May 1, 2025.

Attachments: [TRAVEL TO THE MS OFFICE OF HIGHWAY SAFETY MAY 1, 2025](#)

A motion was made by Councilperson Andrea Ellis, seconded by Councilperson Kevin Kelly, that the Order be adopted. Upon roll call vote the President declared the motion carried by the results as follows:

Yea: 7 - Jason Capers, Kevin Kelly, Tony Thaxton, George Carmichael, Andrea Ellis, Grace Amos and Shirley Jordan

H. [ID 25-7708](#)

Consider adopting an Order request to consider authorization of Laurel Police Officer James Parish's travel to Pilot Point, TX for the purpose of taking possession of K-9 BRASOV.

Attachments: [OFFICER JAMES PARISH TRAVEL TO PURCHASE K- 9 PUN PILOT POINT, TX](#)

A motion was made by Councilperson Grace Amos, seconded by Councilperson Kevin Kelly, that the Order be adopted. Upon roll call vote the President declared the motion carried by the results as follows:

Yea: 7 - Jason Capers, Kevin Kelly, Tony Thaxton, George Carmichael, Andrea Ellis, Grace Amos and Shirley Jordan

Councilperson Jason Capers recused himself from the meeting.

I. [ID 25-7725](#)

Consider adopting an ORDER AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AGREEMENT FOR POLLING PLACE FOR WARD 4 FOR THE CITY OF LAUREL 2025 MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS.

Attachments: [ORDAuthorizeAgreementWard4PollingPlaceChristChurch4.22.25](#)
[ORDAuthorizeAgreementWard4PollingPlaceChristChurch4.22.25.ExhibitA](#)

A motion was made by Councilperson Grace Amos, seconded by Vice President George Carmichael, that the Order be adopted. Upon roll call vote the President declared the motion carried by the results as follows:

Yea: 6 - Kevin Kelly, Tony Thaxton, George Carmichael, Andrea Ellis, Grace Amos and Shirley Jordan

Recused: 1 - Jason Capers

Councilperson Jason Capers re-entered the meeting.

J. [ID 25-7726](#)

Consider adopting a Resolution Authorizing Mayor Johnny Magee, Acting on Behalf of the City of Laurel, to Execute a Memorandum of Understanding With Housing Economic Resources & Education (HERE) Related to the City of Laurel Homeowner Rehabilitation Project.

Attachments: [RESAuthorizeMOUHEREHomeownerRehabProject4.22.25](#)
[RESAuthorizeMOUHEREHomeownerRehabProject.ExhibitA.4.22.25](#)

A motion was made by Councilperson Grace Amos, seconded by Councilperson Andrea Ellis, that the Resolution be adopted. Upon roll call vote the President declared the motion carried by the results as follows:

Yea: 7 - Jason Capers, Kevin Kelly, Tony Thaxton, George Carmichael, Andrea Ellis, Grace Amos and Shirley Jordan

5. ROUTINE AGENDA**A. [ID 25-7724](#)**

Consider adopting an Order to Ratify approval of notice of May 8, 2025 for a Planning & Zoning Commission public hearing meeting.

Attachments: [ORDER planning commission 050825](#)

A motion was made by Councilperson Shirley Jordan, seconded by Councilperson Jason Capers, that the Order be adopted. Upon roll call vote the President declared the motion carried by the results as follows:

Yea: 7 - Jason Capers, Kevin Kelly, Tony Thaxton, George Carmichael, Andrea Ellis, Grace Amos and Shirley Jordan

B. [ID 25-7716](#)

Consider adopting a Resolution to approve the Claims Docket.

Attachments: [RESOLUTION](#)
[WARRANT APRIL 22 2025](#)
[CLAIMS DOCKET APRIL 22 2025](#)

A motion was made by Councilperson Shirley Jordan, seconded by Councilperson Jason Capers, that the Resolution be adopted. Upon roll call vote the President declared the motion carried by the results as follows:

Yea: 7 - Jason Capers, Kevin Kelly, Tony Thaxton, George Carmichael, Andrea Ellis, Grace Amos and Shirley Jordan

EXECUTIVE SESSION

With no objections to adjourning, the President declared the meeting adjourned to Tuesday, May 6, 2025 at 5:30 p.m., this the 22nd day of April, A. D., 2025.

PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL
COUNCILPERSON WARD 3

COUNCILPERSON WARD 1

COUNCILPERSON WARD 5

COUNCILPERSON WARD 2

COUNCILPERSON WARD 6

COUNCILPERSON WARD 4

COUNCILPERSON WARD 7

ATTEST:

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

MAYOR

ATTEST:

CITY CLERK

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