



City of Laurel

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

Regular Meeting Minutes City Council

Tuesday, May 20, 2025

9:00 AM

Council Chambers

CALL TO ORDER

- Present:** 5 - Councilperson Jason Capers, Councilperson Kevin Kelly, Council President Tony Thaxton, Councilperson Grace Amos and Councilperson Shirley Jordan
- Absent:** 2 - Vice President George Carmichael and Councilperson Andrea Ellis
- Staff:** 3 - Mayor Johnny Magee, City Council Clerk Sharon King and City Attorney Brett Robinson

PRAYER

Councilperson Shirley Jordan

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. [ID 25-7760](#) May 6, 2025

Attachments: [CoL Minutes of 05062025](#)

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

Yea: 5 - Jason Capers, Kevin Kelly, Tony Thaxton, Grace Amos and Shirley Jordan

Absent: 2 - George Carmichael and Andrea Ellis

1. CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Councilperson Jason Capers, seconded by Councilperson Kevin Kelly, 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(e), Consider adopting a Resolution to conduct a public hearing on May 20, 2025 in regards to the property located at 1044 Euclid Ave. belonging to ATS Property Ventures LLC (Carlos Sanchez) to determine whether or not the property is in such a dilapidated state so as to be a menace to public health and safety of the community.

Yea: 5 - Jason Capers, Kevin Kelly, Tony Thaxton, Grace Amos and Shirley Jordan

Absent: 2 - George Carmichael and Andrea Ellis

2. PRESENTATION AGENDA

- A. [ID 25-7754](#)

Monthly Report Privilege Taxes April 2025.

Attachments: [Cover Letter](#)

[New Business License List #1](#)

[Monthly Transaction Report](#)

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

- B. [ID 25-7770](#)

Presentation from Mayor Johnny Magee on the State of the City.

Attachments: [SOC 2024](#)

This Presentation was presented by Mayor Magee. (See attached)

3. PUBLIC AGENDA

A. PUBLIC HEARING

1. SET PUBLIC HEARING

A. [ID 25-7763](#)

Consider adopting an Order to set a date of July 8, 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 the public health and safety of the community:

- A. Oberge Cockrell, dilapidated carport at 225 N. 18th Ave. PPIN 9205 Ward 1
- B. John F. Wooten III & Joseph R., dilapidated residence at 1830 Lee St. PPIN 14085 W 1
- C. Show Me Investments LLC, dilapidated residence at 209 S. Dr. Deborah Hyde Ave. PPIN 14644 W 5
- D. James C. McCormick, dilapidated residence at 221 S. Meridian Ave. PPIN 9921 W 5

Attachments: [Sets 7-8-25](#)
[Notices-05132025111742](#)

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

Yea: 5 - Jason Capers, Kevin Kelly, Tony Thaxton, Grace Amos and Shirley Jordan

Absent: 2 - George Carmichael and Andrea Ellis

2. CONDUCT PUBLIC HEARING

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

Yea: 5 - Jason Capers, Kevin Kelly, Tony Thaxton, Grace Amos and Shirley Jordan

Absent: 2 - George Carmichael and Andrea Ellis

A. [ID 25-7764](#)

Consider adopting a Resolution to conduct a public hearing on May 20, 2025 in regards to the property located at 812 Jeffrey Dr. belonging to Robert Earl Brown to determine whether or not the property is in such a dilapidated state so as to be menace to public health and safety of the community. Property is located in Ward 3

Attachments: [Resolution 812 Jeffrey Dr.\(demo\)](#)
[812 JEFFREY DR - 5-5-2025](#)
[P 812 JEFFREY DR-05052025154626](#)
[R 812 JEFFREY DR-05052025154603](#)

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

Yea: 5 - Jason Capers, Kevin Kelly, Tony Thaxton, Grace Amos and Shirley Jordan

Absent: 2 - George Carmichael and Andrea Ellis

B. [ID 25-7765](#)

Consider adopting a Resolution to conduct a public hearing on May 20, 2025 in regards to the property located at 4208 University Ave. belonging to Federal National Mortgage Assoc. (James Kindred Jr.) to determine whether or not the property is in such a dilapidated state so as to be menace to public health and safety of the community. Property is located in Ward 3.

Attachments: [Resolution 4208 University Ave.\(demo\)](#)
[4208 UNIVERSITY AVE - 5-5-2025](#)
[P 4208 UNIVERSITY AVE-05052025154503](#)
[R 4208 UNIVERSITY AVE-05052025154439](#)

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

Yea: 5 - Jason Capers, Kevin Kelly, Tony Thaxton, Grace Amos and Shirley Jordan

Absent: 2 - George Carmichael and Andrea Ellis

C. [ID 25-7766](#)

Consider adopting a Resolution to conduct a public hearing on May 20, 2025 in regards to the property located at 1919 N. Meridian Ave. belonging to TFW Consultants & Management Serv % Voice of Freedom Bible Church to determine whether or not the property is in such a dilapidated state so as to be menace to public health and safety of the community. Property is located in Ward 4.

Attachments: [Resolution 1919 N. Meridian Ave.\(demo\)](#)
[1919 N MERIDIAN AVE - 5-5-2025](#)
[P 1919 N MERIDIAN AVE-05052025154929](#)
[R 1919 N MERIDIAN AVE-05052025154916](#)

A motion was made by Councilperson Shirley Jordan, seconded by Councilperson Jason Capers, 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: 5 - Jason Capers, Kevin Kelly, Tony Thaxton, Grace Amos and Shirley Jordan

Absent: 2 - George Carmichael and Andrea Ellis

D. [ID 25-7767](#)

Consider adopting a Resolution to conduct a public hearing on May 20, 2025 in regards to the property located at 128 S. Cook Ave. belonging to Terry & Glenda Gilliam to determine whether or not the property is in such a dilapidated state so as to be menace to public health and safety of the community. Property is located in Ward 5.

Attachments: [Resolution 128 S. Cook Ave.\(demo\)](#)
[128 S. COOK AVE 5-5-2025](#)
[P 128 S COOK AVE-05052025155318](#)
[R 128 S COOK AVE-05052025155303](#)

A motion was made by Councilperson Shirley Jordan, seconded by Councilperson Jason Capers, 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: 5 - Jason Capers, Kevin Kelly, Tony Thaxton, Grace Amos and Shirley Jordan

Absent: 2 - George Carmichael and Andrea Ellis

E. [ID 25-7768](#)

Consider adopting a Resolution to conduct a public hearing on May 20, 2025 in regards to the property located at 1044 Euclid Ave. belonging to ATS Property Ventures LLC (Carlos Sanchez) to determine whether or not the property is in such a dilapidated state so as to be menace to public health and safety of the community. Property is located in Ward 5.

Attachments: [Resolution 1044 Euclid Ave.\(demo\)](#)
[1044 EUCLID AVE 5-5-2025](#)
[P 1044 EUCLID AVE-05052025154754](#)
[R 1044 EUCLID AVE-05052025154730](#)

This Resolution to Conduct Hearing was deleted during Confirmation of Agenda

F. [ID 25-7769](#)

Consider adopting a Resolution to conduct a public hearing on May 20, 2025 in regards to the property located at 610 Chantilly St. belonging to Cherylyn Lynn Rainer to determine whether or not the property is in such a dilapidated state so as to be menace to public health and safety of the community. Property is located in Ward 5.

Attachments: [Resolution 610 Chantilly St.\(demo\)](#)
[610 CHANTILLY ST 5-5-2025](#)
[P 610 CHANTILLY ST-05052025155036](#)
[R 610 CHANTILLY ST-05052025155018](#)

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

Yea: 5 - Jason Capers, Kevin Kelly, Tony Thaxton, Grace Amos and Shirley Jordan

Absent: 2 - George Carmichael and Andrea Ellis

B. CITIZENS HEARING

C. CITIZENS FORUM

4. POLICY AGENDA

A. [ID 25-7756](#)

Consider adopting an Order Authorizing Administration to Sign an Irrevocable Standby Letter of Credit for Howard Industries.

Attachments: [ORDAAuthorizeIrrevocableStandbyLetterofCreditHowardIndustries.5.20.25](#)
[ORDAAuthorizeIrrevocableStandbyLetterofCreditHowardIndustries.5.20.25.ExhibitA](#)

A motion was made by Councilperson Jason Capers, 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: 5 - Jason Capers, Kevin Kelly, Tony Thaxton, Grace Amos and Shirley Jordan

Absent: 2 - George Carmichael and Andrea Ellis

B. [ID 25-7757](#)

Consider adopting an Order to accept an anonymous donation in the amount of \$250.00 to assist with activities for Seniors at the B.E. Murph Center for Seniors.

Attachments: [ORDER FOR ANONYMOUS DONATION SR. CENTER](#)

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: 5 - Jason Capers, Kevin Kelly, Tony Thaxton, Grace Amos and Shirley Jordan

Absent: 2 - George Carmichael and Andrea Ellis

C. [ID 25-7758](#)

Consider adopting an Order approving Nellie Satcher to travel to Biloxi, MS. to attend the Phelps Dunbar Annual Mississippi Labor and Employment Conference on June 11 through 13, 2025.

Attachments: [ORDER - Phelps Dunbar Annual MS Labor and Emp Law Conf 2025](#)

A motion was made by Councilperson Grace Amos, 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: 5 - Jason Capers, Kevin Kelly, Tony Thaxton, Grace Amos and Shirley Jordan

Absent: 2 - George Carmichael and Andrea Ellis

D. [ID 25-7771](#)

Consider adopting an Order to grant a variance from Section 403.03.02 of the Zoning Ordinance to Edgar Williams. Variance is sought to waive setback regulations at 2134 Queensburg Ave.

Attachments: [Variance 2134 Queensburg Ave.](#)
[Planning & Zoning Minutes 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: 5 - Jason Capers, Kevin Kelly, Tony Thaxton, Grace Amos and Shirley Jordan

Absent: 2 - George Carmichael and Andrea Ellis

E. [ID 25-7759](#)

Consider adopting an Order to advertise request for sealed insurance proposals for the City - provided Health insurance and group Life insurance, as well as other benefit products for the City of Laurel employees and elected officials for the upcoming 2025-2025 fiscal year.

Attachments: [Order - Sealed Proposal for Ins Bids 2025-26](#)

A motion was made by Councilperson Grace Amos, 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: 5 - Jason Capers, Kevin Kelly, Tony Thaxton, Grace Amos and Shirley Jordan

Absent: 2 - George Carmichael and Andrea Ellis

Councilperson Shirley Jordan left the room.

F. [ID 25-7762](#)

Consider adopting a Resolution Authorizing the Reappointment of Keith Ridgeway to the Board of Commissioners of the Pine Belt Regional Solid Waste Management Authority.

Attachments: [RESAppPineBeltRegionalSolidWasteManagementAuthorityRidgeway 2025](#)

A motion was made by Councilperson Jason Capers, 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: 4 - Jason Capers, Kevin Kelly, Tony Thaxton and Grace Amos

Absent: 3 - George Carmichael, Andrea Ellis and Shirley Jordan

G. [ID 25-7755](#)

Consider adopting an Order Regarding the Re-Appointment of Rev. Vernon Graves to the Board of Commissioners of the South Mississippi Fair.

Attachments: [ORDAppFairBoardGraves2025](#)

A motion was made by Councilperson Jason Capers, 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: 4 - Jason Capers, Kevin Kelly, Tony Thaxton and Grace Amos

Absent: 3 - George Carmichael, Andrea Ellis and Shirley Jordan

H. [ID 25-7761](#)

Consider adopting an Order to approve Demolition Assessments for the following properties:

A. Demolition of property assessed to James E. Bosenberg, 1521 Julian St. Total cost, including \$50 administrative fee, \$26.00 recording fee, \$5, 056.00 Ward 7

B. Demolition of property assessed to Mattie Hales Taylor, 818 N. 1st Ave. Total cost, including \$50 administrative fee, \$26.00 recording fee, \$5, 075.00 Ward 5

Attachments: [Demo Assessments 05202025](#)

[Demo bills-05132025111421](#)

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

Yea: 4 - Jason Capers, Kevin Kelly, Tony Thaxton and Grace Amos

Absent: 3 - George Carmichael, Andrea Ellis and Shirley Jordan

Councilperson Shirley Jordan returned to the room

5. ROUTINE AGENDA**A. [ID 25-7772](#)**

Consider adopting an Order to ratify approval of notice of June 12, 2025 for a Planning & Zoning Commission public hearing meeting.

Attachments: [ORDER planning commission 061225](#)

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: 5 - Jason Capers, Kevin Kelly, Tony Thaxton, Grace Amos and Shirley Jordan

Absent: 2 - George Carmichael and Andrea Ellis

B. [ID 25-7773](#)

Consider adopting a Resolution to approve the Claims Docket.

Attachments: [CLAIMS DOCKET RESOLUTION.doc](#)

[WARRANT MAY 20 2025](#)

[CLAIMS DOCKET MAY 20 2025](#)

A motion was made by Councilperson Kevin Kelly, 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: 5 - Jason Capers, Kevin Kelly, Tony Thaxton, Grace Amos and Shirley Jordan

Absent: 2 - George Carmichael and Andrea Ellis

EXECUTIVE SESSION

With no objections to adjourning, the President declared the meeting adjourned to Tuesday, June 3, 2025 @ 3:00 p.m., this the 20th day of May, 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
