



# City of Laurel

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

## Regular Meeting Minutes City Council

Tuesday, April 8, 2025	5:30 PM	Council Chambers
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### CALL TO ORDER

- Present:** 6 - Councilperson Jason Capers, Councilperson Kevin Kelly, Council President Tony Thaxton, Vice President George Carmichael, Councilperson Grace Amos and Councilperson Shirley Jordan
- Absent:** 1 - Councilperson Andrea Ellis
- Staff:** 2 - Mayor Johnny Magee and City Council Clerk Sharon King
- Staff Absent:** 1 - City Attorney Brett Robinson

### PRAYER

Councilperson George Carmichael

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

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. [ID 25-7682](#) March 18, 2025

Attachments: [CoL Minutes of 03182025](#)

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

- Yea:** 6 - Jason Capers, Kevin Kelly, Tony Thaxton, George Carmichael, Grace Amos and Shirley Jordan
- Absent:** 1 - Andrea Ellis

### 1. CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Councilperson Jason Capers, seconded by Councilperson Shirley Jordan, that the be 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(c)., Conduct public hearing for demolition., Willie Walker ET UX, 162 Chestnut Street

- Yea:** 6 - Jason Capers, Kevin Kelly, Tony Thaxton, George Carmichael, Grace Amos and Shirley Jordan
- Absent:** 1 - Andrea Ellis

### 2. PRESENTATION AGENDA

- A. [ID 25-7681](#)

Presentation from Danielle Ashley, Chief Administrative Officer & Board Attorney for the Jones County Board of Supervisors, regarding the annual Laurel-Jones County Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day.

Attachments: [Presentation-Laurel-Jones County Household Hazardous Waste Collection](#)

Danielle Ashley, Chief Administrative Officer & Board Attorney for Jones County Board of Supervisors, came and presented the attached information regarding the annual Laurel-Jones County Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day.

**B. [ID 25-7702](#)**

Monthly Budget Certification for February 2025.

Attachments: [Certification Cover Sheet - February 2025](#)

[Certification Letter - February 2025](#)

[Revenue - February 2025](#)

[Sales Tax](#)

[Tourism Tax](#)

[Tourism Tax 3% HOTELS](#)

**Kristal A. Jones, City Clerk/ Finance Director, presented the following Budget and Purchasing Certification:**

**3. PUBLIC AGENDA****A. PUBLIC HEARING****1. SET PUBLIC HEARING****A. [ID 25-7691](#)**

Consider adopting an Order to set a date of May 6, 2025 to conduct a public hearing in regards to the properties listed to determine whether or not the properties are in such a state of dilapidation so as to be a menace to the public health of the community:

- A. Robert L. Smith, dilapidated residence at 316 W. 21st St. PPIN 15353 W4
- B. Matthew Scott Norman, dilapidated residence at 712 E. Elmo St. PPIN 10817 W4
- C. John T & Lynn S. Kersh, dilapidated residence at 1004 N. 7th Ave. PPIN 12007 W5

Attachments: [Sets 5-6-25](#)

[Notices 4-8-03252025081802](#)

**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:** 6 - Jason Capers, Kevin Kelly, Tony Thaxton, George Carmichael, Grace Amos and Shirley Jordan

**Absent:** 1 - Andrea Ellis

**2. CONDUCT PUBLIC HEARING**

**A motion was made by Councilperson Grace Amos, 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:** 6 - Jason Capers, Kevin Kelly, Tony Thaxton, George Carmichael, Grace Amos and Shirley Jordan

**Absent:** 1 - Andrea Ellis

**A. [ID 25-7683](#)**

Consider adopting a Resolution to conduct a public hearing on April 8, 2025, in regards to the property located at 914 S. 14th Ave. belonging to Eric L. Randolph Est., to determine whether or not the property is in such a dilapidated state so as to be a menace to the public health and safety of the community. Property is located in Ward 1.

Attachments: [Resolution 914 S. 14th Ave.\(demo\)](#)

[914 S 14th Ave. April 8,25](#)

[R.914 S 14th Ave-03262025165816](#)

[P.914 S 14th Ave-03202025080416](#)

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

**Yea:** 6 - Jason Capers, Kevin Kelly, Tony Thaxton, George Carmichael, Grace Amos and Shirley Jordan

**Absent:** 1 - Andrea Ellis

**B. [ID 25-7684](#)**

Consider adopting a Resolution to conduct a public hearing on April 8, 2025, in regards to the property located at 1625 W. 20th St., belonging to Peggy Collins Gatlin, to determine whether or not the property is in such a dilapidated state so as to be a menace to the public health and safety of the community. Property is located in Ward 2.

**Attachments:** [Resolution 1625 W. 20th St.\(demo\)](#)  
[1625 W 20th ST April 8, 25](#)  
[R.1625 W 20th St-03262025165748](#)  
[P.1625 W 20th St-03202025080750](#)

**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:** 6 - Jason Capers, Kevin Kelly, Tony Thaxton, George Carmichael, Grace Amos and Shirley Jordan

**Absent:** 1 - Andrea Ellis

**C. [ID 25-7685](#)**

Consider adopting a Resolution to conduct a public hearing on April 8, 2025, in regards to the property located at 162 Chestnut St. belonging to Willie C. Walker Et Ux, to determine whether or not the property is in such a dilapidated state so as to be a menace to the public health and safety of the community. Property is located in Ward 5.

**Attachments:** [Resolution 162 Chestnut St.\(demo\)](#)  
[162 CHESTNUT ST - PPIN 14232 - W5](#)  
[R 162 CHESTNUT ST-03182025100608](#)  
[P 162 CHESTNUT ST-03182025100657](#)

**This Resolution to Conduct Hearing was deleted during Confirmation of Agenda**

**D. [ID 25-7686](#)**

Consider adopting a Resolution to conduct a public hearing on April 8, 2025, in regards to the property located at 149 Chestnut St. belonging to Evelyn J. Dozier Est. Et Al % Cynthia Lockhart, to determine whether or not the property is in such a dilapidated state so as to be a menace to the public health and safety of the community. Property is located in Ward 5.

**Attachments:** [Resolution 149 Chestnut St.\(demo\)](#)  
[149 CHESTNUT ST - PPIN 14218 - W5](#)  
[R 149 CHESTNUT ST-03182025100429](#)  
[P 149 CHESTNUT ST-03182025100453](#)

**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:** 6 - Jason Capers, Kevin Kelly, Tony Thaxton, George Carmichael, Grace Amos and Shirley Jordan

**Absent:** 1 - Andrea Ellis

**E. [ID 25-7687](#)**

Consider adopting a Resolution to conduct a public hearing on April 8, 2025, in regards to the property located at 1437 Queen St. belonging to Lorenzo Osborne, to determine whether or not the property is in such a dilapidated state so as to be a menace to the public health and safety of the community. Property is located in Ward 6.

**Attachments:** [Resolution 1437 Queen St.\(demo\)](#)  
[1437 Queen St. April 8,25](#)  
[R.1437 Queen St-03262025165912](#)  
[P.1437 Queen St-03202025080524](#)

**A motion was made by Councilperson Grace Amos, 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:** 6 - Jason Capers, Kevin Kelly, Tony Thaxton, George Carmichael, Grace Amos and Shirley Jordan

**Absent:** 1 - Andrea Ellis

**F. [ID 25-7688](#)**

Consider adopting a Resolution to conduct a public hearing on April 8, 2025, in regards to the property located at 1505 Queen St. belonging to Lorenzo Osborne, to determine whether or not the property is in such a dilapidated state so as to be a menace to the public health and safety of the community. Property is located in Ward 6.

**Attachments:** [Resolution 1505 Queen St.\(demo\)](#)  
[1505 Queen St. April 8,25](#)  
[R.1505 Queen St-03262025165849](#)  
[P.1505 Queen St-03202025080648](#)

**A motion was made by Councilperson Grace Amos, 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:** 6 - Jason Capers, Kevin Kelly, Tony Thaxton, George Carmichael, Grace Amos and Shirley Jordan

**Absent:** 1 - Andrea Ellis

**G. [ID 25-7689](#)**

Consider adopting a Resolution to conduct a public hearing on April 8, 2025, in regards to the property located at 27 Meadowbrook Dr. belonging to Donald C. Rogers, to determine whether or not the property is in such a dilapidated state so as to be a menace to the public health and safety of the community. Property is located in Ward 7.

**Attachments:** [Resolution 27 Meadowbrook Dr.\(demo\)](#)  
[27 MEADOWBROOK 4-8-25](#)  
[R 27 MEADOWBROOK DR-03202025080031](#)  
[P 27 MEADOWBROOK DR-03202025075951](#)

**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:** 6 - Jason Capers, Kevin Kelly, Tony Thaxton, George Carmichael, Grace Amos and Shirley Jordan

**Absent:** 1 - Andrea Ellis

H. [ID 25-7690](#)

Consider adopting a Resolution to conduct a public hearing on April 8, 2025, in regards to the property located at 1521 Julian St. belonging to James Bosenberg, to determine whether or not the property is in such a dilapidated state so as to be a menace to the public health and safety of the community. Property is located in Ward 7.

**Attachments:** [Resolution 1521 Julian St.\(demo\)](#)  
[1521 JULIAN ST 4-8-25](#)  
[R 1521 JULIAN ST-03202025080129](#)  
[P 1521 JULIAN ST-03202025080154](#)

**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:** 6 - Jason Capers, Kevin Kelly, Tony Thaxton, George Carmichael, Grace Amos and Shirley Jordan

**Absent:** 1 - Andrea Ellis

B. CITIZENS HEARING

C. CITIZENS FORUM

Robert Paternostro, Sandersville, MS

4. POLICY AGENDA

A. [ID 25-7679](#)

Consider adopting an Order approving acknowledgement of receipt that Butler Snow filed the Continuing Disclosure Statement on the behalf of the City of Laurel, Mississippi.

**Attachments:** [Order - Continuing Disclosure Submission](#)  
[FY 2024 Continuing Disclosure Submissions - City of Laurel MS](#)

**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:** 6 - Jason Capers, Kevin Kelly, Tony Thaxton, George Carmichael, Grace Amos and Shirley Jordan

**Absent:** 1 - Andrea Ellis

B. [ID 25-7680](#)

Consider adopting an Order Authorizing Administration to Submit to Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) a Request for Amendment of Plan of Operations of City of Laurel Class II Rubbish Site.

**Attachments:** [ORDRequestAmendmentMDEQLaurelClassIIRubbishSiteOperationsPlan4.8.25](#)  
[ORDRequestAmendmentMDEQLaurelClassIIRubbishSiteOperationsPlan. ExhibitA.4.8.25](#)

**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:** 6 - Jason Capers, Kevin Kelly, Tony Thaxton, George Carmichael, Grace Amos and Shirley Jordan

**Absent:** 1 - Andrea Ellis

**C. [ID 25-7696](#)**

Consider adopting a Resolution Setting Forth Support for Citizens National Bank's Application to the Federal Home Loan Bank of Dallas Affordable Housing Program for the City of Laurel Homeowner Rehab Project.

**Attachments:** [RESSupportApplicationFedHomeLoanBankofDallas4.8.25](#)

**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:** 6 - Jason Capers, Kevin Kelly, Tony Thaxton, George Carmichael, Grace Amos and Shirley Jordan

**Absent:** 1 - Andrea Ellis

**D. [ID 25-7698](#)**

Consider adopting an Order to allow the Mayor to sign a Remote Supplemental Service Authorization with ITRON, Inc to upgrade the handheld meter readers and software used by the Water Collections Department.

**Sponsors:** Administration Department

**Attachments:** [ORDAuthorizeAgreement ITRON 2025.docx](#)  
[Supplemental Service Laurel \(1\).pdf](#)

**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:** 6 - Jason Capers, Kevin Kelly, Tony Thaxton, George Carmichael, Grace Amos and Shirley Jordan

**Absent:** 1 - Andrea Ellis

**E. [ID 25-7692](#)**

Consider adopting an Order request the Laurel Police Department be allowed to accept an order of US Currency from the Circuit Court. Funds will be placed in the Police Department's Donations Account.

**Attachments:** [ACCEPTANCE EVIDENCE OF US CURRENCY ORDER](#)  
[DOC031925-03192025113654](#)

**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:** 6 - Jason Capers, Kevin Kelly, Tony Thaxton, George Carmichael, Grace Amos and Shirley Jordan

**Absent:** 1 - Andrea Ellis

**F. [ID 25-7697](#)**

Consider adopting an Order request that the Laurel Police Department renew the Fingerprint Maintenance Contract at a total cost of (\$549.00) five hundred forty-nine dollars from HID Global, Com. Funds will be taken from the Maintenance and Service account (001-200-638-0). No money will be taken from the General Fund Surplus.

**Attachments:** [2025 FINGERPRINT MAINTENANCE CONTRACT AGREEMENT](#)  
[FINGERPRINT CONTRACT RENEWAL 2025 Quote 034267](#)

**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:** 6 - Jason Capers, Kevin Kelly, Tony Thaxton, George Carmichael, Grace Amos and Shirley Jordan

**Absent:** 1 - Andrea Ellis

**G. [ID 25-7693](#)**

Consider adopting an Order request that the Laurel Police Department be allowed to accept non-perishable food and essential household items for the tornado victims of Smith County in Taylorsville, MS.

**Attachments:** [FILL-A-TRUCK DONATIONS TAYLORSVILLE, MS](#)

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

**Yea:** 6 - Jason Capers, Kevin Kelly, Tony Thaxton, George Carmichael, Grace Amos and Shirley Jordan

**Absent:** 1 - Andrea Ellis

**H. [ID 25-7694](#)**

Consider adopting an Order request the Chief Tommy Cox and Deputy Chief Earl Reed be allowed to attend he 2025 Chief of Police Conference on June 16-20, 2025 in Biloxi, MS at an estimated cost of \$2215.90.

**Attachments:** [CHIEFS OF POLICE CONFERENCE 2025 ---BILOXI, MS \(AutoRecovered\)](#)

**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:** 6 - Jason Capers, Kevin Kelly, Tony Thaxton, George Carmichael, Grace Amos and Shirley Jordan

**Absent:** 1 - Andrea Ellis

**I. [ID 25-7703](#)**

Consider adopting an Order to grant a one-year Special Exception to Harriet L. Jones to allow operation of an event venue to be located at 204 N. 13th Ave. Property is zoned C-1 and located in Ward 6.

**Attachments:** [Order Special Exception Harriet L. Jones 4-08-25 Planning & Zoning Minutes 031325](#)

**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:** 6 - Jason Capers, Kevin Kelly, Tony Thaxton, George Carmichael, Grace Amos and Shirley Jordan

**Absent:** 1 - Andrea Ellis

**J. [ID 25-7700](#)**

Consider adopting an Order to approve advertisement for sealed bids to be publicly opened Friday, May 09, 2025 at 10:00 a.m. in the City Clerk's Office for Fiscal Year 2025 Semi-Annual Bids.

**Attachments:** [Order - Semi Annual Bids 2025 NOTICE TO BIDDER](#)

**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:** 6 - Jason Capers, Kevin Kelly, Tony Thaxton, George Carmichael, Grace Amos and Shirley Jordan

**Absent:** 1 - Andrea Ellis

**K. [ID 25-7704](#)**

Consider adopting an Order to approve lot cleaning for the following property:

A. Cleaning of property assessed to James C. Martz, at 4104 University Ave. Total assessed cost \$96.87 Ward 3

**Attachments:** [Assessments 04-08-2025](#)  
[Bill 4-8-25-04012025104903](#)

**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:** 6 - Jason Capers, Kevin Kelly, Tony Thaxton, George Carmichael, Grace Amos and Shirley Jordan

**Absent:** 1 - Andrea Ellis

**L. [ID 25-7695](#)**

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

- A. Demolition of property assessed to Woodmark Investments LLC, 1130 N. 14th Ave. Total cost, including \$50 administrative fee, \$26.00 recording fee, \$5, 026.00 Ward 2
- B. Demolition of property assessed to Melvin De Leon Mendez, 1138 Anderson St. Total cost, including \$50 administrative fee, \$26.00 recording fee, \$5, 026.00 Ward 7

**Attachments:** [Demo Assessments 04082025](#)  
[Demo Bills 4-8-03252025105443](#)

**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:** 6 - Jason Capers, Kevin Kelly, Tony Thaxton, George Carmichael, Grace Amos and Shirley Jordan

**Absent:** 1 - Andrea Ellis

**5. ROUTINE AGENDA****A. [ID 25-7699](#)**

Consider adopting a Resolution to approve the Claims Docket.

**Attachments:** [RESOLUTION](#)  
[WARRANT APRIL 8 2025](#)  
[CLAIMS DOCKET APRIL 8 2025](#)

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

**Yea:** 6 - Jason Capers, Kevin Kelly, Tony Thaxton, George Carmichael, Grace Amos and Shirley Jordan

**Absent:** 1 - Andrea Ellis

**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, Amos, Jordan

NAYS: None

ABSTAINING: None

ABSENT: Ellis

The President thereupon declared the motion carried, this the 8<sup>th</sup> day of April, A. D., 2025.

\* \* \* \* \*

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

YEAS: Capers, Kelly, Thaxton, Carmichael, Amos, Jordan

NAYS: None

ABSTAINING: None

ABSENT: Ellis

The President thereupon declared the motion carried, this the 8<sup>th</sup> day of April, A. D., 2025. .

\* \* \* \* \*

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, Amos, Jordan

NAYS: None

ABSTAINING: None

ABSENT: Ellis

The President thereupon declared the motion carried, this the 8<sup>th</sup> day of April, A. D., 2025.

\* \* \* \* \*

With no objections to adjourning, the President declared the meeting adjourned to Tuesday, April 22, 2025 9:00 a.m., this the 8<sup>th</sup> 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

\* \* \* \* \*