



City of Laurel

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

Regular Meeting Minutes  
City Council

Thursday, January 23, 2025	9:00 AM	Council Chambers
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Due to inclement weather, the meeting was rescheduled to Thursday,  
January 23, 2025 @ 9:00 a.m.

CALL TO ORDER

- Present:** 4 - Councilperson Jason Capers, Councilperson Kevin Kelly, Council President Tony Thaxton and Vice President George Carmichael
- Absent:** 3 - 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

Council President Thaxton declared the meeting delayed due to the lack of a quorum. Upon arrival of Councilperson Kelly @ 9:36 a.m., the President declare a quorum and proceeded with the start of the meeting.

PRAYER

Councilperson Tony Thaxton

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. [ID 25-7584](#) January 7, 2025

Attachments: [Col Minutes of 01072025](#)

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:** 4 - Jason Capers, Kevin Kelly, Tony Thaxton and George Carmichael
- Absent:** 3 - Andrea Ellis, Grace Amos and Shirley Jordan

1. CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA

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

- Yea:** 4 - Jason Capers, Kevin Kelly, Tony Thaxton and George Carmichael
- Absent:** 3 - Andrea Ellis, Grace Amos and Shirley Jordan

2. PRESENTATION AGENDA

- A. [ID 25-7575](#) Monthly Report Privilege Taxes December 2024.

Attachments: [Cover Letter](#)  
[BL Monthly Transaction Report - 5258](#)  
[New Business License List](#)

There came on before the City Council a report of privilege licenses that have been issued for the month of December, 2024. This report can be reviewed in the City Clerk’s office.

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### 3. PUBLIC AGENDA

#### A. PUBLIC HEARING

1. SET PUBLIC HEARING
2. CONDUCT PUBLIC HEARING

#### B. CITIZENS HEARING

#### C. CITIZENS FORUM

### 4. POLICY AGENDA

#### A. [ID 25-7577](#)

Consider adopting an Order to authorize the Mayor and the City Clerk to enter a contract with Butler Snow to file the Continuing Disclosure Statement on behalf of the City of Laurel, Mississippi.

**Attachments:** [Order - Continuing Disclosure Statement 2024](#)  
[FY 2024 Continuing Disclosure Engagement Letter - City of Laurel MS](#)

**A motion was made by Councilperson Kevin Kelly, 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:** 4 - Jason Capers, Kevin Kelly, Tony Thaxton and George Carmichael

**Absent:** 3 - Andrea Ellis, Grace Amos and Shirley Jordan

#### B. [ID 25-7581](#)

Consider adopting an Order Authorizing a Contract with A1 McDuffie Sanitation for Solid Waste Services in the City of Laurel Effective March 1, 2025

**Attachments:** [ORDAuthorizeContractwithSolidWasteServices2025 1.21.25.](#)  
[ORDAuthorizeContractwithSolidWasteServices2025ContractDoc1.21.25](#)  
[ORDAuthorizeContractwithSolidWasteServices2025ExhibitA1.21.25](#)  
[ORDAuthorizeContractwithSolidWasteServices2025ExhibitB1.21.25](#)  
[ORDAuthorizeContractwithSolidWasteServices2025ExhibitC1.21.25](#)

**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:** 4 - Jason Capers, Kevin Kelly, Tony Thaxton and George Carmichael

**Absent:** 3 - Andrea Ellis, Grace Amos and Shirley Jordan

#### C. [ID 25-7580](#)

Consider adopting an Order authorizing the Mayor to enter into agreements for voting precincts for Ward 1, Ward 2, and Ward 4 for the City of Laurel 2025 Municipal Elections.

**Attachments:** [ORDER - VOTING PRECINCTS](#)  
[Ward 1 - Church of Christian Unity](#)  
[Ward 2 - Parkview Baptist Church](#)  
[Ward 4 - Christ Church](#)

**A motion was made by Councilperson Kevin Kelly, 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:** 4 - Jason Capers, Kevin Kelly, Tony Thaxton and George Carmichael

**Absent:** 3 - Andrea Ellis, Grace Amos and Shirley Jordan

**D. [ID 25-7590](#)**

Consider adopting a Resolution to accept the bids received for two garbage trucks and to obtain quotes from area lending sources for financing of said equipment.

**Attachments:** [RESOLUTION - Garbage Truck Bid Acceptance](#)

[Bid Opening Sheet - Garbage Trucks](#)

[Bid Opening Sign In Sheet](#)

[Quote Form - Financing Garbage Trucks](#)

**A motion was made by Councilperson Kevin Kelly, 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:** 4 - Jason Capers, Kevin Kelly, Tony Thaxton and George Carmichael

**Absent:** 3 - Andrea Ellis, Grace Amos and Shirley Jordan

**E. [ID 25-7596](#)**

Consider adopting a Resolution regarding Authorization of the Mayor to Sign the Request for Cash and the Reporting Worksheet Under the State of Mississippi CDBG Program Project Number 1138-22-228-PF-01 and make the requested payment of invoices related to Application #6.

**Attachments:** [RES CDBG Request Payment #6 PublicFacilities 1.21.25](#)

[RES CDBG Request Payment #6 PublicFacilities EXHIBIT A 1.21.25](#)

**A motion was made by Councilperson Kevin Kelly, 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:** 4 - Jason Capers, Kevin Kelly, Tony Thaxton and George Carmichael

**Absent:** 3 - Andrea Ellis, Grace Amos and Shirley Jordan

**F. [ID 25-7582](#)**

Consider approving the First Reading of an Ordinance Amending Chapter 8 - *Elections*, Article II - *Voting Wards*, Section 8-17 - *Polling Places Designated* to Reflect the Change of the Polling Place for Ward 7 from the Oak Park Field House to the Oak Park Alumni Building.

**Attachments:** [ORDINANCEAmendingVotingPlacesFirstReadingJanuary2025](#)

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

**Yea:** 4 - Jason Capers, Kevin Kelly, Tony Thaxton and George Carmichael

**Absent:** 3 - Andrea Ellis, Grace Amos and Shirley Jordan

**G. [ID 25-7585](#)**

Consider approving the First Reading of an An Ordinance Of The City Of Laurel, Mississippi Prohibiting The Use, Purchase, Possession, Distribution, Sale Or Offering For Sale Of Synthetic Cocaine, Other Synthetic Products, Or Kratom.

**Attachments:** [ORDINANCE NO. PROHIBITING KRATOM](#)

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

**Yea:** 4 - Jason Capers, Kevin Kelly, Tony Thaxton and George Carmichael

**Absent:** 3 - Andrea Ellis, Grace Amos and Shirley Jordan

**H. [ID 25-7593](#)**

Consider approving the First Reading of an Ordinance to grant a zoning change of property located at 2703 Ellisville Blvd., from I-2, Light Industrial District, to C-2, General Commercial District, to Alfredo Sandoval, due to change in the character of the neighborhood. Property is located in Ward 7.

**Attachments:** [1st Reading Zoning Change Ordinance 2703 Ellisville Blvd.](#)  
[Planning & Zoning Minutes 121224](#)

**A motion was made by Vice President George Carmichael, 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:** 4 - Jason Capers, Kevin Kelly, Tony Thaxton and George Carmichael

**Absent:** 3 - Andrea Ellis, Grace Amos and Shirley Jordan

**I. [ID 25-7597](#)**

Consider adopting an Order to grant a variance from Section 602.12.07 of Zoning Ordinance to Cannery Row LLC. Variance is requested to have more than one roof mounted sign on building located at 402 Central Ave.

**Attachments:** [Variance 402 Central Ave](#)  
[Planning & Zoning Minutes 121224](#)

**A motion was made by Councilperson Kevin Kelly, 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:** 4 - Jason Capers, Kevin Kelly, Tony Thaxton and George Carmichael

**Absent:** 3 - Andrea Ellis, Grace Amos and Shirley Jordan

**J. [ID 25-7595](#)**

Consider adopting an Order to grant a special exception to Hugh Stancil to allow operation of a bed & breakfast while residing next door to be located at 705 N. 5th Ave. Property is zoned R-1 and located in Ward 5.

**Attachments:** [Order Special Exception Hugh Stancil 012125](#)  
[Planning & Zoning Minutes 121224](#)

**A motion was made by Vice President George Carmichael, 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 George Carmichael

**Absent:** 3 - Andrea Ellis, Grace Amos and Shirley Jordan

**K. [ID 25-7599](#)**

Consider adopting an Order to grant a special exception to Jennifer Lapan to allow rental of four guest rooms at bed & breakfast located at 515 W. 8th St. Property is zoned R-1 and located in Ward 5.

**Attachments:** [Order Special Exception Jennifer Lapan 012125](#)  
[Planning & Zoning Minutes 121224](#)

**A motion was made by Councilperson Kevin Kelly, 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:** 4 - Jason Capers, Kevin Kelly, Tony Thaxton and George Carmichael

**Absent:** 3 - Andrea Ellis, Grace Amos and Shirley Jordan

**L. [ID 25-7592](#)**

Consider adopting an Order to grant a special exception to Josette Collins to allow operation of a snack stand to be located at 1415 Roberts St. Property is zoned R-3 and located in Ward 1.

**Attachments:** [Order Special Exception Josette Collins 012125](#)  
[Planning & Zoning Minutes 121224](#)

**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:** 4 - Jason Capers, Kevin Kelly, Tony Thaxton and George Carmichael

**Absent:** 3 - Andrea Ellis, Grace Amos and Shirley Jordan

**M. [ID 25-7598](#)**

Consider adopting an Order to grant a special exception to Sanad Saeed to allow operation of a convenience store with the sale of beer on property located at 1107 N. 1st Ave. Property is zoned I-1 and located in Ward 5.

**Attachments:** [Order Special Exception Sanad Saeed 012125](#)  
[Planning & Zoning Minutes 121224](#)

**A motion was made by Vice President George Carmichael, 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 George Carmichael

**Absent:** 3 - Andrea Ellis, Grace Amos and Shirley Jordan

**N. [ID 25-7574](#)**

Consider adopting an Order to approve in-state travel for Deputy Clerks, Ann Brown and Katira Banks, to attend the Spring Municipal Clerks Conference in Hattiesburg, MS on February 26-28, 2025.

**Attachments:** [Order - 2025 Spring CMC Training](#)

**A motion was made by Councilperson Kevin Kelly, 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:** 4 - Jason Capers, Kevin Kelly, Tony Thaxton and George Carmichael

**Absent:** 3 - Andrea Ellis, Grace Amos and Shirley Jordan

**O. [ID 25-7578](#)**

Consider adopting an Order to approve in-state travel for City Clerk, Kristal Jones, Program Director, Kristi Howard, and Grant Writer, Whitney Pickering to attend the 2025 AmeriCorps Mandatory Spring Training in Flowood, MS on March 26-27, 2025.

**Attachments:** [Order - Travel AmeriCorps 2025 Spring Training](#)

**A motion was made by Councilperson Kevin Kelly, 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:** 4 - Jason Capers, Kevin Kelly, Tony Thaxton and George Carmichael

**Absent:** 3 - Andrea Ellis, Grace Amos and Shirley Jordan

**P. [ID 25-7579](#)**

Consider adopting an Order to approve out-of-state travel for City Clerk, Kristal Jones and Program Director, Kristi Howard to attend the 2025 AmeriCorps National Service Training Conference in Atlanta, GA on April 07-11, 2025.

**Attachments:** [Order - Travel AmeriCorps 2025 Atlanta GA](#)

**A motion was made by Councilperson Kevin Kelly, 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:** 4 - Jason Capers, Kevin Kelly, Tony Thaxton and George Carmichael

**Absent:** 3 - Andrea Ellis, Grace Amos and Shirley Jordan

**Q.** [ID 25-7587](#)

Consider adopting an Order to approve travel for LPD Officer Deondre Dunn to attend the 2025 Regional Counter Drug Training Academy in Gulfport, MS on February 25-27, 2025 at an estimated cost of \$405.99.

**Attachments:** [DEONDRE DUNN -- 2025 REGIONAL COUNTERDRUG TRAINING ACADEMY IN GULFPORT, MS](#)

**A motion was made by Councilperson Kevin Kelly, 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:** 4 - Jason Capers, Kevin Kelly, Tony Thaxton and George Carmichael

**Absent:** 3 - Andrea Ellis, Grace Amos and Shirley Jordan

**R.** [ID 25-7588](#)

Consider adopting an Order authorizing Laurel Police Department Officer Dalton Gieger's travel to Pilot Point, TX for the purpose of taking possession of K-9 Pun.

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

**A motion was made by Councilperson Kevin Kelly, 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:** 4 - Jason Capers, Kevin Kelly, Tony Thaxton and George Carmichael

**Absent:** 3 - Andrea Ellis, Grace Amos and Shirley Jordan

**S.** [ID 25-7589](#)

Consider adopting an Order to approve travel for LPD Officer Walter Blakeney to attend the 2025 NRA (National Rifle Association) Patrol Rifle Instructor Course in Florence, AL on February 10-14, 2025 at an estimated cost of \$1725.50. Funds will be taken from the Police Department's Travel account #001-200-610-0.

**Attachments:** [MITCH BLAKENEY -- 2025 PATROL RIFLE INSTRUCTOR COURSE FLORENCE, AL](#)

**A motion was made by Vice President George Carmichael, 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 George Carmichael

**Absent:** 3 - Andrea Ellis, Grace Amos and Shirley Jordan

**T.** [ID 25-7586](#)

Consider adopting an Order Confirming the Appointment of Mr. Lee Donaldson as an At-Large Representative to the City Planning Commission.

**Attachments:** [ORDAppPlanningCommissionDonaldson2025](#)  
[ORDAppPlanningCommissionDonaldson2025.EXHIBITA](#)

**A motion was made by Councilperson Kevin Kelly, 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:** 4 - Jason Capers, Kevin Kelly, Tony Thaxton and George Carmichael

**Absent:** 3 - Andrea Ellis, Grace Amos and Shirley Jordan

## 5. ROUTINE AGENDA

### A. [ID 25-7600](#)

Consider adopting an Order to ratify approval of notice of February 13, 2025 for a Planning & Zoning Commission public hearing meeting.

**Attachments:** [ORDER planning commission 021325](#)

**A motion was made by Councilperson Kevin Kelly, 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:** 4 - Jason Capers, Kevin Kelly, Tony Thaxton and George Carmichael

**Absent:** 3 - Andrea Ellis, Grace Amos and Shirley Jordan

### B. [ID 25-7594](#)

**Attachments:**

Consider adopting a Resolution to approve the Claims Docket.

[RESOLUTION JANUARY 21 2025](#)

[WARRANT JANUARY 21 2025](#)

[CLAIMS DOCKET JANUARY 21 2025](#)

**A motion was made by Councilperson Kevin Kelly, 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:** 4 - Jason Capers, Kevin Kelly, Tony Thaxton and George Carmichael

**Absent:** 3 - Andrea Ellis, Grace Amos and Shirley Jordan

## EXECUTIVE SESSION

With no objections to adjourning, the President declared the meeting adjourned to Tuesday, February 4, 2025 at 5:30 p.m., this the 23<sup>rd</sup> day of January, A. D., 2025.

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PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL  
COUNCILPERSON WARD 3

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COUNCILPERSON WARD 1

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COUNCILPERSON WARD 5

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COUNCILPERSON WARD 2

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COUNCILPERSON WARD 6

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COUNCILPERSON WARD 4

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COUNCILPERSON WARD 7

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

\_\_\_\_\_  
MAYOR

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
CITY CLERK

\* \* \* \* \*