



City of Laurel

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

Regular Meeting Minutes City Council

Tuesday, January 6, 2026

5:30 PM

Council Chambers

CALL TO ORDER

- Present:** 4 - Council President George Carmichael, Councilperson Andrea Thomas, Councilperson Marian Allen and Councilperson Angie Scruggs
- Absent:** 3 - Vice President Jason Capers, Councilperson Kevin Kelly and Councilperson Grace Amos
- Staff:** 1 - City Council Clerk Sharon King
- Staff Absent:** 2 - Mayor Johnny Magee and 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 26-8100](#) December 16, 2025

Attachments: [CoL Minutes of 12162025](#)

A motion was made by Councilperson Marian Allen, seconded by Councilperson Angie Scruggs, that the Minutes be approved. Upon roll call vote the President declared the motion failed by the results as follows:

Yea: 3 - George Carmichael, Marian Allen and Angie Scruggs

Absent: 3 - Jason Capers, Kevin Kelly and Grace Amos

Abstain: 1 - Andrea Thomas

1. CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Councilperson Angie Scruggs, seconded by Councilperson Marian Allen, 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 4B., Consider adopting an Order authorizing the Mayor to enter into a temporary independent contractor agreement with Sheila Windham to provide payroll training support for the City of Laurel.

Add Agenda Item 4F., Consider adopting Order to Approve Revisions to the City of Laurel Organizational Chart Regarding the Creation of a Temporary Part-Time Payroll Training Specialist Position.

Yea: 4 - George Carmichael, Andrea Thomas, Marian Allen and Angie Scruggs

Absent: 3 - Jason Capers, Kevin Kelly and Grace Amos

2. PRESENTATION AGENDA

A. [ID 26-8101](#)

Monthly Budget Certification for November 2025.

Attachments: [Certification Cover Sheet - November 2025](#)
[Certification Letter - November 2025](#)
[Revenue - November 2025](#)
[Sales Tax](#)
[Tourism Tax](#)
[Tourism Tax 3% HOTELS](#)

Kristal Jones, City Clerk/Finance Director, presented the following Budget and Purchasing Certification for November 2025:

3. PUBLIC AGENDA

A. PUBLIC HEARING

1. SET PUBLIC HEARING

2. CONDUCT PUBLIC HEARING

A motion was made by Councilperson Marian Allen, seconded by Councilperson Andrea Thomas, to conduct a public hearing. Upon roll call vote the President declared the motion carried by the results as follows:

Yea: 4 - George Carmichael, Andrea Thomas, Marian Allen and Angie Scruggs

Absent: 3 - Jason Capers, Kevin Kelly and Grace Amos

A. [ID 26-8106](#)

Consider adopting a Resolution to Conduct a Public Hearing on January 6, 2026 in regards to a property located at 807 S. 7th Ave., belonging to Matthew Harvey Jr., 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 807 S. 7th Ave.\(demo\)](#)
[807 S 7TH AVE. JAN.6.2026](#)
[R.807 S. 7th Ave-12162025105705](#)
[P.807 S. 7th Ave-12162025105616](#)

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

Yea: 4 - George Carmichael, Andrea Thomas, Marian Allen and Angie Scruggs

Absent: 3 - Jason Capers, Kevin Kelly and Grace Amos

B. [ID 26-8108](#)

Consider adopting a Resolution to Conduct a Public Hearing on January 6, 2026 in regards to a property located at 1038 Taylor St., belonging to Timothy E. Blue, 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 7.

Attachments: [Resolution 1038 Taylor St.\(demo\)](#)
[1038 Taylor St. JAN.6.2026](#)
[R.1038 Taylor St-12162025105536](#)
[P.1038 Taylor St-12162025105515](#)

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

Yea: 4 - George Carmichael, Andrea Thomas, Marian Allen and Angie Scruggs

Absent: 3 - Jason Capers, Kevin Kelly and Grace Amos

B. CITIZENS HEARING

C. CITIZENS FORUM

Mr. & Mrs. Green, 37 Mar-Ree Drive
Tonya Blue, 2018 Queensburg Avenue
Timothy Blue, 2018 Queensburg Avenue

4. POLICY AGENDA

A. [ID 26-8103](#)

Consider adopting an Order to Consider Authorizing Application to the Mississippi State Department of Health for the Office Against Interpersonal Violence (OAIV) STOP Violence Against Women Grant for FY25 through FY27 and Execution of Documents Necessary for Acceptance and Implementation of the Grant Should It Be Awarded.

Attachments: [ORDAuthorizeApplicationVictimsAdvocateGrant2025-27 1.6.26](#)

A motion was made by Councilperson Angie Scruggs, seconded by Councilperson Marian Allen, that the Order be adopted. Upon roll call vote the President declared the motion carried by the results as follows:

Yea: 4 - George Carmichael, Andrea Thomas, Marian Allen and Angie Scruggs

Absent: 3 - Jason Capers, Kevin Kelly and Grace Amos

B. [ID 26-8105](#)

Consider adopting an Order authorizing the Mayor to enter into a temporary independent contractor agreement with Sheila Windham to provide payroll training support for the City of Laurel.

Attachments: [ORDER FOR PAYROLL TRAINING SERVICES](#)

[Scope of services - Training Consultant - S. Windham](#)

This Order was deleted during Confirmation of Agenda

C. [ID 26-8104](#)

Consider adopting an Order approving travel for the Human Resources Director, Payroll Technician, Human Resources Assistant, and Finance Director/City Clerk to attend mandatory employer training hosted by the Public Employees' Retirement System of Mississippi (PERS) related to implementation of the Hybrid Retirement Plan - Tier 5. The training will be held on January 13, 2026, in Jackson, Mississippi.

Attachments: [ORDER FOR TRAVEL - MANDATORY PERS TIER 5 TRAINING](#)

[Mandatory PERS Employer Training - Hybrid Retirement Plan Tier 5 Announcement](#)

A motion was made by Councilperson Angie Scruggs, seconded by Councilperson Marian Allen, that the Order be adopted. Upon roll call vote the President declared the motion carried by the results as follows:

Yea: 4 - George Carmichael, Andrea Thomas, Marian Allen and Angie Scruggs

Absent: 3 - Jason Capers, Kevin Kelly and Grace Amos

D. [ID 26-8102](#)

Consider adopting an Order to approve out-of-state travel for City Clerk, Kristal Jones and Program Director, Kristi Howard to attend the 2026 AmeriCorps National Service Training Conference on April 13-17, 2026 at Renaissance Dallas-Addison Hotel in Addison, TX.

Attachments: [Order - Travel AmeriCorps 2026 Dallas, TX](#)

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

Yea: 4 - George Carmichael, Andrea Thomas, Marian Allen and Angie Scruggs

Absent: 3 - Jason Capers, Kevin Kelly and Grace Amos

E. [ID 26-8109](#)

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

- A. Cleaning of property assessed to Karl L. Hardy, at 804 S. 19th Ave. Total assessed cost \$121.83 Ward 1
- B. Cleaning of property assessed to Eclipse17 LLC, at 1830 Lee St. Total assessed cost \$95.35 Ward 1
- C. Cleaning of property assessed to Janet Lee Claxton- Sutherlin Est. at 636 W. 29th St. Total assessed cost \$106.60 Ward 3
- D. Cleaning of property assessed to Ganesha Tax Investments at 2813 N. 7th Ave. Total assessed cost \$124.77 Ward 3
- E. Cleaning of property assessed to Paro G. Ducksworth at 117 W. 22nd St. Total assessed cost \$73.90 Ward 4
- F. Cleaning of property assessed to Shanique Charleston at 143 W. 19th St. Total assessed cost \$78.75 Ward 4
- G. Cleaning of property assessed to Omeria McDonald Scott at Lot W. of 523 E. 14th St. Total assessed cost \$98.75 Ward 4
- H. Cleaning of property assessed to Ruth Moore Est % Shelia F. Husband at 1631 Dr. Deborrah Hyde Ave N. Total assessed cost \$102.96 Ward 4

Attachments: [Assessments 1-6-2026](#)

[Bills 1-6-26-12302025084357](#)

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

Yea: 4 - George Carmichael, Andrea Thomas, Marian Allen and Angie Scruggs

Absent: 3 - Jason Capers, Kevin Kelly and Grace Amos

F. [ID 26-8111](#)

Consider adopting Order to Approve Revisions to the City of Laurel Organizational Chart Regarding the Creation of a Temporary Part-Time Payroll Training Specialist Position.

Attachments: [ORDER TO CREATE PART TIME TEMP PY POSITION](#)

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

Yea: 4 - George Carmichael, Andrea Thomas, Marian Allen and Angie Scruggs

Absent: 3 - Jason Capers, Kevin Kelly and Grace Amos

5. ROUTINE AGENDA

A. [ID 26-8107](#)

Consider adopting a Resolution to approve the Claims Docket.

Attachments: [Claims Docket Resolution 01.06.2026](#)

[WARRANT JANUARY 06 2026](#)

[CLAIMS DOCKET JANUARY 06 2026](#)

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

Yea: 4 - George Carmichael, Andrea Thomas, Marian Allen and Angie Scruggs

Absent: 3 - Jason Capers, Kevin Kelly and Grace Amos

EXECUTIVE SESSION