



City of Laurel

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

Regular Meeting Minutes City Council

Tuesday, July 16, 2024

9:00 AM

Council Chambers

CALL TO ORDER

Present: 5 - Councilperson Kevin Kelly, Council President Tony Thaxton, Councilperson Andrea Ellis, Councilperson Grace Amos and Councilperson Shirley Jordan

Absent: 2 - Councilperson Jason Capers and Vice President George Carmichael

Staff: 2 - Mayor Johnny Magee and City Council Clerk Sharon King

Staff Absent: 1 - City Attorney Deidra Bassi

PRAYER

Councilperson Grace Amos

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. [ID 24-7291](#) July 2, 2024

Attachments: [CoL Minutes of 07022024](#)

A motion was made by Councilperson Grace Amos, 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 - Kevin Kelly, Tony Thaxton, Andrea Ellis, Grace Amos and Shirley Jordan

Absent: 2 - Jason Capers and George Carmichael

B. [ID 24-7292](#) Public Hearing Minutes- Amended Hobbs Autoplex/Cannon Project

Attachments: [Public Hearing Minutes for Amended TIF Loan GrandviewHobb's AutoCannon Project](#)

A motion was made by Councilperson Grace Amos, 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 - Kevin Kelly, Tony Thaxton, Andrea Ellis, Grace Amos and Shirley Jordan

Absent: 2 - Jason Capers and George Carmichael

1. CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Councilperson Kevin Kelly, seconded by Councilperson Grace Amos, that the agenda be approved as printed. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yea: 5 - Kevin Kelly, Tony Thaxton, Andrea Ellis, Grace Amos and Shirley Jordan

Absent: 2 - Jason Capers and George Carmichael

2. PRESENTATION AGENDA

A. [ID 24-7262](#)

Consider hearing a Presentation from Starr Chapman, Constituent Outreach Officer with the Office of Attorney General Lynn Fitch, on scams and consumer protection.

Starr Chapman, Constituent Outreach Officer with the Office of Attorney General Lynn Fitch, presented thorough information on scams and consumer protection.

B. [ID 24-7284](#)

Monthly Report of Privilege Taxes for June 2024.

Attachments: [Cover Letter](#)

[BL Monthly Transaction Report - 9251](#)

[New Business License List](#)

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

3. PUBLIC AGENDA**A. PUBLIC HEARING****1. SET PUBLIC HEARING****A.** [ID 24-7307](#)

Consider adopting an Order to set a date of August 20, 2024 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 public health of the community.

A. Grady Nathan Jones, dilapidated structure at 1405 Airport Dr. PPIN 11214 Ward 7

B. Pete Kelly, dilapidated structure at 204 N. 17th Ave. PPIN 9179 Ward 1

C. Robert Cooley, dilapidated structure at 324 Jefferson St. PPIN 14300 Ward 5

Attachments: [Sets 8-20-24](#)

[Notices 8-20-24-07092024093441](#)

A motion was made by Councilperson Kevin Kelly, 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 - Kevin Kelly, Tony Thaxton, Andrea Ellis, Grace Amos and Shirley Jordan

Absent: 2 - Jason Capers and George Carmichael

2. CONDUCT PUBLIC HEARING**B. CITIZENS HEARING****C. CITIZENS FORUM****4. POLICY AGENDA****A.** [ID 24-7279](#)

Consider adopting a Resolution to Request Authorization of Referendum for Social Security/Hospital Insurance Coverage for Certain City Employees

Attachments: [RESOLUTION - Referendum Social Security Coverage City of Laurel employees](#)

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

Yea: 5 - Kevin Kelly, Tony Thaxton, Andrea Ellis, Grace Amos and Shirley Jordan

Absent: 2 - Jason Capers and George Carmichael

B. [ID 24-7293](#)

Consider adopting an Order Authorizing Acceptance of a Proposal for Repairs and Maintenance to the 12th Street Water Tank.

Attachments: [ORDAuthorizeAgreement12thStreetWaterTankRehabilitation7.16.24](#)
[ORDAuthorizeAgreement12thStreetWaterTankRehabilitation7.16.24.E](#)
[xhibitA](#)

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: 5 - Kevin Kelly, Tony Thaxton, Andrea Ellis, Grace Amos and Shirley Jordan

Absent: 2 - Jason Capers and George Carmichael

C. [ID 24-7295](#)

Consider adopting an Order to allow the City of Laurel convert the City Financial software to a Software As A Service online-based software platform.

Sponsors: Administration Department

Attachments: [ORDAuthorizeAgreement Tyler SAAS Conversion 2024.docx](#)
[City of Laurel MS SaaS Contract 6-13-24.pdf](#)

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

Absent: 2 - Jason Capers and George Carmichael

D. [ID 24-7297](#)

Consider adopting an Order to allow the City of Laurel to implement the Tyler My Civic mobile app platform.

Sponsors: Administration Department

Attachments: [ORDAuthorizeAgreement Tyler My Civic 2024.docx](#)
[My Civic 2024.pdf](#)

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: 5 - Kevin Kelly, Tony Thaxton, Andrea Ellis, Grace Amos and Shirley Jordan

Absent: 2 - Jason Capers and George Carmichael

E. [ID 24-7296](#)

Consider adopting an Order to allow the City of Laurel to convert the current document storage system to the Tyler Content Manager system.

Sponsors: Administration Department

Attachments: [ORDAuthorizeAgreement Tyler TCM Conversion 2024.docx](#)
[City of Laurel MS-Content Manager Enterprise Edition-2-27-24.pdf](#)

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: 5 - Kevin Kelly, Tony Thaxton, Andrea Ellis, Grace Amos and Shirley Jordan

Absent: 2 - Jason Capers and George Carmichael

F. [ID 24-7280](#)

Consider hearing the First Reading of an Ordinance to Amend the Laurel Code of Ordinances Chapter 4 Section 4-36. PERMIT REQUIRED; EXEMPTION to correct an error.

Attachments: [ORDINANCE Amending Chapter 4-36](#)

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

Yea: 5 - Kevin Kelly, Tony Thaxton, Andrea Ellis, Grace Amos and Shirley Jordan

Absent: 2 - Jason Capers and George Carmichael

G. [ID 24-7303](#)

Consider approving the Second Reading of an Ordinance to grant a Zoning Change of property located at 1601 N. 5th Ave., from R-1, Low Density Residential District, to R-2, Medium Density Residential District, to Fredrick Martin Hamud, due to a change in the character of the neighborhood. Property is located in Ward 4.

Attachments: [2nd Reading Zoning Change Ordinance 1601 N. 5th Ave.](#)
[Planning Zoning Minutes 050924](#)

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

Yea: 5 - Kevin Kelly, Tony Thaxton, Andrea Ellis, Grace Amos and Shirley Jordan

Absent: 2 - Jason Capers and George Carmichael

Enactment No: 1761-2024

H. [ID 24-7302](#)

Consider adopting a Resolution granting authority to advertise for construction of the 2024 FEMA Massey Access Road Culvert Project.

Attachments: [Resolution](#)

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

Yea: 5 - Kevin Kelly, Tony Thaxton, Andrea Ellis, Grace Amos and Shirley Jordan

Absent: 2 - Jason Capers and George Carmichael

I. [ID 24-7299](#)

Consider adopting a Resolution granting authority to advertise for construction of the 2024 NRCS Massey Drainage Improvements Project.

Attachments: [Resolution](#)

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

Yea: 5 - Kevin Kelly, Tony Thaxton, Andrea Ellis, Grace Amos and Shirley Jordan

Absent: 2 - Jason Capers and George Carmichael

J. [ID 24-7294](#)

Consider adopting an Resolution Authorizing Acceptance of a Proposal for Administrative Services Related to the City of Laurel's Application to the Mississippi Home Corporation for FY 2024 Homeowner Rehabilitation/Reconstruction Grant Should Funds Be Awarded.

Attachments: [RES-Approve Grant Administrator 2024 MS HOME Grant](#)
[RES-Approve Grant Administrator 2024 MS HOME Grant.Exhibit A](#)

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 - Kevin Kelly, Tony Thaxton, Andrea Ellis, Grace Amos and Shirley Jordan

Absent: 2 - Jason Capers and George Carmichael

K. [ID 24-7310](#)

Consider adopting a Resolution giving the administration authority to execute a letter agreement for professional services for the conceptual design of the brickyard project.

Attachments: [RESOLUTION](#)
[Letter Agreement](#)

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

Absent: 2 - Jason Capers and George Carmichael

L. [ID 24-7306](#)

Consider adopting an Order to grant a one-year special exception to Alaina Rowzee to allow an in-home daycare to be located at 1922 Pearl St. Property is zoned R-2, Medium Density Residential District and located in Ward 1.

Attachments: [Order Special Exception Alaina Rowzee 6-13-24](#)
[Planning Zoning Minutes 061324](#)

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

Absent: 2 - Jason Capers and George Carmichael

M. [ID 24-7285](#)

Consider adopting an Order approving travel expenses for the Historic Commission Member, Mattie McLaurin, to attend the 2024 Certified Local Government training for Mississippi Department of Archives and History in Pascagoula, MS on August 6, 2024, at an estimated cost of \$147.40 and shall be paid from Inspection Department Travel, Job Training, and Meals Account (001-280-610.0).

Attachments: [ORDER conference Historic Commission Member](#)

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: 5 - Kevin Kelly, Tony Thaxton, Andrea Ellis, Grace Amos and Shirley Jordan

Absent: 2 - Jason Capers and George Carmichael

N. [ID 24-7298](#)

Attachments: [Order - Approving Travel L. Wilson 7-2-24](#)

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: 5 - Kevin Kelly, Tony Thaxton, Andrea Ellis, Grace Amos and Shirley Jordan

Absent: 2 - Jason Capers and George Carmichael

O. [ID 24-7286](#)

Consider adopting a Resolution Regarding Reappointment of Members to the Laurel Tourism Committee.

Attachments: [RESReappointMembersLaurelTourismCommittee7.16.24](#)

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

Absent: 2 - Jason Capers and George Carmichael

P. [ID 24-7287](#)

Consider adopting A Resolution Regarding the Reappointment of Sandy Holifield to the Board of Commissioners of the Laurel Housing Authority.

Attachments: [RESAppHousingAuthorityCommissionHolifield2024](#)

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

Absent: 2 - Jason Capers and George Carmichael

Q. [ID 24-7289](#)

Consider adopting a Resolution to reverse the assessment on the property known as 112 Arthur St, which is owned by LaTonya Watson. WARD 7

Attachments: [Reverse Order 112 Arthur St](#)
[Order 112 Arthur St](#)

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

Absent: 2 - Jason Capers and George Carmichael

R. [ID 24-7288](#)

Consider adopting a Resolution to reverse the assessment on the property known as 721 N 7th Ave, which is owned by Chancellor Properties, LLC. WARD 6.

Attachments: [Reverse Order 721 N 7th Ave](#)
[ORDER 721 N 7th Ave](#)

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

Absent: 2 - Jason Capers and George Carmichael

S. [ID 24-7311](#)

Consider adopting an Order to approve certain budget amendments to FY 2024 budget.

Attachments: [Budget Amendment Order](#)

[Budget Amendment List](#)

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: 5 - Kevin Kelly, Tony Thaxton, Andrea Ellis, Grace Amos and Shirley Jordan

Absent: 2 - Jason Capers and George Carmichael

T. [ID 24-7309](#)

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

- A. Demolition of property assessed to Moses Brown Est. % Cynthia McGilberry, 509 Sandy T. Gavin Ave. Total cost, including \$ 50 administrative fee, \$ 5, 126.00 Ward 6

Attachments: [Demo Assessments 071624](#)

[Demo notice-07092024110840](#)

[Demo bill-07092024110823](#)

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

Absent: 2 - Jason Capers and George Carmichael

U. [ID 24-7308](#)

Consider adopting a Final Resolution for denying tax exemption on Ad Valorem for Dunn Roadbuilders, LLC.

Attachments: [AD VALOREM Final Resolution - Dunn Roadbuilders 2024](#)

[DOR Exemption Denial Dunn Roadbuilders](#)

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

Absent: 2 - Jason Capers and George Carmichael

V. [ID 24-7301](#)

Consider adopting a Final Resolution for tax exemption on Ad Valorem for Amick Farms, LLC. Processing Plant.

Attachments: [AD VALOREM Final Resolution - Amick Processing Plant 2024](#)

[DOR Exemption Certification Amick Farms Processing Plant](#)

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

Yea: 5 - Kevin Kelly, Tony Thaxton, Andrea Ellis, Grace Amos and Shirley Jordan

Absent: 2 - Jason Capers and George Carmichael

W. [ID 24-7300](#)

Consider adopting a Final Resolution for tax exemption on Ad Valorem for Amick Farms, LLC. Hatchery and Mill.

Attachments: [AD VALOREM Final Resolution - Amick Hatchery 2024](#)
[DOR Exemption Certification Amick Farms Hatchery](#)

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

Yea: 5 - Kevin Kelly, Tony Thaxton, Andrea Ellis, Grace Amos and Shirley Jordan

Absent: 2 - Jason Capers and George Carmichael

X. [ID 24-7305](#)

Consider adopting a Final Resolution for tax exemption on Ad Valorem for Howard Industries, Inc. Transformer Division.

Attachments: [AD VALOREM Final Resolution - Howard Transformer Div 2024](#)
[DOR Exemption Certification Howard Industries](#)

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

Absent: 2 - Jason Capers and George Carmichael

Y. [ID 24-7282](#)

Consider adopting a Final Resolution for tax exemption on Ad Valorem for Laurel Machine and Foundry Company Downtown Shop.

Attachments: [AD VALOREM Final Resolution - Laurel M&F Downtown 2024](#)
[DOR Exemption Certification LMF Downtown Shop](#)
[Ad Valorem Application w Final- Laurel M&F](#)

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

Absent: 2 - Jason Capers and George Carmichael

Z. [ID 24-7281](#)

Consider adopting a Final Resolution for tax exemption on Ad Valorem for Laurel Machine & Foundry Company Machine Shop.

Attachments: [AD VALOREM Final Resolution - Laurel M&F Machine 2024](#)
[DOR Exemption Certification LMF Machine Shop](#)
[Ad Valorem Application w Final- Laurel M&F](#)

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

Yea: 5 - Kevin Kelly, Tony Thaxton, Andrea Ellis, Grace Amos and Shirley Jordan

Absent: 2 - Jason Capers and George Carmichael

5. ROUTINE AGENDA

A. [ID 24-7290](#)

Consider adopting a Resolution to approve the Claims Docket.

Attachments: [CLAIMS DOCKET RESOLUTION ONLY](#)

[WARRANT JULY 16 2024](#)

[CLAIMS DOCKET JULY 16 2024](#)

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

Yea: 5 - Kevin Kelly, Tony Thaxton, Andrea Ellis, Grace Amos and Shirley Jordan

Absent: 2 - Jason Capers and George Carmichael

EXECUTIVE SESSION