

## **RESOLUTION**

**(Authorizing Application to the Mississippi Commission for Volunteer Service and the Corporation for National and Community Service for a Grant Under the AmeriCorps Program and Committing Local Matching Funds)**

**WHEREAS**, The Mississippi Commission for Volunteer Service (MCVS) and the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) have announced the availability of federal funds to support extending the existing Mississippi AmeriCorps programs to begin in September 2025 for a twelve-month program cycle; and

**WHEREAS**, AmeriCorps is a program of the Corporation for National and Community Service, an independent federal agency, created to connect Americans of all ages and backgrounds with opportunities to give back to their communities and their nation through grants requiring up to a 28% in-kind or cash match and are awarded to eligible organizations proposing to engage AmeriCorps members in evidence-based or evidence-informed interventions to strengthen communities; and

**WHEREAS**, AmeriCorps participants may receive a living allowance and other benefits while serving and upon successful completion of their service, members earn a Segal AmeriCorps Education Award from the National Service Trust that members can use to pay for higher education expenses or apply to qualified student loans; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Laurel has identified the need to continue building its Parks and Recreation Department which qualifies for funding under the specifications of the AmeriCorps Program

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Laurel City Council as follows:

(1). that Mayor Johnny Magee and Grant Writer Whitney Pickering, acting on behalf of the City of Laurel, be authorized to Apply to the Mississippi Commission for Volunteer Service and the Corporation for National and Community Service for a grant in an amount of up to two hundred thirty-eight thousand dollars (\$238,000.00)

(2). that the City of Laurel commit in local matching funds, the majority of which will be made up of in-kind services of city employees who will be Labor Supervisors, administrators, etc., an amount of at least seventy-one thousand four hundred dollars (\$71,400.00)

(3). that Mayor Johnny Magee be authorized to sign all documents necessary for acceptance of the grant and implementation of the project should funds be awarded

(4) that Program Director Kristi Howard and Grant Writer Whitney Pickering be authorized to sign programmatic documents related to implementation of the AmeriCorps grant should it be awarded

(5). that City Clerk/Finance Director Kristal Jones be authorized to perform the budget transactions necessary for implementation of the foregoing Resolution

Motion was made by Councilperson Amos, seconded by Councilperson Ellis, that the above and foregoing Resolution be adopted.

Upon roll call vote, the result was as follows:

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

NAYS: None

ABSTAINING: None

ABSENT: None

The President thereupon declared the motion carried and the Resolution be adopted this the 4<sup>th</sup> day of **MARCH**, A.D. 2025

\_\_\_\_\_  
President of the City Council

ATTESTED AND SUBMITTED TO THE MAYOR BY THE CLERK OF THE COUNCIL ON THIS THE \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2025.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk of the Council

APPROVED ( ) DATE \_\_\_\_\_

VETOED ( ) DATE \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
MAYOR

ATTEST:

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

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Min. of 3/4/25; Book No. 104; Page No. \_\_\_\_\_; Agenda Item No. 4E.