



# City of Laurel

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

## Regular Meeting Minutes City Council

Tuesday, April 21, 2026

9:00 AM

Council Chambers

### CALL TO ORDER

- Present:** 4 - Vice President Jason Capers, Council President George Carmichael, Councilperson Marian Allen and Councilperson Angie Scruggs
- Absent:** 3 - Councilperson Kevin Kelly, Councilperson Andrea Thomas and Councilperson Grace Amos
- Staff:** 3 - Mayor Johnny Magee, City Council Clerk Sharon King 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 26-8231](#) April 7, 2026

**Attachments:** [CoL Minutes of 04072026](#)

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

**Yea:** 4 - Jason Capers, George Carmichael, Marian Allen and Angie Scruggs

**Absent:** 3 - Kevin Kelly, Andrea Thomas and Grace Amos

### 1. CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Vice President Jason Capers, seconded by Councilperson Marian Allen, that the agenda be approved as printed. The motion carried by the following vote:

**Yea:** 4 - Jason Capers, George Carmichael, Marian Allen and Angie Scruggs

**Absent:** 3 - Kevin Kelly, Andrea Thomas and Grace Amos

### 2. PRESENTATION AGENDA

- A. [ID 26-8237](#)

Presentation from Kandice Evans, Children's Librarian at the Laurel-Jones County Library, regarding funding for the 2026 Summer Reading Program.

**Attachments:** [Presentation - Laurel-Jones County Library 2026 Summer Reading Program](#)

This Presentation was presented by Kandice Evans (See Attached)

- B. [ID 26-8221](#)

Monthly Report Privilege Taxes March, 2026.

**Attachments:** [Cover Letter](#)  
[BL Monthly Transaction Report - 5650](#)  
[New Business License List](#)

There came on before the City Council a report of privilege licenses that have been issued for the month of March, 2026. This report can be reviewed in the City Clerk's office.

### 3. PUBLIC AGENDA

#### A. PUBLIC HEARING

##### 1. SET PUBLIC HEARING

###### A. [ID 26-8240](#)

Consider adopting an Order to set a date of May 19, 2026 to conduct a public hearing in regards to the properties listed to determine whether or not the property is in such a state of dilapidation so as to be a menace to the public health of the community.

- A. Open Air Market LLC, dilapidated structure at 605 Cross St. PPIN 30569  
Ward 5
- B. Kiwauna Washington, dilapidated residence at 1142 Parker Dr. PPIN 15110  
Ward 3

**Attachments:** [Sets 05-19-26](#)  
[Notices 5-19-26-04142026095302](#)

**A motion was made by Vice President Jason Capers, seconded by Councilperson Angie Scruggs, that the Order to Set Hearing be adopted. Upon roll call vote the President declared the motion carried by the results as follows:**

**Yea:** 4 - Jason Capers, George Carmichael, Marian Allen and Angie Scruggs

**Absent:** 3 - Kevin Kelly, Andrea Thomas and Grace Amos

##### 2. CONDUCT PUBLIC HEARING

#### B. CITIZENS HEARING

#### C. CITIZENS FORUM

### 4. POLICY AGENDA

###### A. [ID 26-8230](#)

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

**Attachments:** [Resolution - Continuing Disclosure Submission](#)  
[FY 2025 Continuing Disclosure Submissions - City of Laurel MS](#)  
[Supplement to FY 2025 Appendix A - City of Laurel, MS](#)  
[Supplement to FY 2025 Appendix A - City of Laurel, MS EMMA Submission](#)

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

**Yea:** 4 - Jason Capers, George Carmichael, Marian Allen and Angie Scruggs

**Absent:** 3 - Kevin Kelly, Andrea Thomas and Grace Amos

###### B. [ID 26-8232](#)

Consider adopting an Order approving an appropriation to DJ Transit.

**Attachments:** [ORDER appropriation to DJ Transit](#)  
[Status Form DJ Transit](#)

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

**Yea:** 4 - Jason Capers, George Carmichael, Marian Allen and Angie Scruggs

**Absent:** 3 - Kevin Kelly, Andrea Thomas and Grace Amos

**C. [ID 26-8238](#)**

Consider adopting a Resolution granting the administration authority to award construction and execute the professional construction services supplemental agreement of the Arco Lane Bridge Replacement Project.

**Attachments:** [RESOLUTION-Auth to Award and CEI](#)

[Letter of Recommendation Signed](#)

[Certified Bid Tab](#)

[CEI Supplemental Agreement](#)

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

**Yea:** 4 - Jason Capers, George Carmichael, Marian Allen and Angie Scruggs

**Absent:** 3 - Kevin Kelly, Andrea Thomas and Grace Amos

**D. [ID 26-8235](#)**

Consider adopting a Resolution granting the administration authority to submit the 2026 Safe Streets and Roads for All Funding Application.

**Attachments:** [RESOLUTION.doc](#)

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

**Yea:** 4 - Jason Capers, George Carmichael, Marian Allen and Angie Scruggs

**Absent:** 3 - Kevin Kelly, Andrea Thomas and Grace Amos

**E. [ID 26-8236](#)**

Consider adopting a Resolution granting the administration authority to commit the required matching funds for the 2026 Safe Streets and Roads for All Funding Application.

**Attachments:** [RESOLUTION.doc](#)

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

**Yea:** 4 - Jason Capers, George Carmichael, Marian Allen and Angie Scruggs

**Absent:** 3 - Kevin Kelly, Andrea Thomas and Grace Amos

**F. [ID 26-8233](#)**

Consider adopting A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF LAUREL, MS, EXPRESSLY SETTING FORTH SUPPORT FOR CITIZENS NATIONAL BANK APPLICATION TO THE FEDERAL HOME LOAN BANK OF DALLAS AFFORDABLE HOUSING PROGRAM FOR THE CITY OF LAUREL HOMEOWNER REHAB PPROJECT.

**Attachments:** [RES Support Application Fed Home Loan Bank of Dallas 4.21.26](#)

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

**Yea:** 4 - Jason Capers, George Carmichael, Marian Allen and Angie Scruggs

**Absent:** 3 - Kevin Kelly, Andrea Thomas and Grace Amos

**G. [ID 26-8234](#)**

Consider adopting a Resolution Authorizing Mayor Johnny Magee, Acting on Behalf of the City of Laurel, to Execute a Memorandum of Understanding with Housing Economic Resources & Education (HERE) Related to the City of Laurel Homeowner Rehabilitation Project.

**Attachments:** [RES Authorize MOU HERE Homeowner Rehab Project 4.21.26](#)  
[EXHIBIT A-RES Authorize MOU HERE Homeowner Rehab Project 4.21.26](#)

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

**Yea:** 4 - Jason Capers, George Carmichael, Marian Allen and Angie Scruggs

**Absent:** 3 - Kevin Kelly, Andrea Thomas and Grace Amos

**H. [ID 26-8241](#)**

Consider adopting the Second Reading of an Ordinance amending Chapter 7 - Sick Leave Program to align with PERS Tier 5, effective March 1, 2026. The amendment clarifies that unused sick leave is not creditable toward retirement and establishes a limitation on lump-sum sick leave payouts for employees hired on or after that date. Current employees are not affected. The ordinance is retroactive to ensure consistency with state law.

**Attachments:** [SECOND READING OF ORDINANCE AMENDING CH 7 SICK LEAVE.docx](#)  
[Addendum to Chapter 7 – Sick Leave Program \(PERS Tier 5 Employees\) .docx](#)  
[PERS TIER 5 CHANGES.pdf](#)

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

**Yea:** 4 - Jason Capers, George Carmichael, Marian Allen and Angie Scruggs

**Absent:** 3 - Kevin Kelly, Andrea Thomas and Grace Amos

Enactment No: 1784-2025

**I. [ID 26-8245](#)**

Consider adopting an Order authorizing the Administration to advertise for sealed proposals for employee benefit coverages, including health, life, and related products, for the upcoming fiscal year.

**Attachments:** [ORDER AUTHORIZING ADS FOR INSURANCE BIDS.docx](#)

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

**Yea:** 4 - Jason Capers, George Carmichael, Marian Allen and Angie Scruggs

**Absent:** 3 - Kevin Kelly, Andrea Thomas and Grace Amos

**J. [ID 26-8224](#)**

Consider adopting an Order to Consider Authorizing Application of the 2025 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance (JAG) Grant and Execution of Documents Necessary for the Acceptance and Implementation of the Grant Should It Be Awarded.

**Attachments:** [ORDER Authorize EDWARD BYRNE JUSTICE ASSISTANCE GRANT 2025](#)

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

**Yea:** 4 - Jason Capers, George Carmichael, Marian Allen and Angie Scruggs

**Absent:** 3 - Kevin Kelly, Andrea Thomas and Grace Amos

**K. [ID 26-8229](#)**

Consider adopting an Order Regarding Ratification of an Emergency Order Authorizing Two Officers of the Laurel Police Department to Travel to Biloxi, MS, for the Purpose of Attending Funeral Services of a Fallen Law Enforcement Officer.

**Attachments:** [OrderRatifyEmergencyOrderApprove LPD Travel to Biloxi for Funeral Service of Fallen Officer 4.21.26](#)  
[Exhibit A - OrderRatifyEmergencyOrderApprove LPD Travel to Biloxi for Funeral Service of Fallen Officer 4.21.26](#)

**A motion was made by Vice President Jason Capers, 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 - Jason Capers, George Carmichael, Marian Allen and Angie Scruggs

**Absent:** 3 - Kevin Kelly, Andrea Thomas and Grace Amos

**L. [ID 26-8208](#)**

Consider adopting an Order authorizing acceptance of anonymous donations to the B.E. Murph Center for Senior Citizens to contribute towards planning and implementing activities for Senior Citizens in the community.

**Attachments:** [ORDER FOR ANONYMOUS DONATION SR. CENTER.march26.docx](#)  
[SR.CENTERdonationsbackup.pdf](#)

**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 - Jason Capers, George Carmichael, Marian Allen and Angie Scruggs

**Absent:** 3 - Kevin Kelly, Andrea Thomas and Grace Amos

**M. [ID 26-8222](#)**

Consider adopting an Order Regarding the Re-Appointment of Mr. Mac Foster as a Member of the Board of Building Adjustments and Appeals.

**Attachments:** [ORD App Building Appeals And Adjustment Board Foster 2026](#)

**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 - Jason Capers, George Carmichael, Marian Allen and Angie Scruggs

**Absent:** 3 - Kevin Kelly, Andrea Thomas and Grace Amos

**N. [ID 26-8223](#)**

Consider adopting an Order Regarding the Re-Appointment of Ms. Jerlean Nobles to the Board of Commissioners of the South Mississippi Fair.

**Attachments:** [ORD ReAppoint Fair Board Nobles 2026](#)

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

**Yea:** 4 - Jason Capers, George Carmichael, Marian Allen and Angie Scruggs

**Absent:** 3 - Kevin Kelly, Andrea Thomas and Grace Amos

**O. [ID 26-8226](#)**

Consider adopting an Order approving application of Howard Industries, Inc. for renewal of tax exemption from ad valorem taxes for their freeport warehouse as authorized by Section 27-31-51 through Section 27-31-61 code of 1972 as amended.

**Attachments:** [Howard Ind. Freeport Application Order 2026](#)  
[HOWARD'S FREEPORT APPLICATION 2026](#)

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

**Yea:** 4 - Jason Capers, George Carmichael, Marian Allen and Angie Scruggs

**Absent:** 3 - Kevin Kelly, Andrea Thomas and Grace Amos

**P.** [ID 26-8225](#)

Consider adopting an Order approving application of Masonite Corporation for renewal of tax exemption from ad valorem taxes for their freeport warehouse as authorized by Section 27-31-51 through Section 27-31-61 code of 1972 as amended.

**Attachments:** [Masonite Freeport Application Order 2026](#)

[Masonite Freeport Tax Exemption Application 2026](#)

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

**Yea:** 4 - Jason Capers, George Carmichael, Marian Allen and Angie Scruggs

**Absent:** 3 - Kevin Kelly, Andrea Thomas and Grace Amos

**Q.** [ID 26-8246](#)

Consider adopting Order approving application of The Essmueller Company for renewal of tax exemption from ad valorem taxes for their freeport warehouse as authorized by Section 27-31-51 through 27-31-61 code of 1972 as amended.

**Attachments:** [Essmueller Freeport Application Order 2026](#)

[THE ESSMUELLER COMPANY FREEPORT WAREHOUSE APPLICATION](#)

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

**Yea:** 4 - Jason Capers, George Carmichael, Marian Allen and Angie Scruggs

**Absent:** 3 - Kevin Kelly, Andrea Thomas and Grace Amos

**R.** [ID 26-8228](#)

Consider adopting Order approving application of Mid-South Industries, Inc. for renewal of tax exemption from ad valorem taxes for their freeport warehouse as authorized by Section 27-31-51 through Section 27-31-61 code of 1972 as amended.

**Attachments:** [Mid-South Freeport Application Order 2026](#)

[Mid-South Freeport Application 2026](#)

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

**Yea:** 4 - Jason Capers, George Carmichael, Marian Allen and Angie Scruggs

**Absent:** 3 - Kevin Kelly, Andrea Thomas and Grace Amos

**S.** [ID 26-8227](#)

Consider adopting Order approving application of Applied Industrial Technologies Dixie, Inc. for renewal of tax exemption from ad valorem taxes for their freeport warehouse as authorized by Section 27-31-51 through Section 27-31-61 code of 1972 as amended.

**Attachments:** [Dixie - Applied Industrial Tech Freeport Application Order 2026](#)

[Applied Industrial Technologies Dixie Inc.](#)

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

**Yea:** 4 - Jason Capers, George Carmichael, Marian Allen and Angie Scruggs

**Absent:** 3 - Kevin Kelly, Andrea Thomas and Grace Amos

**T. [ID 26-8242](#)**

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

A. Cleaning of property assessed to Cotton Key LLC, at 3 Woodlawn Dr. Total assessed cost \$124.77 Ward 1

**Attachments:** [Assessments 4-21-2026](#)  
[Bill-04142026095622](#)

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

**Yea:** 4 - Jason Capers, George Carmichael, Marian Allen and Angie Scruggs

**Absent:** 3 - Kevin Kelly, Andrea Thomas and Grace Amos

**5. ROUTINE AGENDA****A. [ID 26-8244](#)**

Consider adopting an Order to Ratify Approval of notice of May 12, 2026 for a Historic Preservation public hearing meeting.

**Attachments:** [Order Historic Preservation 051226](#)

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

**Yea:** 4 - Jason Capers, George Carmichael, Marian Allen and Angie Scruggs

**Absent:** 3 - Kevin Kelly, Andrea Thomas and Grace Amos

**B. [ID 26-8243](#)**

Consider adopting an Order to Ratify Approval of notice of May 14, 2026 for a Planning & Zoning Commission public hearing meeting.

**Attachments:** [ORDER planning commission 051426](#)

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

**Yea:** 4 - Jason Capers, George Carmichael, Marian Allen and Angie Scruggs

**Absent:** 3 - Kevin Kelly, Andrea Thomas and Grace Amos

**C. [ID 26-8239](#)**

Consider adopting a Resolution to approve the Claims Docket.

**Attachments:** [Claims Docket Resolution 04.21.2026](#)  
[WARRANT APRIL 21 2026](#)  
[CLAIMS DOCKET APRIL 21 2026](#)

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

**Yea:** 4 - Jason Capers, George Carmichael, Marian Allen and Angie Scruggs

**Absent:** 3 - Kevin Kelly, Andrea Thomas and Grace Amos

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

With no objections to adjourning, the President declared the meeting adjourned to Tuesday, May 5, 2026 at 5:30 p.m., this the 21<sup>st</sup> day of April, A. D., 2026.

\_\_\_\_\_  
PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL  
COUNCILPERSON WARD 4

\_\_\_\_\_  
COUNCILPERSON WARD 1

\_\_\_\_\_  
COUNCILPERSON WARD 5

\_\_\_\_\_  
COUNCILPERSON WARD 2

\_\_\_\_\_  
COUNCILPERSON WARD 6

\_\_\_\_\_  
COUNCILPERSON WARD 3

\_\_\_\_\_  
COUNCILPERSON WARD 7

ATTEST:

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
MAYOR

ATTEST:

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

\* \* \* \* \*