

It being the hour of 5:30 p.m., the Laurel City Council was in session for the purpose of holding a public hearing for the *Fiscal Year Budget 2025 ending September 2026* for the City of Laurel.

Those Present: Jason Capers, Councilperson Ward 1; Angie Scruggs, Councilperson Ward 3; Andrea Thomas, Councilperson Ward 5; Grace Amos, Councilperson Ward 6; Marian Allen, Councilperson Ward 7 Johnny Magee, Mayor; and Sharon D. King, Clerk of the Council.

Those Absent: Kevin Kelly, Councilperson Ward 2; George Carmichael, Councilperson Ward 4; Brett Robinson, City Attorney

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Councilperson Angie Scruggs called the meeting to order, then relinquished the floor to Kristal Jones, Finance Director.

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The public was furnished with copies of the overview proposed budget for the City of Laurel for Fiscal Year Budget 2025 ending September 2026.

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Kristal Jones, Finance Director presented an overview of the FY 2025 Budget ending September 2026 to those present. Councilperson Scruggs called for questions and comments from those present on the proposed budget for the City of Laurel for Fiscal Year 2025 ending September 2026. Council members Jason Capers, Andrea Thomas and Marian Allen asked questions or made comments to the Administration, there being no further comments or questions, Councilperson Scruggs declared the meeting adjourned.

This the 25th day of August, A. D., 2025.

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON THE
PROPOSED BUDGET AND PROPOSED TAX LEVIES
FOR THE UPCOMING FISCAL YEAR FOR
THE CITY OF LAUREL**

The City of Laurel will hold a public hearing on its proposed budget for fiscal year 2026 on Monday, August 25, 2025 at 5:30 p.m. in the Council Room at City Hall.

The millage rate of 47.55 will produce the same amount of revenue from ad valorem taxes as was collected the prior year. The millage rate for the prior year was 47.55.

The decision to not increase the ad valorem tax millage rate for fiscal year 2026 above the current fiscal year's ad valorem tax millage rate means you will not pay more in ad valorem taxes on your home, automobile tag, utilities, business fixtures and equipment and rental real property, unless the assessed value of your property has increased for fiscal year 2026.

Any citizen of the City of Laurel is invited to attend this public hearing on the proposed budget and tax levies for fiscal year 2026 and will be allowed to speak for a reasonable amount of time and offer tangible evidence before any vote is taken.

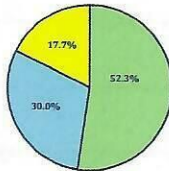
BREAKDOWN OF MILS

	FY 2024	FY 2025	FY 2026
• General Fund	19.35	23.55	25.41
• Recreation Fund	4.90	4.90	4.90
• Debt Service Fund	12.50	12.50	12.50
• Street Improvement	4.00	4.00	4.00
• Fire & Police Pension	<u>2.60</u>	<u>2.60</u>	<u>0.74</u>
	43.35	47.55	47.55

GENERAL FUND REVENUE

General Fund Revenue

☐ State Sales Taxes
 ☐ Ad Valorem Taxes
 ☐ Licenses Permits Other Taxes



Capital Improvements & Projects

- 2025 Citywide Paving Project
- \$7,000 per Ward for Improvements
- 12th Street Pedestrian Improvement
- West Drive Bridge
- Central Avenue Phase II
- RAISE Grant Project
- Arco Lane Bridge
- ARPA - Joe Wheeler Avenue Water, Sewer, & Stormwater Improvements
- ARPA - 15th Avenue Water, Sewer, & Stormwater Improvements



RECREATION FUND

• Beginning Balance	\$ 722,165
• Revenues	\$ 3,354,145
• Expenditures	<u>\$ 3,354,032</u>
• Projected Ending Balance	\$ 722,278

ENTERPRISE FUNDS

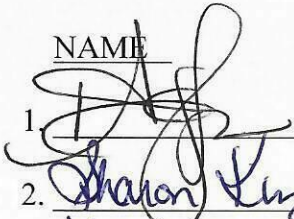
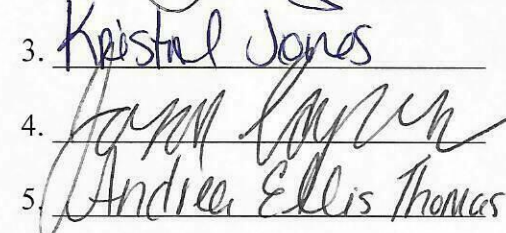
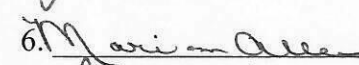
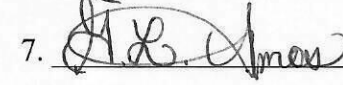
• Beginning Balance	\$ 3,608,316
• Revenues	\$15,641,492
• Expenditures	<u>\$14,899,497</u>
• Projected Ending Balance	\$ 4,350,311



Thank you!



**BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING
PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 10-01-25 THRU 09-30-26
AUGUST 25, 2025- 5:30 P. M.
LAUREL CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

NAME	ADDRESS
1. 	2520 AUDUBON DR. LAUREL 39440
2. Sharon King	P.O. Box 647, Laurel, MS
3. Kristal Jones	P.O. Box 647 Laurel
4. 	7 Country Club Dr
5. Andree Ellis Thomas	923 Susie B. Ruffin Ave
6. 	1028 Pierce Street
7. 	819 S 6th Ave, Laurel
8. Johnny Ayers	PO Box 4085, Laurel, MS 39445
9. _____	_____
10. _____	_____
11. _____	_____
12. _____	_____
13. _____	_____
14. _____	_____
15. _____	_____
16. _____	_____
17. _____	_____
18. _____	_____
19. _____	_____
20. _____	_____

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

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