



# City of Laurel

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

## Regular Meeting Minutes City Council

Tuesday, June 5, 2018

5:30 PM

Council Chambers

### CALL TO ORDER

**Present:** 7 - Councilperson Jason Capers, Councilperson Tony Wheat, Vice President Tony Thaxton, Council President George Carmichael, Councilperson Travares Comegys, Councilperson Stacy Comegys and Councilperson Anthony Page

**Staff:** 3 - Mayor Johnny Magee, City Attorney Deidra Bassi and City Council Clerk Sharon King

**Staff Absent:** 1 - Deputy Council Clerk Judith Denham

### PRAYER

Councilman Stacy Comegys

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

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**A.** [ID 18-3064](#)

May 22, 2018

**Attachments:** [CoL Minutes of 052218](#)

**A motion was made by Vice President Tony Thaxton, seconded by Councilperson Tony Wheat, that the Minutes be approved. Upon roll call vote the President declared the motion carried by the results as follows:**

**Yea:** 7 - Jason Capers, Tony Wheat, Tony Thaxton, George Carmichael, Travares Comegys, Stacy Comegys and Anthony Page

### 1. CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA

**A motion was made by Councilperson Tony Wheat, seconded by Councilperson Travares Comegys, that the agenda be approved as printed. Upon roll call vote the President declared the motion carried by the results as follows:**

**Yea:** 7 - Jason Capers, Tony Wheat, Tony Thaxton, George Carmichael, Travares Comegys, Stacy Comegys and Anthony Page

### 2. PRESENTATION AGENDA

**A.** [ID 18-3089](#)

Presentation of Summer of Service Program presented by Ward One Councilman Jason Capers.

**Attachments:** [Summer of Service Presentation](#)

**There came before the Council Jason Capers, Councilman Ward 1, to present a summer service program sponsored by Brighter Tomorrows Mentoring Program. This summer program will allow students to help in the community with a reward at the end.**

### 3. PUBLIC AGENDA

#### A. PUBLIC HEARING

##### 1. SET PUBLIC HEARING

**A. [ID 18-3070](#)**

Consider adopting an Order to set a date of July 3, 2018 to conduct a public hearing in regard to the properties listed to determine whether or not the properties are in such a state of uncleanness so as to be a menace to the public health and safety of the community.

- a) Madeline Mitchell, overgrown property at 604 W 26th St, PPIN 15397, WD 3
- b) Julio Vera, overgrown property at 1031 N 11th Ave., PPIN 10590, WD 6
- c) Symbiotic Partners LLC, overgrown property at 220 S 10th Ave., PPIN 9042, WD6
- d) Dinky Jones Property, overgrown property at 498 S 13th Ave., PPIN 14756, WD 6
- e) Chris Welch, overgrown property at 308 N 14th Ave., PPIN 8921, WD 6
- f) City Properties LLC, overgrown property at Jefferson St. Property W of 907 Jefferson St., PPIN 12865, WD 6
- g) Carolyn Pryor, overgrown property at 844 N 8th Ave., PPIN 11643, WD 6
- h) Jerry Weems, overgrown property at 924 S 14th Ave., PPIN 14439, WD 1
- i) Lawrence & William Puckett, overgrown property at W of 2412 Palmer Ave, PPIN 14917, WD 7
- j) Rossie McCormick, overgrown property at Capitol & Palmer, PPIN 13170,13171,16297, WD 7
- k) Pace Property Investment LLC, overgrown property at E of 1219 Simmons St., PPIN 131123, WD 7
- l) L & J Properties of Laurel LLC, overgrown property at 2104 Palmer Ave., PPIN 14855, WD 7
- m) Lebaron Nichols, overgrown property at 1409 N 1st Ave., PPIN 11224, WD 4
- n) Ruby Richardson Est., overgrown property at 1115 Mississippi Ave., PPIN 9594, WD 4
- o) Dreamrentals LLC, overgrown property at 2332 N 3rd Ave., PPIN 15241, WD 4
- p) GBLB LLC, overgrown property at 207 W 15th St., PPIN 8096, WD 4
- q) Joe Jones, overgrown property at 216 W 16th St., PPIN 8727, WD 4
- r) Michael Lester, overgrown property at Lot Located on Cooks Ave., PPIN 13514, WD 5
- s) Curtis Philips, overgrown property at 615 Mississippi Ave., PPIN 14037, WD 5
- t) Ricky Devore, overgrown property at 1119 M. L. K Ave., PPIN 9581, WD 5
- u) Adair Asset Management, overgrown property at 817 N 1st Ave., PPIN 11685, WD 5
- v) Martin Rosson, overgrown property at 1917 N Joe Wheeler Ave., PPIN 9412, WD 4

**Attachments:** [sets for July 3 2018](#)

**A motion was made by Councilperson Travares Comegys, seconded by Councilperson Stacy Comegys, that the Order to Set Hearing be adopted. Upon roll call vote the President declared the motion carried by the results as follows:**

**Yea:** 7 - Jason Capers, Tony Wheat, Tony Thaxton, George Carmichael, Travares Comegys, Stacy Comegys and Anthony Page

## 2. CONDUCT PUBLIC HEARING

**A motion was made by Councilperson Travares Comegys, seconded by Councilperson Tony Wheat, to conduct a public hearing. Upon roll call vote the President declared the motion carried by the results as follows:**

**Yea:** 7 - Jason Capers, Tony Wheat, Tony Thaxton, George Carmichael, Travares Comegys, Stacy Comegys and Anthony Page

**A. [ID 18-3075](#)**

Consider adopting a Resolution to conduct a public hearing on June 5, 2018 in regard to the property at 137 W 1st St, which is owned by SKL Investments, to determine whether or not the property is in such a state of uncleanness so as to be a menace to the public health and safety of the community. This property contains a dilapidated structure. WARD 5

**Attachments:** [skldemoresolution137w1st](#)  
[photos137w1st](#)

**A motion was made by Councilperson Stacy Comegys, seconded by Councilperson Travares Comegys, that the Resolution be adopted. Upon roll call vote the President declared the motion carried by the results as follows:**

**Yea:** 7 - Jason Capers, Tony Wheat, Tony Thaxton, George Carmichael, Travares Comegys, Stacy Comegys and Anthony Page

**B. [ID 18-3076](#)**

Consider adopting a Resolution to conduct a public hearing on June 5, 2018 in regard to the property at 108 E 7th St, which is owned by Beverly Whitten, to determine whether or not the property is in such a state of uncleanness so as to be a menace to the public health and safety of the community. This property contains a dilapidated structure. WARD 5

**Attachments:** [beverlywhittendemoresolution108e7thst](#)  
[photos108e7th](#)

**A motion was made by Councilperson Stacy Comegys, seconded by Councilperson Travares Comegys, that the Resolution be adopted. Upon roll call vote the President declared the motion carried by the results as follows:**

**Yea:** 7 - Jason Capers, Tony Wheat, Tony Thaxton, George Carmichael, Travares Comegys, Stacy Comegys and Anthony Page

**C. [ID 18-3077](#)**

Consider adopting a Resolution to conduct a public hearing on June 5, 2018 in regard to the property at 2705 Ridgewood Dr, which is owned by Rayford J and Tommy D Harris, to determine whether or not the property is in such a state of uncleanness so as to be a menace to the public health and safety of the community. This property contains a dilapidated structure. WARD 3

**Attachments:** [rayfordharrisdemoresolution2705ridgewood](#)  
[photos2705ridgewood](#)

**A motion was made by Vice President Tony Thaxton, seconded by Council President George Carmichael, that the Resolution be adopted. Upon roll call vote the President declared the motion carried by the results as follows:**

**Yea:** 7 - Jason Capers, Tony Wheat, Tony Thaxton, George Carmichael, Travares Comegys, Stacy Comegys and Anthony Page

**D. [ID 18-3078](#)**

Consider adopting a Resolution to conduct a public hearing on June 5, 2018 in regard to the property at 807 S 7th Ave, which is owned by Matthew Harvey Jr, to determine whether or not the property is in such a state of uncleanness so as to be a menace to the public health and safety of the community. WARD 6

**Attachments:** [matthewharveyresolution807s7th](#)  
[photos807s7th](#)

**A motion was made by Councilperson Travares Comegys, seconded by Councilperson Stacy Comegys, that the Resolution be adopted. Upon roll call vote the President declared the motion carried by the results as follows:**

**Yea:** 7 - Jason Capers, Tony Wheat, Tony Thaxton, George Carmichael, Travares Comegys, Stacy Comegys and Anthony Page

**E. [ID 18-3079](#)**

Consider adopting a Resolution to conduct a public hearing on June 5, 2018 in regard to the property at 125 Hickory St, which is owned by Melvin Jackson, to determine whether or not the property is in such a state of uncleanness so as to be a menace to the public health and safety of the community. WARD 5

**Attachments:** [melvinjacksonresolution125hickoryst](#)  
[photos125hickory](#)

**A motion was made by Councilperson Stacy Comegys, seconded by Councilperson Travares Comegys, that the Resolution be adopted. Upon roll call vote the President declared the motion carried by the results as follows:**

**Yea:** 7 - Jason Capers, Tony Wheat, Tony Thaxton, George Carmichael, Travares Comegys, Stacy Comegys and Anthony Page

**F. [ID 18-3080](#)**

Consider adopting a Resolution to conduct a public hearing on June 5, 2018 in regard to the property south of 128 Cook Ave, which is owned by Ed Reed Sr Est, to determine whether or not the property is in such a state of uncleanliness so as to be a menace to the public health and safety of the community. WARD 5

**Attachments:** [edreedresolutionsof128cookave](#)  
[photos128cook](#)

**A motion was made by Councilperson Stacy Comegys, seconded by Council President George Carmichael, that the Resolution be adopted. Upon roll call vote the President declared the motion carried by the results as follows:**

**Yea:** 7 - Jason Capers, Tony Wheat, Tony Thaxton, George Carmichael, Travares Comegys, Stacy Comegys and Anthony Page

**G. [ID 18-3081](#)**

Consider adopting a Resolution to conduct a public hearing on June 5, 2018 in regard to the property at the corner of E 3rd St and Cook Ave, which is owned by Michael T Lester, to determine whether or not the property is in such a state of uncleanliness so as to be a menace to the public health and safety of the community. WARD 5

**Attachments:** [michaeltlesterresolutione3rdandcook](#)  
[photoscookande3rd](#)

**A motion was made by Councilperson Stacy Comegys, seconded by Council President George Carmichael, that the Resolution be adopted. Upon roll call vote the President declared the motion carried by the results as follows:**

**Yea:** 7 - Jason Capers, Tony Wheat, Tony Thaxton, George Carmichael, Travares Comegys, Stacy Comegys and Anthony Page

**H. [ID 18-3082](#)**

Consider adopting a Resolution to conduct a public hearing on June 5, 2018 in regard to the property at 2019 N 3rd Ave, which is owned by Hazel Reeves Smith, to determine whether or not the property is in such a state of uncleanliness so as to be a menace to the public health and safety of the community. WARD 4

**Attachments:** [hazelreevessmithresolution523e11thst](#)  
[photos2019n3rd](#)

**A motion was made by Councilperson Travares Comegys, seconded by Council President George Carmichael, that the Resolution be adopted. Upon roll call vote the President declared the motion carried by the results as follows:**

**Yea:** 7 - Jason Capers, Tony Wheat, Tony Thaxton, George Carmichael, Travares Comegys, Stacy Comegys and Anthony Page

**I. [ID 18-3083](#)**

Consider adopting a Resolution to conduct a public hearing on June 5, 2018 in regard to the property at 524 E 11th St, which is owned by Eleanor Johnson Est % Roma M Perryman, to determine whether or not the property is in such a state of uncleanliness so as to be a menace to the public health and safety of the community. WARD 5

**Attachments:** [eleanorjohnsonestresolution524e11th](#)  
[photos524e11th](#)

**A motion was made by Councilperson Stacy Comegys, seconded by Councilperson Travares Comegys, that the Resolution be adopted. Upon roll call vote the President declared the motion carried by the results as follows:**

**Yea:** 7 - Jason Capers, Tony Wheat, Tony Thaxton, George Carmichael, Travares Comegys, Stacy Comegys and Anthony Page

**J. [ID 18-3084](#)**

Consider adopting a Resolution to conduct a public hearing on June 5, 2018 in regard to the property at corner of 207 Masonite Dr, which is owned by Sam Corriere Est % John Corriere, to determine whether or not the property is in such a state of uncleanliness so as to be a menace to the public health and safety of the community. WARD 5

**Attachments:** [corrierestresolution207masonite](#)  
[photos207masonite](#)

**A motion was made by Councilperson Stacy Comegys, seconded by Councilperson Travares Comegys, that the Resolution be adopted. Upon roll call vote the President declared the motion carried by the results as follows:**

**Yea:** 7 - Jason Capers, Tony Wheat, Tony Thaxton, George Carmichael, Travares Comegys, Stacy Comegys and Anthony Page

**K. [ID 18-3085](#)**

Consider adopting a Resolution to conduct a public hearing on June 5, 2018 in regard to the property at corner lot Masonite and Ash behind 228 W 1st St, which is owned by Dorothy Nettles, to determine whether or not the property is in such a state of uncleanliness so as to be a menace to the public health and safety of the community. WARD 5

**Attachments:** [dorothynettlesresolutionmasoniteandash](#)  
[photoscornerlotmasoniteandash](#)

**A motion was made by Councilperson Stacy Comegys, seconded by Councilperson Travares Comegys, that the Resolution be adopted. Upon roll call vote the President declared the motion carried by the results as follows:**

**Yea:** 7 - Jason Capers, Tony Wheat, Tony Thaxton, George Carmichael, Travares Comegys, Stacy Comegys and Anthony Page

**B. CITIZENS HEARING****C. CITIZENS FORUM****4. POLICY AGENDA****A. [ID 18-3067](#)**

Consider adopting a Resolution authorizing Mayor Johnny Magee, acting on behalf of the City of Laurel, to sign an Agreement with NextSite LLC for research, marketing and consulting services.

**Attachments:** [RESAuthorizeAgreementNextSiteLLCRetailRecruitmentJune2018.doc](#)  
[x](#)  
[RESAuthorizeAgreementNextSiteLLCRetailConsultantsJune2018ExhibitAAgreement.docx](#)

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

**Yea:** 7 - Jason Capers, Tony Wheat, Tony Thaxton, George Carmichael, Travares Comegys, Stacy Comegys and Anthony Page

**B. [ID 18-3065](#)**

Consider adopting a Resolution authorizing Mayor Johnny Magee, acting on behalf of the City of Laurel, to sign a Letter of Engagement securing the professional services of Mr. Demery Grubbs regarding deposition and/or trial testimony in the City's ongoing annexation trial.

**Attachments:** [ANNEXATION2018RESAuthorizeLetterOfEngagementFinancialProfessionalMay2018.doc](#)  
[PendorffAnnexation2018RESAuthorizeLetterOfEngagementFinancialProfessionalMay2018.pdf](#)

**A motion was made by Vice President Tony Thaxton, seconded by Councilperson Tony Wheat, that the Resolution be adopted. Upon roll call vote the President declared the motion carried by the results as follows:**

**Yea:** 7 - Jason Capers, Tony Wheat, Tony Thaxton, George Carmichael, Travares Comegys, Stacy Comegys and Anthony Page

**C.** [ID 18-3068](#)

Consider adopting a Resolution authorizing, approving and directing the employment of certain law firms to represent the City of Laurel in potential litigation against contributors of opioid addiction crisis.

**Attachments:** [RESOpiods.docx](#)

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

**Yea:** 7 - Jason Capers, Tony Wheat, Tony Thaxton, George Carmichael, Travares Comegys, Stacy Comegys and Anthony Page

**D.** [ID 18-3088](#)

Consider adopting a Resolution authorizing application by the City of Laurel to the Tony Hawk Foundation for a grant for its future skate park.

**Attachments:** [SkateParkPProject2018RESAuthorizeApplicationTony Hawk Grant.doc](#)

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

**Yea:** 7 - Jason Capers, Tony Wheat, Tony Thaxton, George Carmichael, Travares Comegys, Stacy Comegys and Anthony Page

**E.** [ID 18-3063](#)

Consider adopting an Order allowing travel to the ICC class for building inspectors Harold Russell and Eric Schrimphshire June 7, 2018.

**Attachments:** [icc travel building](#)  
[icc 2](#)  
[icc](#)

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

**Yea:** 7 - Jason Capers, Tony Wheat, Tony Thaxton, George Carmichael, Travares Comegys, Stacy Comegys and Anthony Page

**F.** [ID 18-3087](#)

Consider adopting an Order for approving an application for tax exemption on Ad Valorem for Morgan Bros. Millwork, Inc.

**Attachments:** [ORDER for AD VALOREM EXEMPTION 2018 Morgan Bros Application 2018](#)  
[Exhibit B](#)

**A motion was made by Vice President Tony Thaxton, seconded by Councilperson Tony Wheat, that the Order be adopted. Upon roll call vote the President declared the motion carried by the results as follows:**

**Yea:** 7 - Jason Capers, Tony Wheat, Tony Thaxton, George Carmichael, Travares Comegys, Stacy Comegys and Anthony Page

**G.** [ID 18-3072](#)

Consider approving a First Reading of an Ordinance amending Laurel Code of Ordinances, Chapter 11: Housing and Property Maintenance.

**Attachments:** [codeamendmentorder](#)

**A motion was made by Councilperson Stacy Comegys, seconded by Vice President Tony Thaxton, that the Ordinance be approved on first reading. Upon roll call vote the President declared the motion carried by the results as follows:**

**Yea:** 7 - Jason Capers, Tony Wheat, Tony Thaxton, George Carmichael, Travares Comegys, Stacy Comegys and Anthony Page

**H. [ID 18-3069](#)**

Consider adopting a First Reading of an Ordinance amending Ordinance #1056-1985, Appendix 1 Section 602. General Sign Regulations, to replace the words/reference of "Political Signs" with "Temporary Signs" and to replace the words or reference of "Religious Institution" to "Signs which are not related to residential use."

Attachments: [ordinance amendment signs](#)

**A motion was made by Vice President Tony Thaxton, seconded by Councilperson Tony Wheat, that the Ordinance be approved on first reading. Upon roll call vote the President declared the motion carried by the results as follows:**

**Yea:** 7 - Jason Capers, Tony Wheat, Tony Thaxton, George Carmichael, Travares Comegys, Stacy Comegys and Anthony Page

**I. [ID 18-3071](#)**

Consider adopting the Second reading of an Ordinance granting a conditional zoning change from R-1 to C-1 on the property known as 1538 Old Amy Rd. Ward 2

Attachments: [laureleyeclinicconditionalzoningchange2018](#)

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

**Yea:** 7 - Jason Capers, Tony Wheat, Tony Thaxton, George Carmichael, Travares Comegys, Stacy Comegys and Anthony Page

Enactment No: 1682-2018

**J. [ID 18-3074](#)**

Consider adopting an Order to approve lot cleaning assessments on the following properties:

- A. Cleaning of property belonging to Janice Thompson, which is located at 715 N 1st Ave. Total Cost including \$75 administrative fee \$165 WD4
- B. Cleaning of property belonging to B & C Farm Co, which is located at 1102 N 1st Ave. Total Cost including \$75 administrative fee \$165 WD4
- C. Cleaning of property belonging to Pace Property Investment LLC, which is located at 2108 Palmer Ave. Total Cost including \$75 administrative fee \$120 WD 7
- D. Cleaning of property belonging to Publican Asset Mgt LLC, which is located at 1115 McConkey St. Total Cost including \$75 administrative fee \$105 WD 7
- E. Cleaning of property belonging to Jasmine Keys, which is located at 2112 N 3rd Ave. Total Cost including \$75 administrative fee \$5065.40. This included demolition of a structure. WD 5

Attachments: [lotcleaningassessmentsforjune52018](#)  
[backupjune5lotcleanings20180525 11590201](#)

**A motion was made by Vice President Tony Thaxton, seconded by Councilperson Tony Wheat, that the Order be adopted. Upon roll call vote the President declared the motion carried by the results as follows:**

**Yea:** 7 - Jason Capers, Tony Wheat, Tony Thaxton, George Carmichael, Travares Comegys, Stacy Comegys and Anthony Page

**5. ROUTINE AGENDA****A. [ID 18-3073](#)**

Consider adopting an Order to ratify the publication of notice of hearing for the June 14, 2018 Zoning public hearing.

Attachments: [phz0618](#)

**A motion was made by Councilperson Travares Comegys, seconded by Councilperson Tony Wheat, that the Order be adopted. Upon roll call vote the President declared the motion carried by the results as follows:**

**Yea:** 7 - Jason Capers, Tony Wheat, Tony Thaxton, George Carmichael, Travares Comegys, Stacy Comegys and Anthony Page

**B.** [ID 18-3086](#)

Consider adopting a Resolution to approve the claims docket.

**Attachments:** [CLAIMS DOCKET RESOLUTION ONLY](#)

[WARRANT JUNE 05 2018](#)

[CLAIMS DOCKET JUNE 05 2018](#)

**A motion was made by Councilperson Tony Wheat, seconded by Councilperson Stacy Comegys, that the Resolution be adopted. Upon roll call vote the President declared the motion carried by the results as follows:**

**Yea:** 7 - Jason Capers, Tony Wheat, Tony Thaxton, George Carmichael, Travares Comegys, Stacy Comegys and Anthony Page

EXECUTIVE SESSION



Councilperson Thaxton moved, seconded by Councilperson T. Comegy that the Council move into Closed Session to discuss the necessity of an Executive Session.

Upon roll call vote, the result was as follows:

YEAS: Capers, Wheat, Thaxton, Carmichael, S. Comegys, T. Comegys, Page

NAYS: None

ABSTAINING: None

ABSENT: None

The President thereupon declared the motion carried, this the 5<sup>th</sup> day of June, A. D., 2018.

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Following discussion, Councilperson Thaxton moved, seconded by Councilperson T. Comegys that the Council move into Executive Session for the purpose of personnel issues.

Upon roll call vote, the result was as follows:

YEAS: Capers, Wheat, Thaxton, Carmichael, S. Comegys, T. Comegys, Page

NAYS: None

ABSTAINING: None

ABSENT: None

The President thereupon declared the motion carried and the Council to be in Executive Session, this the 5<sup>th</sup> day of June, A. D., 2018.

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Upon motion by Councilperson T. Comegys, seconded by Councilperson Wheat all Council Members present voting ay, the President declared the meeting to be back in Open Session, this the 5<sup>th</sup> day of June, A. D., 2018.

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With no objections to adjourning, the President George Carmichael declared the meeting adjourned to Tuesday, June 19<sup>th</sup>, 2018 this the 5<sup>th</sup> day of June A. D., 2018.

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PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL  
COUNCILPERSON WARD 4

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COUNCILPERSON WARD 1

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COUNCILPERSON WARD 5

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COUNCILPERSON WARD 2

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COUNCILPERSON WARD 6

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COUNCILPERSON WARD 3

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COUNCILPERSON WARD 7

ATTEST:

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CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

\_\_\_\_\_  
MAYOR

ATTEST:

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

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