



City of Laurel

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

Regular Meeting Minutes City Council

Tuesday, March 6, 2018

5:30 PM

Council Chambers

CALL TO ORDER

PRAYER

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

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

Staff Absent: 1 - City Attorney Deidra Bassi

Councilman Travares Comegys

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. [ID 18-2900](#) February 20, 2018

Attachments: [CoL Minutes of 022018 2](#)

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

Add Agenda Item 4W, Consider adopting an Order Accepting one (1) bid on a 20' Boxing Ring.

Delete Agenda Item 4D, Consider adopting a Resolution to approve Professional Services Contract with Neel-Schaffer for the Geotechnical Investigation of the Gibson's property.

Delete Agenda Item 4E, Consider adopting a Resolution to award the construction of the Healthy Heroes Initiative #2 Police Training Academy Walking Track.

Delete Agenda Item 4T, Consider adopting a Resolution authorizing the Administration to enter into a contract for the purchase of a fire ladder truck.

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

2. PRESENTATION AGENDA

A. [ID 18-2909](#)

Monthly Budget Certification

Attachments: [CERTIFICATION FY17APR](#)

[SALESTAX 2018](#)

[TOURISMTAX 2018](#)

[REVENUE 2018](#)

Mary Ann Hess, City Clerk/Finance Director, presented the following Budget and Purchasing Certification for January 2018.

3. PUBLIC AGENDA

A. PUBLIC HEARING

1. SET PUBLIC HEARING

A. [ID 18-2913](#)

Consider adopting an Order to set a date of April 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 uncleanliness so as to be a menace to the public health and safety of the community.

a) Joe Richard Alridge, property in need of demolition at 1618 Martin Luther King Ave, PPIN 9692, WD 4

Attachments: [SETSFORAPRIL32018](#)

A motion was made by Councilperson Travares Comegys, seconded by Councilperson Tony Wheat, 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 Stacy Comegys, seconded by Councilperson Travares Comegys, 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 18-2912](#)

Consider adopting a Resolution to conduct a public hearing on March 6, 2018 in regard to the property at 336 N 14th Ave, which is owned by Sherren Taylor, 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. This property contains a dilapidated structure. WARD 6

Attachments: [sherrentaylorresolutiontodemomarch62018](#)

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

B. CITIZENS HEARING

C. CITIZENS FORUM

President Carmichael recognized Jean Wheeler, 1728 Martin Luther King Ave., Ms. Wheeler had some issues with the Councilmen being called racist. She stated that if 3 black Councilmen vote they are considered racist, but if 3 white Councilmen vote they are considered to be doing the right thing. She does not believe that any of the improvements to the school system are for the black or Hispanic children and stated you can call me whatever.

4. POLICY AGENDA

A. [ID 18-2923](#)

Consider adopting an Order granting authority to file a complaint against Magnolia Business Ventures, LLC to acquire a parcel of land for the Beacon Street Corridor Project.

Attachments: [OrderGranting AuthorityMagnoliaBusiness Ventures 2-27-2018harlow Exhibit A Magnolia Business Ventures property description 022818](#)

A motion was made by Vice President Tony Thaxton, seconded by Councilperson Travares Comegys, 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 18-2898](#)

Consider adopting a Resolution authorizing Mayor Johnny Magee, acting on behalf of the City of Laurel, to sign a contract with Neel-Schaffer, Inc. for Construction Engineering and Inspection Services for the Central Avenue at Fifth Avenue Roundabout Project.

Attachments: [MDOTCentralAndFifthAvenueRoundaboutRESAuthorizeContractCE&I ServicesNeelSchaffer.doc](#)
[MDOTCentralAndFifthAvenueRoundaboutRESAuthorizeContractCE&I ServicesNeelSchafferExhibitAMDOTLetter.pdf](#)
[MDOTCentralAndFifthAvenueRoundaboutRESAuthorizeContractCE&I ServicesNeelSchafferExhibitBContract.pdf](#)

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

C. [ID 18-2919](#)

Consider adopting a Resolution granting authority to advertise for bids for Construction of the 5th and Central Avenue Roundabout Project.

Attachments: [RESOLUTION-ADV BIDS.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

D. [ID 18-2924](#)

Consider adopting a Resolution to approve Professional Services Contract with Neel-Schaffer for the Geotechnical Investigation of the Gibson's property.

Attachments: [RESOLUTION Letter Agreement](#)

This Resolution was deleted during Confirmation of Agenda

E. [ID 18-2920](#)

Consider adopting a Resolution to award the construction of the Healthy Heroes Initiative #2 Police Training Academy Walking Track.

Attachments: [RESOLUTION Letter & Bid Tab](#)

This Resolution was deleted during Confirmation of Agenda

F. [ID 18-2906](#)

Consider adopting a Resolution stating the City of Laurel will provide a local match towards the completion of the 2018 Community Development Block Grant Project.

Attachments: [CDBG2018PublicFacilitiesPublicRESCommitLocalMatchingFunds.doc](#)
[c](#)

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

G. [ID 18-2907](#)

Consider adopting a Resolution authorizing commitment by the City of Laurel that the water system improvements proposed in the City's 2018 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Public Facilities Application will be designed, constructed, and implemented in such a way as to maintain the City's current Capacity Assessment Rating by the Mississippi State Department of Health.

Attachments: [CDBG2018PublicFacilitiesPublicRESCommitCapacityMaintenance.doc](#)
[c](#)

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

H. [ID 18-2908](#)

Consider adopting a Resolution authorizing commitment by the City of Laurel that the water system improvements proposed in the City's 2018 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Public Facilities application will be maintained for the life of the system and the City of Laurel will set aside a portion of the water fees for maintenance of the proposed water system improvements.

Attachments: [CDBG2018PublicFacilitiesPublicRESCommitMaintainenceOfImprove ments.doc](#)

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

I. [ID 18-2905](#)

Consider adopting a Resolution authorizing Mayor Johnny Magee, acting on behalf of the City of Laurel, to file an application to the State of Mississippi for a grant under its fiscal year 2018 CDBG Program and execution of a grant agreement with the Mississippi Development Authority should the application be funded.

Attachments: [CDBG2018PublicFacilitiesPublicRESAuthorizeApplication.doc](#)

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

J. [ID 18-2901](#)

Consider adopting a Resolution authorizing Mayor Johnny Magee, acting on behalf of the City of Laurel, to execute the First Amendment to a lease agreement between the City and the National Railroad Passenger Corporation for a specified portion of the Laurel Train Station.

Attachments: [RESAuthorizeAgreementAmtrakLease2018.doc](#)
[RESAuthorizeAgreementAmtrakLease2018ExhibitAAmendment.pdf.doc](#)

A motion was made by Councilperson Jason Capers, 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

K. [ID 18-2902](#)

Consider adopting an Order authorizing Mayor Johnny Magee, acting on behalf of the City of Laurel, to sign an agreement with Morris & Associates for professional services related to establishment of a promotions list for various ranks within the Laurel Police Department.

Attachments: [ORDAuthorizeCivilServiceAgreementMorrisAssociatesLPD2018.docx](#)
[ORDAuthorizeCivilServiceAgreementMorrisLPD2018ExhibitAAgreement.pdf](#)

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

L. [ID 18-2921](#)

Consider adopting an Order acknowledging donation from St. John's Day School to the Laurel Police Department.

Attachments: [PDDonationStJohnsDaySchoolFeb2018.docx](#)

A motion was made by Vice President Tony Thaxton, seconded by Councilperson Travares Comegys, 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

M. [ID 18-2903](#)

Consider adopting an Order authorizing sponsorship of an Awareness Luncheon in cooperation with Laurel High School Career and Technical Center and South Central Regional Medical Center.

Attachments: [ORDSponsorLHSAwarenessLuncheon2018.doc](#)
[ORDSponsorLHSAwarenessLuncheon2018ExhibitALetter.doc.pdf](#)

A motion was made by Councilperson Tony Wheat, 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

N. [ID 18-2925](#)

Consider adopting the First Reading of an Amended Ordinance enlarging, extending, and defining the corporate limits and boundaries of the City of Laurel, Jones County, Mississippi; specifying the improvements to be made in the annexed territory and the municipal or public services to be rendered therein; and for other purposes related thereto.

Attachments: [ANNEXATION2018OrdinanceAmendedMar2018](#)

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

O. [ID 18-2915](#)

Consider adopting the First Reading of an Ordinance to abandon the unused alleys and streets in Lake View Addition subdivision, which is bordered on the south by Buchanan St, on the east by N 1st Ave, and on the West by Lindsey Ave.

Attachments: [revisedabandonstreetsinlakeview2018](#)
[attachmentrelakeview20180227_08493137](#)

A motion was made by Councilperson Tony Wheat, seconded by Council President George Carmichael, 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

P. [ID 18-2910](#)

Consider adopting the First Reading of an Ordinance amending ordinance No. #1415-2002, #1497-2007, #1527-2008, #1542-2009, #1569-2010, #1583-2011, #1595-2012, #1603-2013, #1616-2014, #1624-2016, AND #1655-2017 from Chapter 25, "WATER", of the Laurel Code of Ordinances pertaining to Article IV. "RATES AND CHARGES", Section 25-53: WATER RATES.

Attachments: [ordinance - water 18](#)

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: 4 - Jason Capers, Tony Wheat, Tony Thaxton and George Carmichael

Nay: 3 - Travares Comegys, Stacy Comegys and Anthony Page

Q. [ID 18-2911](#)

Consider adopting the First Reading of an Ordinance amending ordinance Nos. 675-1973, 1416-2002, 1422-2002, 1528-2008, 1541-2009, 1568-2010, 1584-2011, 1594-2012, 1604-2013, 1615-2014, 1635-2016 AND 1656-2017 from Chapter 20, "SEWERS", of the Laurel Code of Ordinances pertaining to Article I. "SEWER CONNECTIONS" Section 20-11: SEWER RATE SCHEDULE.

Attachments: [ordinance - sewer 18](#)

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: 4 - Jason Capers, Tony Wheat, Tony Thaxton and George Carmichael

Nay: 3 - Travares Comegys, Stacy Comegys and Anthony Page

R. [ID 18-2916](#)

Consider adopting an Order to name the natatorium at the Susan B Vincent Sportsplex in honor of Meg Moore (The Meg Moore Natatorium).

Attachments: [megmoorenatatorium2018](#)

A motion was made by Councilperson Tony Wheat, seconded by Vice President Tony Thaxton, 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

S. [ID 18-2918](#)

Consider adopting an Order to approve certain budget amendments to the FY 2018 budget.

Attachments: [Budget Amendment Order March 06, 2018](#)

[Budget Amendment List March 06, 2018](#)

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

T. [ID 18-2922](#)

Consider adopting a Resolution authorizing the Administration to enter into a contract for the purchase of a fire ladder truck.

Attachments: [resolution - fire ladder truck](#)

[Apparatus Quote \(City of Laurel FD\) \(002\)](#)

[Shop Order \(Customer\) \(003\)](#)

[DSC 3758 \(002\)](#)

This Resolution was deleted during Confirmation of Agenda

U. [ID 18-2899](#)

Consider adopting an Order authorizing payment of expenses related to the travel of Mayor Johnny Magee to the Mississippi Association of Planning and Development Districts Conference in Biloxi, MS, April 24-27, 2018

Attachments: [ORDTravMAPDD2018.doc](#)

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

V. [ID 18-2914](#)

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

- A. Cleaning of property belonging to Alliance Energy Industries LLC, located south of 1608 Highway 84 West. Total Cost including \$75 administrative fee \$410 WD 1
- B. Cleaning of property belonging to Vincent Witherspoon, located at 1234 S 17th Ave. Total Cost including \$75 administrative fee \$225 WD 1

Attachments: [lotcleaningassessmentsmarch62018](#)

[march6lotcleaningbackup20180223_14420585](#)

A motion was made by Councilperson Jason Capers, seconded by Councilperson Stacy Comegys, 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

W. [ID 18-2927](#)

Consider adopting an Order Accepting one (1) bid on a 20' Boxing Ring.

Attachments: [order to accept bid on boxing ring 2018](#)

[Boxing ring bid 2018](#)

A motion was made by Vice President Tony Thaxton, seconded by Councilperson Travares Comegys, 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 18-2917](#)

Consider adopting a Resolution to approve the claims docket.

Attachments: [CLAIMS DOCKET RESOLUTION ONLY](#)

[WARRANT MARCH 06 2018](#)

[CLAIMS DOCKET MARCH 06 2018](#)

A motion was made by Councilperson Jason Capers, 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

EXECUTIVE SESSION