



City of Laurel

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

Regular Meeting Minutes City Council

Tuesday, May 8, 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 Council Clerk Sharon King and Deputy Council Clerk Judith Denham
- Staff Absent:** 1 - City Attorney Deidra Bassi

PRAYER

Councilman Tony Thaxton

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. [ID 18-3016](#) April 17, 2018

Attachments: [CoL Minutes of 041718](#)

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

Delete Agenda Item 2A., Presentation by Holly Green and Dr. Kevin Ivey regarding Northwood Drive Neighborhood.

Delete Agenda Item 4M., Consider adopting an Order approving the request that Chief Tyrone Stewart be allowed to attend the 2018 Mississippi Association of Chief of Police Conference on June 26-29, 2018 in Biloxi, MS.

Add Agenda Item 4T., Consider adopting a Resolution declaring the inclusion in Census Tracts 9504.01, 9504.02, 9505, 9506, and 9507 of Neighborhoods within the City of Laurel that need to be stabilized and revitalized in order to insure better housing for low income families.

Add Agenda Item 4U., Consider adopting a Resolution authorizing Mayor Johnny Magee, acting on behalf of the City of Laurel, to sign a Memorandum of Understanding with the Laurel Housing Authority for the application by that agency to the Federal Home Loan Bank for a Home Rehabilitation Grant.

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

2. PRESENTATION AGENDA

- A. [ID 18-2989](#)

Presentation by Mrs. Holly Green and Dr. Kevin Ivey regarding Northwood Drive neighborhood.

This Presentation was deleted during Confirmation of Agenda

B. [ID 18-3038](#)

Presentation of Peacemaking Scholarships for 2018 presented by Ward One Brighter Tomorrows Mentoring Program.

Attachments: [Scholarship Presentation](#)

This Presentation was presented by Councilperson Jason Capers, representative of the Ward One Brighter Tomorrows Mentoring Program, who presented (4) four scholarships to students of Laurel High School and residents of Ward One. The attachment entails the eligibility and criteria of selection and the requirements.

3. PUBLIC AGENDA**A. PUBLIC HEARING****1. SET PUBLIC HEARING****A. [ID 18-3029](#)**

Consider adopting an Order to set a date of June 5, 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) SKL Investments, dilapidated structure at 137 W 1st St. PPIN 11017, WD 5
- b) Beverly Whitten, dilapidated structure at 108 E 7th St. PPIN 8035, WD 5
- c) Rayford J and Tommy D Harris, dilapidated structure at 2705 Ridgewood Dr. PPIN 15518, WD 3
- d) Laveda Moody Thomas, overgrown property at 711 S 5th Ave. PPIN 9800, WD 6
- e) Melissa Satcher, overgrown property at 928 S 6th Ave. PPIN 12822, WD 6
- f) DAP Corp, overgrown property at corner of Garfield and S 4th Ave. PPIN 12773, WD 6
- g) Doris Gertrude Shaw, overgrown property at 428-430 Monroe. PPIN 9766, WD 6
- h) Matthew Harvey Jr, overgrown property at 807 S 7th Ave. PPIN 30586, WD 6
- i) Cleveland Massey, overgrown property at 963 S Maple St. PPIN 12512, WD 6
- j) Bernice Payton, overgrown property at 975 S Maple St. PPIN 12514, WD 6
- k) Brenda Marcombe, overgrown property at 987 S Maple St. PPIN 12517, WD 6
- l) Debi Dubose, overgrown property at 983 S Maple St. PPIN 12516, WD 6
- m) Luretha Oliver Bivens, overgrown property north of 907 S 8th Ave and south of 721 Garfield St. PPIN 10362, WD 6
- n) Liu Properties, overgrown property at 907 Sunflower. PPIN 13183, WD 1
- o) Patrick N Page % MS District Assemblies of God, overgrown property at 23 Sunset Ext. PPIN 9342, WD 1
- p) Emma Jean Graham, overgrown property at 2224 Center Ave. PPIN 14896, WD 7
- q) Hartfield Corp Inc, overgrown property at 1131 Capital St. PPIN 13141, WD 7
- r) Dinky Jones Properties LLC, overgrown property west of 519 Chantilly St. PPIN 12724, WD 5
- s) Melvin Jackson, overgrown property at 125 Hickory St. PPIN 14273, WD 5
- t) Laurel Lumber Co Inc, overgrown property at corner of 21st St and 1st Ave. PPIN 10127, WD 4
- u) Ed Reed St Est, overgrown property south of 128 Cook Ave. PPIN 9894, WD 5
- v) Michael T Lester, overgrown property at corner of E 3rd St and Cook Ave. PPIN 13520, WD 5
- w) Hazel Reeves Smith, overgrown property at 2109 N 3rd Ave. PPIN 15359, WD 4
- x) Eleanor Johnson Est % Roma M Perryman, overgrown property at 524 E 11th Ave. PPIN 9953, WD 5
- y) Plum Hill Properties, overgrown property east of 218 W 1st St. PPIN 14187, WD 5
- z) Sam Corriere Est % John Corriere, overgrown property at corner of 207 Masonite Dr. PPIN 14199, WD 5
- aa) Judah Missionary Baptist Church, overgrown property at 304 Masonite Dr. PPIN 14582, WD 5
- bb) Anita McDonald, overgrown property east of 118 Chestnut St. PPIN 30950, WD 4
- cc) G & S Properties LLC of Laurel, overgrown property at 2447 N 1st Ave. PPIN 15266, WD 4
- dd) F & L Rental Properties LLC, overgrown property at 2011 N 1st Ave. PPIN 8021, WD 4
- ee) Dorothy Nettles, overgrown property at corner lot Masonite and Ash behind 228 W 1st St. PPIN 14191, WD 5
- ff) Lee A Powe Est, overgrown property at 137 W 1st St. PPIN 11017, WD 5
- gg) Brenda Marcombe, overgrown property at 153 Chestnut St. PPIN 130946, WD 5
- hh) Brenda Marcombe, overgrown property at 155 Chestnut St. PPIN 130945, WD 5
- ii) Laurel Lumber Co Inc, overgrown property at corner of 2019 N 1st Ave. PPIN 31451, WD 4
- jj) Inspirational Holiness Tr Church, overgrown property at 1830 N 1st Ave. PPIN 12337, WD 4
- kk) Thomas Singleton, overgrown property at 1832 N 1st Ave. PPIN 12238, WD 4

Attachments: [setsforjune52018](#)

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

B. CITIZENS HEARING

C. CITIZENS FORUM

President Carmichael recognized Faye Jackson, 30 Country Club Drive, Ms. Jackson spoke about how nice the Downtown area was looking and how nice the lighting was but asked that we not forget about the outlying areas and street lighting.

President Carmichael recognized Romona Blackledge, Jones County Tax Collector, stated that she would retire at the end of her term, also she announced that she is part of a quartet and that they would be performing on June 7, 2018, she invited the Council to come out and support the group. She also had a CD for each of them and a flyer of the event.

4. POLICY AGENDA

A. [ID 18-3024](#)

Consider adopting a Resolution to accept Fiscal Year 2017 Audit Report.

Attachments: [RESOLUTION - Audit](#)
[PUBLIC NOTICE - Audit](#)

A motion was made by Councilperson Tony Wheat, 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 18-3021](#)

Consider adopting a 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.

Attachments: [AmeriCorps2018RESAuthorizeApplication.doc](#)

A motion was made by Councilperson Travares Comegys, 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 18-3034](#)

Consider adopting an Order acknowledging acceptance of four (4) picnic tables and three (3) waste receptacles from Believing, Building, and Growing, a 2018 Leadership Jones County Group.

Attachments: [Order](#)
[Shugs](#)
[Trustmark](#)
[Trustmark](#)

A motion was made by Councilperson Tony Wheat, 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

D. [ID 18-3035](#)

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

Attachments: [RESOLUTION](#)

[Letter](#)

[Bid Tab](#)

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 18-3033](#)

Consider adopting a Resolution granting authority to execute Change Order No. 1 for the Healthy Heroes Initiative #2 Police Training Academy Walking Track.

Attachments: [Resolution](#)

[Walking Track CO 1.pdf](#)

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 18-3027](#)

Consider adopting an Order approving the request of authorization to accept the bid for a Storm Pump for the Massey Wastewater Plant.

Attachments: [Order-Accept Bid for Storm Pump for Massey WWTP](#)

[Accept Bid for Storm Pump](#)

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

G. [ID 18-3036](#)

Consider adopting a Resolution authorizing the City to accept property located at the corner of Magnolia Street and Oak Street from Trustmark National Bank.

Attachments: [RETrustmarkParkAcceptParkPropertyTrustmark](#)

[Deed for Trustmark Park Property](#)

A motion was made by Councilperson Jason Capers, 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

H. [ID 18-3037](#)

Consider adopting a Resolution authorizing Laurel Main Street Association to construct and to accept the park furnishes as a donation from Laurel Main Street Association to be located on property donated to the City by Trustmark National Bank at the corner of Magnolia Street and Oak Street.

Attachments: [RESTRustmarkParkAcceptParkConstructAndFurnishingsMainStreetMay2018](#)
[RESTRustmarkParkkAcceptImprovementsMainstreet2018.pdf](#)
[List of Trustmark Park Improvements - Exhibit A to Resolution \(003\)](#)
[Trustmark Park description](#)
[Trustmark Park-Layout1](#)
[050118A2-TRUSTMARK PARK](#)

A motion was made by Councilperson Travares Comegys, 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 18-3010](#)

Consider approving the First reading of an Ordinance amending **Appendix III and Personnel Rules and Regulations: Chapter 7. Employee Benefits**, by renumbering the existing Section 7-5. *Other Types of Leave Available* to Section 7-6. *Other Types of Leave Available* and inserting Section 7-5. *Emergency or Administrative Leave Compensation*

Attachments: [ORDINANCEAmendPersonnelRegulationsPaidEmergencyLeaveFirstReading.doc](#)

A motion was made by Councilperson Tony Wheat, seconded by Councilperson Stacy Comegys, 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

J. [ID 18-3013](#)

Consider approving the First Reading of an Ordinance amending Chapter 2 of the Laurel Code of Ordinances by the addition of Article VI. *Maintaining Fixed Assets Records*, Section 2-101. *Conformity to State Law*, Section 2-102. *Fixed Asset Defined*, Section 2-103. *Fixed Assets to be Recorded*, and Section 2-104. *Fixed Assets Records Maintenance*.

Attachments: [ORDINANCE AmendChapter2Administratio toAddInventoryFirstReading.docx](#)

A motion was made by Councilperson Tony Wheat, seconded by Councilperson Jason Capers, 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

K. [ID 18-3020](#)

Consider adopting an Order confirming the re-appointment of certain members of the City of Laurel's Tree Board.

Attachments: [ORDAppTreeBoardGroupReAppoint2018.docx](#)

A motion was made by Councilperson Jason Capers, 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 18-3022](#) Consider adopting an Order authorizing application for Bullet Proof Vest Grant, commitment of local matching funds, and execution of documents necessary for acceptance of funds and implementation of project should grant be awarded.
- Attachments:** [PDORDApplication Bulletproof Vest Grant2018.docx](#)
- 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
- M. [ID 18-3008](#) Consider adopting an Order approving the request that Chief Tyrone Stewart be allowed to attend the 2018 Mississippi Association of Chief of Police Conference on June 26-29, 2018 in Biloxi, MS. -----
- Attachments:** [CHIEFS OF POLICE CONFERENCE 2018](#)
- This Order was deleted during Confirmation of Agenda**
- N. [ID 18-3007](#) Consider approving an Order allowing Cynthia Robertson to attend the 2018 Mississippi D.A.R.E. Training Conference on July 16-20, 2018 in Biloxi, MS.
- Attachments:** [D.a.r.e. Conference. 2018 BILOXI, MS](#)
- A motion was made by Councilperson Travares 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
- O. [ID 18-3015](#) Consider adopting an Order allowing the Laurel Police Department to accept private and public donations from local merchants.
- Attachments:** [Donation-OFFICER OF THE YEAR 2018](#)
- A motion was made by Councilperson Tony Wheat, 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
- P. [ID 18-3025](#) Consider adopting an Order to approve certain budget amendments to the FY 2018 budget.
- Attachments:** [Budget Amendment Order May 08, 2018](#)
[Budget Amendment List May 08, 2018](#)
- 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
- Q. [ID 18-3018](#) Consider adopting a Final Order for approving an application for Tax exemption on Ad Valorem for Masonite Corporation.
- Attachments:** [FINAL ORDER for Masonite Ad Valorem Exemption 2018](#)
[EXHIBIT A 2018](#)
[Exhibit B State Tax Comm Masonite](#)
- 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

R. [ID 18-3017](#)

Consider adopting a Final Order for Tax Exemption on Ad Valorem for Wayne Farms, LLC which was approved on June 20, 2017.

Attachments: [FINAL ORDER for Wayne Farms LLC 2017](#)

[Exhibit A 2017 adjusted](#)

[Exhibit B State Tax Commission 2017](#)

A motion was made by Councilperson Tony Wheat, 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

S. [ID 18-3023](#)

Consider adopting an Order for Tax Exemption on Ad Valorem for Howard Industries, Inc.

Attachments: [Order Approving Application of Howard Industries 2018](#)

[2018 Application Howards](#)

[Exhibit A Howards 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 18-3040](#)

Consider adopting a Resolution declaring the inclusion in Census Tracts 9504.01, 9504.02, 9505, 9506, and 9507 of Neighborhoods within the City of Laurel that need to be stabilized and revitalized in order to insure better housing for low income families.

Attachments: [RESLHANEighborhoodStabilizationAndRehabilitationCensusTracts2018.doc](#)

A motion was made by Councilperson Jason Capers, 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

U. [ID 18-3039](#)

Consider adopting a Resolution authorizing Mayor Johnny Magee, acting on behalf of the City of Laurel, to sign a Memorandum of Understanding with the Laurel Housing Authority for the application by that agency to the Federal Home Loan Bank for a Home Rehabilitation Grant.

Attachments: [RESAuthorizeLHAHomeRehabilitationPartnership2018MOU.doc](#)

[RESAuthorizeLHAHomeRehabilitationPartnership2018MOUExhibitAMOU.doc](#)

A motion was made by Councilperson Anthony Page, 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

5. ROUTINE AGENDA

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A. [ID 18-3031](#)

Consider adopting an Order to ratify the publication of notice of hearing for the May 10, 2018 Zoning public hearing.

Attachments: [phz0518](#)

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

B. [ID 18-3026](#)

Consider adopting a Resolution to approve the Claims Docket.

Attachments: [CLAIMS DOCKET RESOLUTION ONLY](#)

[WARRANT MAY 08 2018](#)

[CLAIMS DOCKET MAY 08 2018](#)

A motion was made by Councilperson Tony Wheat, 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