



City of Laurel

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

Regular Meeting Minutes City Council

Tuesday, November 6, 2018

5:30 PM

Council Chambers

CALL TO ORDER

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

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

PRAYER

Councilperson Jason Capers

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. [ID 18-3366](#) October 16, 2018

Attachments: [CoL Minutes of 101618](#)

A motion was made by Councilperson Jason Capers, 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 - Tony Wheat, Tony Thaxton, George Carmichael, Travares Comegys, Stacy Comegys, Anthony Page and Jason Capers

1. CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Councilperson Stacy Comegys, seconded by Councilperson Anthony Page, 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 3A2., Conduct a public hearing on properties in need of cleaning.
(A) Hazel Smith, 2019 N. 3rd Avenue
(B) John Reed, West of 1137 Spriggs Street

Add Agenda Item 4V., Consider adopting a Resolution granting authority to purchase necessary mitigation credits for the Sportsplex Expansion Project.

Add Agenda Item 4W., Consider adopting an Order adding additional items to the policy which allows the City of Laurel to exempt 9.42 mils from Ad Valorem Tax Exemption.

Add Agenda Item X., Consider adopting an Order amending an Order approving the application of Howard Industries, Inc. for an initial Tax Exemption for a period of ten years as authorized by Section 27-31-101, ET.SEQ., Mississippi Code of 1972, as amended.

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

2. PRESENTATION AGENDA

A. [ID 18-3369](#)

Monthly Budget Certification for the month of September 2018.

Attachments: [CERTIFICATION SEPT18](#)
[SALESTAX 2018](#)
[TOURISMTAX 2018](#)
[REVENUE 2018](#)

Mary Ann Hess, City Clerk/Finance Director, presented the following Budget and Purchasing Certification:

3. PUBLIC AGENDA

A. PUBLIC HEARING

1. SET PUBLIC HEARING

A. [ID 18-3370](#)

Consider adopting an **Order** to set a date of **December 4, 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) Anita & Orbie Wright Sr., overgrown property at 51 Oakcrest Dr., PPIN 9346, WD 1
- b) Lucious Newell, overgrown property at 1728 General Pershing St., PPIN 14130, WD 1
- c) Matthew Windham, overgrown property at Pineview & Walnut Dr., PPIN 12580, WD 1
- d) Doris Biglane, overgrown property at 324 Hillcrest Dr., PPIN 30612, WD 1
- e) Plumb Hill Properties, overgrown property at 716 Poplar Dr., PPIN 14773, WD 1
- f) Grover Mccann, overgrown property at 706 Rose Ave., PPIN 13395, WD1
- g) Anthony Page, overgrown property at 714 Rose St., PPIN 13396, WD 1
- h) Joe & Bessie Jones, overgrown property at 712 Poplar Dr., PPIN 13398, WD 1
- i) Jerry Coleman, overgrown property at 1952 Gladiolus Dr., PPIN 10209, WD 1
- j) Pearline Anderson, overgrown property at 1153 Capitol St., PPIN 13139, WD 7
- k) Helen Pugh, overgrown property at 11 Marie Dr., PPIN 9880, WD 7
- l) Van Miller, overgrown property at 1350 West Dr., PPIN 16111, WD 7
- m) Jimmie Wade, overgrown property at S of 2110 Palmer Ave., PPIN 14935, WD 7
- n) Helen Pugh, overgrown property at 1507 Airport Dr., PPIN 11211, WD 7
- o) Judy Beach, overgrown property at Lot on E 16th St., PPIN 9706, WD 4
- p) Admark Corporation, overgrown property at 1623 Mississippi Ave., PPIN 10983, WD 4
- q) Joann Wimberly, overgrown property at 205 E 18th St., PPIN 31189, WD 4
- r) Pace Property Investments LLC, overgrown property at Lot on E 18th St., PPIN 35355, WD 4
- s) Lynx Investments LLC, overgrown property at 911 North Joe Wheeler Ave., PPIN 12666, WD 5

Attachments: [sets for December 4 2018](#)

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

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

2. CONDUCT PUBLIC HEARING

This was deleted during Confirmation of Agenda

A. [ID 18-3377](#)

Consider adopting a Resolution to conduct a public hearing on November 6, 2018 in regard to the property at 2019 N 3rd Ave, which is owned by Hazel 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: [2019 N 3rd Ave](#)

This Resolution to Conduct Hearing was deleted during Confirmation of Agenda

B. [ID 18-3378](#)

Consider adopting a Resolution to conduct a public hearing on November 6, 2018 in regard to the property at West of 1137 Spriggs St, which is owned by John Reed, 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 7

Attachments: [W of 1137 Spriggs St](#)

This Resolution to Conduct Hearing was deleted during Confirmation of Agenda

3. GRANT HEARING

A motion was made by Councilperson Stacy Comegys, seconded by Councilperson Anthony Page, that Hakeem Bey be granted an appeal hearing. Upon roll call vote the President declared the motion carried by the results as follows:

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

A. [ID 18-3394](#)

Consider adopting an Order granting an appeal hearing for Mihaela Day, (husband Hakeem Bey to speak) to request the reversal of the Resolution/Demo on the property at 1012 N 4th Ave. This Resolution/Demo having been approved on November 7, 2017.

Attachments: [day grant hearing](#)
[dayresolutionwpictures](#)

A motion was made by Councilperson Stacy Comegys, seconded by Vice President Travares Comegys, that the Order be approved as amended, granting a six month extension. Upon roll call vote the President declared the motion carried by the results as follows:

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

B. CITIZENS HEARING**C. CITIZENS FORUM**

President Thaxton recognized Alexander McDonald of the 1200 block of N. 3rd Avenue. Mr. McDonald came before the Council and stated that he was having problems with the neighbors on parking spaces on the streets. He stated that the neighbor stated that a councilman told her she can park there and he had a problem with that statement, coming from an elected official. Mr. McDonald pleaded to the Council for something to be done to rectify this problem.

4. POLICY AGENDA**A. [ID 18-3386](#)**

Consider adopting an Order accepting a donation from the Coca-Cola Bottling Company to be used for city wide athletic programs.

Attachments: [ORDER DONATION COKE](#)
[PROGRAMS DONATION COCA-COLA](#)

A motion was made by Councilperson Stacy 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 - Tony Wheat, Tony Thaxton, George Carmichael, Travares Comegys, Stacy Comegys, Anthony Page and Jason Capers

B. [ID 18-3384](#)

Consider adopting an Order accepting a check from Walmart Inc Community Grant Program for two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500) for use by the Laurel Fire Department for exercise equipment and household essentials for all stations. -----

Attachments: [Council Order Walmart
wmcheck](#)

A motion was made by Vice President Travares Comegys, 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 - Tony Wheat, Tony Thaxton, George Carmichael, Travares Comegys, Stacy Comegys, Anthony Page and Jason Capers

C. [ID 18-3364](#)

Consider adopting a Resolution authorizing Mayor Johnny Magee, acting on behalf of the City of Laurel, to enter into an agreement with the Southern MS Planning and Development District for a Senior Community Service Employment Program.

Attachments: [RESAuthorizeAgreementSMPDDSeniorCommunityServiceEmploymentProgram2018-19](#)
[RESAuthorizeAgreementSMPDDSeniorCommunityServiceEmploymentProgram2018-19ExhibitA](#)
[RESAuthorizeAgreementSMPDDSeniorCommunityServiceEmploymentProgram2018-19ExhibitB](#)

A motion was made by Vice President 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 - Tony Wheat, Tony Thaxton, George Carmichael, Travares Comegys, Stacy Comegys, Anthony Page and Jason Capers

D. [ID 18-3372](#)

Consider adopting a Resolution granting authority to execute addendums for a Professional Services Contract for the Beacon Street Corridor Project.

Attachments: [RESOLUTION
Addendum](#)

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

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

E. [ID 18-3385](#)

Consider adopting a Resolution granting authority to execute a utility agreement with Mississippi Power Company for the Beacon Street Corridor Project.

Attachments: [RESOLUTION
utility Agreement - MS Power - Oct 2018 w Att.pdf](#)

A motion was made by Vice President 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 - Tony Wheat, Tony Thaxton, George Carmichael, Travares Comegys, Stacy Comegys, Anthony Page and Jason Capers

F. [ID 18-3365](#)

Consider adopting an Order to ratify expenses incurred by Rejeana Loper while attending the 31st Annual Urban Forestry Conference in Ridgeland, MS.

Attachments: [ORDER RATIFYING TRAVEL
OCT016006](#)

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

G. [ID 18-3388](#)

Consider adopting an Order approving the travel for the City Clerk, Mary Ann Hess and the Assistant Accountant, Lauren Stewart to the Mid-Winter Education Workshop in Jackson, Mississippi.

Attachments: [order - travel MMCCA Jackson](#)

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

H. [ID 18-3367](#)

Consider adopting an Order approving expenses incurred by the Council Clerk, Sharon King, while attending the 2018 Winter Education Workshop for Mississippi Municipal Clerks & Collectors Association in Jackson, MS on December 12-14, 2018.

Attachments: [ORDER approving travel for Municipal Clerk Certification for Council Clerk110618](#)
[2018 MMCCA Winter Education Workshop Annoucement](#)

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

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

I. [ID 18-3391](#)

Consider adopting an Order to approve travel per diem to Kristal Jones, Accountant/ Deputy City Clerk while attending HB1, 2018 First Extraordinary Session in Biloxi, MS.

Attachments: [Order - House Bill 1 Session](#)
[House Bill 1 Session Announcement](#)

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

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

J. [ID 18-3395](#)

Consider adopting an Order to approve travel for Cindy Pitts to attend DOR Tax Exemption Workshop in Clinton, MS.

Attachments: [order - travel DOR Clinton](#)
[FW Homestead Exemption Industrial Exemption workshops](#)

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

K. [ID 18-3373](#)

Consider adopting an Order approving the request allowing Christian Benson to attend the 2018 PATC Hidden Compartments and Other Areas of Concealment Seminar on November 19-20, 2018 in New Orleans, LA at an estimated cost of \$548.00.

Attachments: [Order approving travel for 2018 Hidden Compartments and Other areas of Concealment - BENSON](#)

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

L. [ID 18-3374](#)

Consider adopting an Order approving the request that Yolanda Powe be allowed to attend the 2018 (NACHO) National Animal Control & Humane Officer Academy in Hahnville (New Orleans), LA on November 5-9, 2018 at an estimated cost of \$651.00.

Attachments: [2018 National Animal Control & HUMANE OFFICER ACADEMY HAHNVILLE, LA](#)

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

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

M. [ID 18-3381](#)

Consider adopting an Order requesting that Laurel Fire Department be allowed to auction Unit # 814 and Unit #820 by Jeff Martin Auctioneers Inc, Hattiesburg, MS.

Attachments: [Order Allowing Auction in Laurel Fire Department contract102418](#)

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

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

N. [ID 18-3375](#)

Consider adopting an Order approving the request to return unused funds to the Healthy Heroes' Initiative Grant through the Blue Cross Blue Shield Foundation for the Laurel Police Department and City of Laurel.

Attachments: [AWARD PROJECT-WALKING TRACK EQUIPMENT- GRANT REFUNDS](#)

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

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

O. [ID 18-3383](#)

Consider adopting an Order approving the request for the Laurel Police Department to modify and extend the 2018 Mississippi Local Mosquito Control Support Grant.

Attachments: [EXTENSION ORDLPD2018 Mississippi Local Mosquito Control Support Grant MODIFIED \(002\)](#)

A motion was made by Councilperson George Carmichael, seconded by Councilperson Anthony Page, that the Order be adopted. Upon roll call vote the President declared the motion carried by the results as follows:

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

P. [ID 18-3368](#)

Consider adopting a Resolution granting a credit allowance to be approved on a list of insolvent or delinquent taxpayers on business personal property.

Attachments: [resolution - credit allowances DOC101918-10192018110827](#)

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

Q. [ID 18-3390](#)

Consider adopting a Resolution to approve an agreement between the City of Laurel and Trustmark National Bank for Investment Management.

Attachments: [Resolution - Investment Management Agreement](#)
[Investment Management Letter](#)

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

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

R. [ID 18-3389](#)

Consider adopting an Order to approve certain budget amendments to FY 2019 budget.

Attachments: [Budget Amendment Order](#)
[Budget Amendment List](#)

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

S. [ID 18-3393](#)

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

Attachments: [FINAL ORDER for MORGAN BROS. MILLWORKS 2018](#)
[Morgan Bros. Millwork Inc. - City of Laurel 2018 State](#)

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

T. [ID 18-3392](#)

Consider adopting an Order approving the Final Order for tax exemption on Ad Valorem for Howard Industries, Inc.

Attachments: [FINAL ORDER for Howard Industry 2018](#)
[Howard Industries Inc. \(Transformers\) City of Laurel 2018 State](#)

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

U. [ID 18-3371](#)

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

- A. Cleaning of property belonging to Martin Miss Investments LLC, located at East of 527 N 13th Ave, Total Cost including \$75 administrative fee \$165.00 WD 6
- B. Cleaning of property belonging to Eric & Joseph Sullivan, located at 424 W 18th Street, Total Cost including \$75 administrative fee \$220.00 WD 4
- C. Cleaning of property belonging to Glen Bolden, located at 614 Mississippi Ave, Total Cost including \$75 administrative fee \$130.00 WD 5
- D. Cleaning of property belonging to Tasha L. Brown, located at 623 E Kingston Street, Total Cost including \$75 administrative fee \$130.00 WD 5
- E. Cleaning of property belonging to B & C Farm Co., located at 1102 N 1st Ave, Total Cost including \$75 administrative fee \$130.00 WD 5
- F. Cleaning of property belonging to Shamon Woulard, located at 1503 N Meridian Ave, Total Cost including \$75 administrative fee \$195.00 WD 5
- G. Cleaning of property belonging to On Point LLC, located at 712 1st Ave N, Total Cost including \$75 administrative fee \$130.00 WD 5

Attachments: [ASSESSMENTS FOR NOVEMBER 62018](#)
[backup 11061820181022_15283515](#)

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

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

V. [ID 18-3398](#)

Consider adopting a Resolution granting authority to purchase necessary mitigation credits for the Sportsplex Expansion Project.

Attachments: [Resolution to Purchase Mitigation Credits](#)
[Laurel-BHMB Purchase Agreement](#)

A motion was made by Vice President 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 - Tony Wheat, Tony Thaxton, George Carmichael, Travares Comegys, Stacy Comegys, Anthony Page and Jason Capers

W. [ID 18-3402](#)

Consider adopting an Order adding additional items to the policy which allows the City of Laurel to exempt 9.42 mils from Ad Valorem Tax Exemption.

Attachments: [ORDER AMENDING POLICY re 9.42 mils](#)

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

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

X. [ID 18-3401](#)

Consider adopting an Order amending an Order approving the application of Howard Industries, Inc. for an initial Tax Exemption for a period of ten years as authorized by Section 27-31-101, ET.SEQ., Mississippi Code of 1972, as amended.

Attachments: [AMENDED ORDER APPROVING APPLICATION OF HOWARD INDUSTRIES](#)
[2018 signed Howard's Ad Valorem](#)

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

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

5. ROUTINE AGENDA

A. [ID-14-391](#)

Consider adopting a Resolution to approve the claims docket.

Attachments: [CLAIMS DOCKET RESOLUTION ONLY](#)

[CLAIMS DOCKET NOVEMBER 06 2018](#)

[WARRANT NOVEMBER 06 2018](#)

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

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION