



City of Laurel

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

Regular Meeting Minutes City Council

Tuesday, March 19, 2019

9:00 AM

Council Chambers

CALL TO ORDER

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

PRAYER

President Tony Thaxton

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. [ID 19-3589](#) March 5, 2019

Attachments: [CoL Minutes of 030519](#)

A motion was made by Councilperson Stacy Comegys, seconded by Councilperson Anthony Page, 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 Anthony Page, seconded by Councilperson Tony Wheat, 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 4T., Consider adopting a Resolution authorizing an application to the MS Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks for an increase of a grant request to improve tennis facilities at Daphne Park.

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

2. PRESENTATION AGENDA

- A. [ID 19-3583](#)

Monthly Report of Privilege Taxes issued for the month of February 2019.

Attachments: [Cover Letter](#)
[BL Monthly Transaction Report - 5057](#)
[New Business License List](#)

There came on before the City Council a report of privilege licenses that have been issued for the month of February 2019. This report can be reviewed in the City Clerk's office.

- B. [ID 19-3606](#)

Monthly Report of the Budget Certification.

Attachments: [CERTIFICATION FY19](#)
[SALESTAX 2019](#)
[TOURISMTAX 2019](#)
[REVENUE 2019](#)

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

C. [ID 19-3570](#)

Presentation from Dr. Toy Watts, Superintendent of Education for the Laurel Municipal Separate School District.

Attachments: [Laurel School District's Presentation 031919](#)

President Thaxton introduced Dr. Toy Watts, Superintendent of Education for the Laurel Municipal Separate School District. Dr. Watts presented the Mission, Beliefs, District Goals, Accountability Results and other goals set for the school years to come. (See attachment for full presentation)

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3. PUBLIC AGENDA

A. PUBLIC HEARING

1. SET PUBLIC HEARING

2. CONDUCT PUBLIC HEARING

A motion was made by Vice President Travares Comegys, seconded by Councilperson Anthony Page, 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 19-3568](#)

Consider adopting a Resolution to conduct a public hearing on March 19, 2019 in regard to the property at 722 E Elmo St., which is owned by Michael Roberts % Steven Roberts, 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. DEMO-WARD 4

Attachments: [722 E Elmo conduct](#)

A motion was made by Councilperson George Carmichael, 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

B. [ID 19-3569](#)

Consider adopting a Resolution to conduct a public hearing on March 19, 2019 in regard to the property at 273 Front St., 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. DEMO-WARD 6

Attachments: [273 Front Street](#)

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 - 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 19-3596](#)

Consider adopting an Order accepting the Annual Audit Report for FY 2018.

Attachments: [Accept audit report 2018](#)

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

B. [ID 19-3600](#)

Consider adopting an Order authorizing Mayor Johnny Magee to sign an agreement with Body Works for lease of the Multi-Purpose Room at the Natatorium.

Attachments: [ORDAuthorizeAgreementBodyWorksNatatorium2019](#)
[ORDAuthorizeAgreementBodyWorksNatatorium2019ExhibitA](#)

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

C. [ID 19-3604](#)

Consider adopting a Resolution giving authority to award construction of the 2019 Overlay Project - Contract III.

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

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

D. [ID 19-3593](#)

Consider adopting an Order accepting a quote on financing two single axle dump chassis with mounted dump body for the Sewer Lines Department.

Attachments: [order - financing dump trucks](#)
[DOC030619-03062019112406](#)

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

E. [ID 19-3608](#)

Consider adopting a Resolution authorizing application to the Mississippi Emergency Management Agency for a grant under its Hazard Mitigation Grant program.

Attachments: [RESAuthorizeApplicationMEMAHazardMitigationGrantBrownStreet2019](#)

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

F. [ID 19-3586](#)

Consider approving the Second reading of an Ordinance adding a certain section to the Laurel Code of Ordinances, Chapter 11, “Housing and Property Maintenance, *Article I, Division I, Section 11-15 “Temporary Parking for the Resident Disabled.*

Attachments: [amendment to chapt 11 parking for disabled](#)

A motion was made by Vice President Travares Comegys, seconded by Councilperson Tony Wheat, 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: 1686-2019

G. [ID 19-3587](#)

Consider approving the Second reading of an Ordinance amending Ordinance #1415-2002, #1497-2007, #1527-2008, #1542-2009, #1569-2010, #1583-2011, #1595-2012, #1603-2013, #1616-2014, #1624-2016, #1655-2017 and #1676-2018 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 19](#)

A motion was made by Councilperson Tony Wheat, seconded by Councilperson Stacy Comegys, 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: 1687-2019

H. [ID 19-3588](#)

Consider approving the Second 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, 1656-2017 and 1677-2018 from Chapter 20, “Sewers”, of the Laurel Code of Ordinances pertaining to Article I., “Sewer Connections: Section 20-11: Sewer Rates Schedule.

Attachments: [ordinance - sewer 19](#)

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: 1688-2019

I. [ID 19-3609](#)

Consider adopting an Order confirming the appointment of Capt. John Thomas “Tommy” Cox as Chief of the Laurel Police Department.

Attachments: [ORDConfirmLPDChiefCox2019](#)
[LPDChiefCox2019ResumeExhibitA](#)

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

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

J. [ID 19-3590](#)

Consider adopting an Order authorizing the appointment of Thomas Shows to the Tree Board.

Attachments: [ORDAppTreeBoardShows2019](#)

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

K. [ID 19-3605](#)

Consider adopting an Order regarding re-appointments of certain members to the City of Laurel's Tree Board.

Attachments: [ORDAppTreeBoardGroupReAppoint2019](#)

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

L. [ID 19-3581](#)

Consider adopting an Order approving the request to allow Tamesha Gray, Administrative Assistant, to attend the Emergency Services Administrative Professionals conference in Biloxi, MS, May 1-3, 2019 and approve the hotel, meals, travel, and registration expenses.

Attachments: [COUNCIL ORDER- ESAP 2019 \(TAMESHA GRAY\)](#)

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 19-3598](#)

Consider adopting an Order approving the request that Training Officer David Grasha be allowed to attend the 2019 Safariland Training Group Conference in Kenner, LA on June 10--13, 2019.

Attachments: [Safariland Training Group 2019---GRASHA](#)

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

N. [ID 19-3595](#)

Consider adopting an Order approving travel for Kristal Jones, Lauren Stewart, Cindy Pitts, and Sharon King to attend the Spring 2019 Educational Program - Advance Municipal Liability & Workers' Compensation Workshop March 28, 2019 in Hattiesburg, MS.

Attachments: [ORDER - Travel Hattiesburg](#)
[Travel - March 28, 2019 Hattiesburg MS](#)

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

O. [ID 19-3594](#)

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

P. [ID 19-3591](#)

Consider adopting an Order approving the application of Essmueller Company for renewal of Tax Exemption on Freeport Warehouse.

Attachments: [Freeport Warehouse Order Essmueller 3-2019](#)

[APPLICATION FOR ESSMUELLER 2019](#)

A motion was made by Vice President 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

Q. [ID 19-3592](#)

Consider adopting an Order approving an application for Tax Exemption for Howard Industries on Freeport Warehouse.

Attachments: [Freeport Warehouse Order Howard IND 2019](#)

[APPLICATION FOR HOWARD'S 2019](#)

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

R. [ID 19-3597](#)

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

A. Cleaning of property belonging to Robert Brown, located at 812 Jeffery Drive, Total Cost including \$75 administrative fee \$3034.50 WD 3

Attachments: [812 JEFFERY DRIVE DEMO ASSESSMENT](#)

[backup812jeffery20190311_10175125](#)

A motion was made by Vice President 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

S. [ID 19-3612](#)

Consider adopting an Order to accept the bid from Hydra Service, Inc. for the Upgrade to the MS Avenue Lift Station Pump and Controls.

Attachments: [Order-To Authorize Acceptance of Bid for Upgrade of MS Avenue Lift](#)

[Station Pump and Controls](#)

[Hydra Service, Inc.-Bid Opening March 4, 2019](#)

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

T. [ID 19-3610](#)

Consider adopting a Resolution authorizing application to the MS Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks for a grant to improve tennis facilities at Daphne Park.

Attachments: [MSWildlifeFisheriesParksGrant2019DaphneParkTennisCourts2ndResolution3.19.2019](#)

A motion was made by Vice President 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

5. ROUTINE AGENDA**A. [ID 19-3607](#)**

Consider adopting a Resolution to approve the claims docket.

Attachments: [CLAIMS DOCKET RESOLUTION ONLY](#)
[WARRANT MARCH 19 2019](#)
[CLAIMS DOCKET MARCH 19 2019](#)

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION