



City of Laurel

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

Regular Meeting Minutes City Council

Tuesday, March 3, 2020

5:30 PM

Council Chambers

CALL TO ORDER

- Present:** 6 - Vice President Jason Capers, Councilperson Tony Wheat, Council President Tony Thaxton, Councilperson George Carmichael, Councilperson Stacy Comegys and Councilperson Anthony Page
- Staff:** 3 - Mayor Johnny Magee, City Attorney Deidra Bassi and City Council Clerk Sharon King

PRAYER

Councilman Jason Capers

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. [ID 20-4153](#) February 18, 2020

Attachments: [CoL Minutes of 02182020](#)

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

- Yea:** 6 - Jason Capers, Tony Wheat, Tony Thaxton, George Carmichael, Stacy Comegys and Anthony Page

1. CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Councilperson Anthony Page, seconded by Vice President Jason Capers, 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:

Add Agenda Item 4O., Consider adopting an Order approving the request that the Laurel Police Department be allowed to apply for the Impaired Driving Grant in the amount of \$68,478.59.

Add Agenda Item 4P., Consider adopting an Order approving the request that the Laurel Police Department be allowed to apply for the Occupant Protection Grant in the amount of \$65,833.59.

Add Agenda Item 4Q., Consider adopting an Order approving the request that the Laurel Police Department be allowed to apply for the Police Traffic Services Grant in the amount of \$63,000.00.

- Yea:** 6 - Jason Capers, Tony Wheat, Tony Thaxton, George Carmichael, Stacy Comegys and Anthony Page

2. PRESENTATION AGENDA

- A. [ID 20-4164](#)

Presentation from Mayor Johnny Magee on the State of The City.

Attachments: [Mayor Magee's State of the City 2019](#)

3. PUBLIC AGENDA

A. PUBLIC HEARING

1. SET PUBLIC HEARING

2. CONDUCT PUBLIC HEARING

A motion was made by Councilperson Tony Wheat, seconded by Vice President Jason Capers, that the be conduct a public hearing. Upon roll call vote the President declared the motion carried by the results as follows:

Yea: 6 - Jason Capers, Tony Wheat, Tony Thaxton, George Carmichael, Stacy Comegys and Anthony Page

A. [ID 20-4157](#)

Consider adopting a Resolution to conduct a public hearing on March 3, 2020 in regard to the property at 144 S 14th Street, which is owned by Miranda Rogers, to determine whether 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: [144 S 14TH AVE](#)

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

B. CITIZENS HEARING

C. CITIZENS FORUM

4. POLICY AGENDA

A. [ID 20-4152](#)

Consider adopting an Order appointing Mitchel Michael “Bo” Asmar, Jr. as Ward 3 representative to the Civil Service Commission.

Attachments: [ORDAppCivilServiceCommissionAsmar2020](#)
[ORDAppCivilServiceCommissionAsmar2020.ExhibitA](#)

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

Yea: 6 - Jason Capers, Tony Wheat, Tony Thaxton, George Carmichael, Stacy Comegys and Anthony Page

B. [ID 20-4155](#)

Consider adopting a Resolution authorizing application to the Mississippi Commission for Volunteer Services and the Corporation for National and Community Service for the 2020 AmeriCorps Grant.

Attachments: [AmeriCorps2020RESAuthorizeApplication](#)

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

Yea: 6 - Jason Capers, Tony Wheat, Tony Thaxton, George Carmichael, Stacy Comegys and Anthony Page

C. [ID 20-4156](#)

Consider adopting a Resolution authorizing application by the City to the Federal Emergency Management Agency for a Firefighters Assistance Grant.

Attachments: [FEMAFirefightersAssistanceGrant2020RESAuthorizeApplication](#)

A motion was made by Councilperson Stacy 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: 6 - Jason Capers, Tony Wheat, Tony Thaxton, George Carmichael, Stacy Comegys and Anthony Page

D. [ID 20-4166](#)

Consider adopting an Order to amend the Order with Blue Cross Blue Shield of Mississippi the City's Health Insurance Carrier Agreement.

Attachments: [order - BCBS Rev Amendment](#)
[BCBS Revised Agreement](#)

A motion was made by Vice President 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: 6 - Jason Capers, Tony Wheat, Tony Thaxton, George Carmichael, Stacy Comegys and Anthony Page

E. [ID 20-4149](#)

Consider adopting an Order approving a special exception for Lemual Harrelson to operate a Towing and Recovery Service at 510 Cross Street.

Attachments: [special exception 510 Cross Street](#)

A motion was made by Vice President 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: 6 - Jason Capers, Tony Wheat, Tony Thaxton, George Carmichael, Stacy Comegys and Anthony Page

F. [ID 20-4150](#)

Consider adopting an Order granting a conditional use to George Blackwell, 320 W 5th Street to allow bar/restaurant business on the property in accordance with the Zoning Regulations for same.

Attachments: [conditional use blackwell](#)

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: 5 - Tony Wheat, Tony Thaxton, George Carmichael, Stacy Comegys and Anthony Page

Nay: 1 - Jason Capers

G. [ID 20-4151](#)

Consider adopting the First Reading of an Ordinance granting a zoning change from R-2 to C-2 on the property known as 724 & 728 N 14th Avenue. Ward 6

Attachments: [zoning change bell cabinet shop](#)

A motion was made by Vice President Jason Capers, seconded by Councilperson Anthony Page, that the Ordinance be approved on first reading. Upon roll call vote the President declared the motion carried by the results as follows:

Yea: 6 - Jason Capers, Tony Wheat, Tony Thaxton, George Carmichael, Stacy Comegys and Anthony Page

H. [ID 20-4154](#)

Consider approving the First Reading of an Ordinance amending and/or adding to the City of Laurel Zoning Codes C-2 General Commercial District.

Attachments: [Zoning Amendments ZA-20-01](#)

A motion was made by Vice President Jason Capers, 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: 6 - Jason Capers, Tony Wheat, Tony Thaxton, George Carmichael, Stacy Comegys and Anthony Page

I. [ID 20-4160](#)

Consider approving 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, #1655-2017, #1676-2018, and #1686-2019 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 20](#)

A motion was made by Vice President Jason Capers, 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: 6 - Jason Capers, Tony Wheat, Tony Thaxton, George Carmichael, Stacy Comegys and Anthony Page

J. [ID 20-4161](#)

Consider approving 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, 1656-2017, 1677-2018, AND 1687-2019 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 20](#)

A motion was made by Vice President Jason Capers, 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: 6 - Jason Capers, Tony Wheat, Tony Thaxton, George Carmichael, Stacy Comegys and Anthony Page

K. [ID 20-4148](#)

Consider adopting an Order advertising for bids on two (2) Excavators for the Public Works Department.

Attachments: [Excavator Order 2020](#)
[Notice to bidders Excavators 2020](#)
[excavator specs2-2020](#)

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

Yea: 6 - Jason Capers, Tony Wheat, Tony Thaxton, George Carmichael, Stacy Comegys and Anthony Page

L. [ID 20-4162](#)

Consider adopting an Order to approve certain budget amendments to FY 2020 budget.

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

A motion was made by Vice President 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: 6 - Jason Capers, Tony Wheat, Tony Thaxton, George Carmichael, Stacy Comegys and Anthony Page

M. [ID 20-4163](#)

Consider adopting an Order to approve travel for Kristal Jones to attend the Spring 2020 AmeriCorps Program Director and Financial Staff training to be held March 02-03, 2020 in Flowood, MS.

Attachments: [Order - Travel AmeriCorps Spring Training](#)
[AmeriCorps Financial Training March 2020](#)

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

N. [ID 20-4158](#)

Consider adopting an Order approving the request of Tamesha Gray, Administrative Assistant of the Laurel Fire Department to attend the Emergency Services Administrative Professionals conference in Biloxi, MS, May 6-8, 2020.

Attachments: [COUNCIL ORDER- ESAP 2020 \(TAMESHA GRAY\)](#)

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

Yea: 6 - Jason Capers, Tony Wheat, Tony Thaxton, George Carmichael, Stacy Comegys and Anthony Page

O. [ID 20-4170](#)

Consider adopting an Order approving the request that the Laurel Police Department be allowed to apply for the Impaired Driving Grant in an amount of \$68,478.59.

Attachments: [2020 IMPAIRED DRIVING GRANT](#)

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

Yea: 6 - Jason Capers, Tony Wheat, Tony Thaxton, George Carmichael, Stacy Comegys and Anthony Page

P. [ID 20-4171](#)

Consider adopting an Order approving the request that the Laurel Police Department be allowed to apply for the Occupant Protection Grant in an amount of \$65,833.59.

Attachments: [2020 OCCUPANT PROTECTION GRANT](#)

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

Yea: 6 - Jason Capers, Tony Wheat, Tony Thaxton, George Carmichael, Stacy Comegys and Anthony Page

Q. [ID 20-4172](#)

Consider adopting an Order approving request that the Laurel Police Department be allowed to apply for the Police Traffic Services Grant in an amount of \$63,000.00.

Attachments: [2020 POLICE TRAFFIC SERVICES GRANT](#)

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

5. ROUTINE AGENDA

A. [ID 20-4165](#)

Consider adopting a Resolution to approve the claims docket.

Attachments: [CLAIMS DOCKET RESOLUTION ONLY.docx](#)

[WARRANT MARCH 03 2020.pdf](#)

[CLAIMS DOCKET MARCH 03 2020.pdf](#)

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION