

The Town of Laurel
Mayor & Council Meeting
April 17, 2023

A Mayor & Council Meeting was held in the Meeting Room at the Laurel Fire Department, on Monday, April 17, 2023, beginning at 7:00 p.m. The following persons were in attendance Mayor John Shwed, President of Council Chris Calio, Council Members Randy Lee, Robin Fisher-Cornish, Cheryl Martin, and Donald Holden. Also, in attendance were Director of Code Enforcement Ken West, Public Works Director James Foskey, Chief Dan Wright, Judge Ruffin, Finance Manager Mary Introcaso, Recording Secretary Alexis Oliphant, and Town Manager Jamie Smith. It was noted that Councilman Jonathan Kellam was absent.

The Mayor & Council Regular Minutes of March 20, 2023, were presented for review and adoption. Councilman Holden made a motion to accept the regular minutes of March 20, 2023. Councilwoman Fisher-Cornish seconded the motion. Vote was 6-0, with Councilman Kellam absent.

The March 2023 Department Head Reports were presented for review.

- Director of Code Enforcement West stated No. #1 Chinese has submitted plans at the former Walt's Barbershop.
- Public Works Director Foskey stated he had no additions to his report.
- Chief Wright stated he had no additions to his report.
- Judge Ruffin stated she had no additions to her report.
- Finance Manager Introcaso stated she had no additions to her report.
- Town Manager Smith advised the town received one bid pertaining the construction of the pavilion at Tidewater Park. The bid is being reviewed and if awarded the construction can begin. Town Manager Smith stated One-Laurel, One-Day Event will be held on Saturday, May 20, 2023, featuring four events including the Plein Aire Event, the Watercolor Bus Painting, the Ballin' For God Tournament, and the St. Phillip's Strawberry Festival.

Councilwoman Martin made a motion to approve the March 2023 Department Head Reports. Councilwoman Fisher-Cornish seconded the motion. Vote was 6-0, with Councilman Kellam absent.

Town Manager Smith presented the Development Updates.

- **Whaley Property:** Developers received approval from Mayor & Council and are now working with state agencies for required state permits.
- **Commercial Site Rt. 13:** An entrance permit has been submitted to Del-DOT for their review.

- **Oak Street-** Concept Plan was submitted in March 2023 to P&Z Committee for a proposed residential site. The property is owned by the LRC where they're proposing 28 units with 14 townhome double units. They have three different cottage styles proposed. They could present formal plans in hopefully 2-months.
- **Self-Storage Sheds:** They have begun site work.
- **Laurel Dutch Inn:** They have begun construction and have installed windows.

Town Manager Smith advised Mayor & Council to review the Upcoming Events Document this spring.

- **April 21, 2023:** Laurel Little League Opening Night parade at 6:00 p.m. Parade route will begin at North Laurel and proceed to the little league.
- **April 22, 2023:** Laurel Little League Opening Day Games.
- **May 20, 2023:** One-Day, One-Laurel – Watermelon Bus Painting, Plein Air, Ballin for God, and St. Phillip's Strawberry Festival.
- **June 10, 2023:** Laurel Library Block Party.
- One-Laurel Meetings are held the 2nd and 4th Wednesday at Vital Church at 9:00 a.m.

The following elected officials took their Oath of Office: Mayor Elect John Shwed, Ward One Elect Carlos Oliveras, Ward 4 Elect Cheryl Martin, and Council-at-Large Ward 4 Elect Chris Calio.

Mayor Shwed explained the Election of President of Council must be decided. Councilwoman Martin made a motion to appoint Chris Calio as President of Council. Councilwoman Fisher-Cornish seconded the motion. Vote was 5-0, with President of Council Calio abstaining and Councilman Kellam absent.

Mayor Shwed presented former Councilman Lee a Town Tribute, a State Senate Tribute, and a House of Representatives Tribute for his service and dedication to the town. Councilman Lee served the town from October 2004 to April 2023. Councilman Lee thanked the Mayor & Council for the opportunity of working alongside of them and thanked the town staff for all their hard work.

Mayor Shwed stated he appreciates the voters who elected him as Mayor, and he considers himself the mayor of all the people of Laurel.

Councilwoman Martin thanked the town and their employees for their hard work and dedication. She urged the community of the importance of guiding our youth to keep them safe.

Councilwoman Fisher-Cornish welcomed Councilman Oliveras to the council. She advised we must stand up for our community for a brighter future.

Councilman Oliveras stated he and his family moved into the town four years ago and his goal is to network to help bring people together.

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Mrs. Ann Davis, resident of Pine Street, welcomed the newly affirmed Mayor & Council.

With there being no further business, Councilwoman Martin made a motion to adjourn the meeting. President of Council Calio seconded the motion. Vote was 6-0, with Councilman Kellam absent.

Regular Session Adjourned at 7:41 p.m.

Mayor

President of Council

Town Manager

Recording Secretary