

The Town of Laurel  
Mayor & Council Meeting  
April 21, 2025

A Mayor & Council Meeting was held at Laurel Town Hall in the Mayor & Council Chambers on Monday, April 21, 2025, beginning at 7:00 p.m. The following persons were in attendance Mayor John Shwed, President of Council Chris Calio, Carlos Oliveras, Robin Fisher-Cornish, George Lodato, Jonathan Kellam, and Donald Holden. Also, in attendance were Director of Code Enforcement Ken West, Public Works Director James Foskey, Chief Robert Kracyla, Judge Ruffin, Finance Manager Melissa Cassimore, Recording Secretary Alexis Oliphant, and Town Manager Jamie Smith via ZOOM.

Chief Kracyla presented the Police Officer Promotion Ceremony to the following officers for their new ranks PFC Jeremy Adams and PFC Spencer Sukar.

Mr. Dana Bolden, resident of 7<sup>th</sup> Street, requested if speed bumps could be installed between Elm Street and Belle Avenue due to the town already having speed bumps installed on West Seventh Street. Mayor Shwed stated Public Works Director Foskey, Chief Kracyla, and Town Manager Smith can review the request and present a recommendation to Mayor and Council.

The Mayor & Council Regular and Closed Session Minutes of March 17, 2025, were presented for review. Councilman Lodato made a motion to accept the regular and closed session minutes of March 17, 2025. Councilwoman Fisher-Cornish seconded the motion. Vote was 7-0.

The March 2025 Department Head Reports were presented for review.

- Director of Code Enforcement West stated he had no additions to his report.
- Public Works Director Foskey stated Poplar Street repaving project is near completion and they will soon begin the repaving project on Culver Drive. Councilman Oliveras inquired if the one-way sign on East Sixth Street can be corrected as it is bent. Public Works Director Foskey stated it is a state-maintained road but he can take a look at it.
- Chief Kracyla stated he wanted to thank all the alie agencies that helped assist this past weekend.
- Judge Ruffin stated she had no additions to her report.
- Finance Manager Cassimore stated she had no additions to her report.
- Town Manager Smith stated she had no additions to her report.

Councilman Oliveras made a motion to accept the March Department Head Reports as presented. Councilman Lodato seconded the motion. Vote was 7-0.

Mayor Elect Oliveras presented Mayor Shwed a Tribute of Appreciation for his 22 years of service.

Mayor Elect Oliveras presented Councilwoman Fisher-Cornish a Tribute of Appreciation for her 24 years of service.

State Representative Dukes presented Mayor Shwed a Tribute from the House of Representative for his 22 years of service.

State Representative Dukes presented Councilwoman Fisher-Cornish a Tribute from the House of Representative for her 24 years of service.

The following elected officials took their Oath of Office: Mayor Elect Carlos Oliveras, Ward Two Elect RogJenea Fisher, Ward 3 Elect Jonathan Kellam, and Council-at-Large Ward 3 Elect Donald Holden.

Mayor Oliveras stated he is very privileged to be Mayor and he thanked Nick Little and his family for their support.

Town Manager Smith explained the Election of President of Council must be decided. Councilman Lodato made a motion to appoint Chris Calio as President of Council. Councilman Kellam seconded the motion. Vote was 5-0, with President of Council Calio abstaining and one vacancy.

Mayor Oliveras presented the Appointment of Committees:

**Budget Committee**

- *President of Council Calio*
- *Councilman Kellam*
- *Mayor Oliveras*

Councilman Holden made a motion to accept the Appointments of the Budget Committee as presented. Councilman Lodato seconded the motion. Vote was 6-0, with one vacancy.

**Annexation Committee**

- *Councilman Holden*
- *Councilman Lodato*
- *Councilwoman Fisher*

President of Council Calio made a motion to accept the Appointments of the Annexation Committee as presented. Councilman Kellam seconded the motion. Vote was 6-0, with one vacancy.

**Street Committee**

- *Mayor Oliveras*
- *Councilman Holden*

- *Ward 1 Council (once confirmed)*

Councilman Kellam made a motion to accept the Appointments of the Street Committee as presented. President of Council Calio seconded the motion. Vote was 6-0, with one vacancy.

#### **Personnel Committee**

- *President of Council Calio*
- *Councilman Kellam*
- *Councilwoman Fisher*

President of Council Calio made a motion to accept the Appointments of the Personnel Committee as presented. Councilman Lodato seconded the motion. Vote was 6-0, with one vacancy.

Town Manager Smith stated a Celebration of Service pertaining former Mayor Shwed and former Councilwoman Fisher-Cornish will be held on Tuesday, May 6, 2025, at Abbotts from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. The invitation is open to anyone who wishes to attend.

Mayor Oliveras presented the confirmation of the Planning & Zoning Members and the Board of Adjustment Members. Councilman Kellam made a motion to accept the confirmation of the Planning & Zoning Members and the Board of Adjustment Members. Councilman Lodato seconded the motion. Vote was 6-0, with one vacancy.

#### **Planning & Zoning Members**

- *Chair Brent Boyce*
- *Planning Member Amy Handy*
- *Planning Member Randy Hill*
- *Planning Member Angie Calio-Quillen*
- *Planning Member Randy Radish*
- *Planning Member Dan Ash*
- *Planning Member George Sakellis*

#### **Board of Adjustment Members**

- *Chair Don Philips*
- *Member Randy Lee*
- *Member Valerie Crockett*
- *Member Jim LaRue*
- *Member Mary Lewis*

Councilwoman Fisher stated she is looking forward into serving and feel free in reaching out to her.

Councilman Lodato welcomed the newly elected officials and thanked Mayor Shwed for his service.

Mayor & Council Meeting  
April 21, 2025  
Page. 4

Councilman Kellam thanked everyone for attending and thanked the town staff for their hard work. He congratulated Mayor Oliveras and Councilwoman Fisher on their new elected positions.

President of Council Calio congratulated the newly elected and re-elected officials.

Mayor Oliveras thanked everyone for attending and stated as a community together we can do a lot more.

Councilman Lodato stated the residents have the power by utilizing their voice to help support the community.

Pastor Daniel Webster thanked Mayor Shwed for his service and congratulated the elected officials and provided a prayer.

Councilman Lodato made a motion to hold a closed session to discuss contractual and legal matters. Councilwoman Fisher seconded the motion. Vote was 6-0, with one vacancy.

Regular Session Recessed at 8:10 p.m.

Regular Session Reconvened at 8:50 p.m.

With there being no further business, Councilman Holden made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilman Kellam seconded the motion. Vote was 6-0, with one vacancy.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:51 p.m.

---

Mayor

---

President of Council

---

Town Manager

---

Recording Secretary