

CITY COUNCIL

BRENCIS D. SMITH
At-Large

JAMES KOLE
First Ward

ADRIAN G. SIMMONS
First Ward

KYLA M. CLARK
Second Ward

JEFFREY W. MILLS
Second Ward

Council meets second and fourth
Mondays of each month.



KEITH R. SYDNOR
Mayor

CHRISTIAN L. PULLEY, CPM
City Administrator

NEKESA MATLOCK
Deputy City Administrator

STEPHANIE P. ANDERSON
City Solicitor

SARA A. GREEN, CPM, MMC
City Clerk

(301) 725-5300

www.cityoflaurel.org

MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF LAUREL

8103 Sandy Spring Road

Laurel, Maryland 20707-2502

**WORK SESSION
MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF LAUREL
WEDNESDAY, JULY 1, 2026
6:00 PM
VIRTUAL MEETING
MINUTES**

The work session convened via Zoom at approximately 6:00 pm with Council President Brencis D. Smith presiding. Councilwoman Kyla M. Clark, Councilman James Kole, Councilman Jeffrey W. Mills, Councilman Adrian G. Simmons and Mayor Keith R. Sydnor were present. There were zero (0) members of the public in attendance.

The following staff members were also present: Nekesa Matlock, Acting City Administrator, Maria Morales, Administrative Assistant II, City Clerk's Office, Crystal Hypolite, Chief of Staff, Bill Bailey, Director, Department of Parks and Recreation, Marchelle LeBlanc, Director, Department of Human Services, Jay Meashey, Director, Department of Economic and Community Development, S. Michele Saylor, Director, Department of Budget and Personnel Services, Danny Selby, Director, Department of the Fire Marshal and Permit Services, James Cornwell-Shiel, Director, Department of Information Technology, Tommy Helms, Acting Director, Department of Public Works, Lauren Thompson, Acting Director, Department of Emergency Management, Deputy Chief Mark Plazinski, Captain Stephen Ivory, Joyce Jackson, Assistant Director, Department of Communications, and Stephanie P. Anderson, City Solicitor.

Agenda Item No. 2 was a Bid Recommendation- Laurel Police Department- Purchase of Ammunition. Chief Russell E. Hamill, Laurel Police Department presented the item recommending that the item be approved to make the purchase through The Gun Shop in the amount of \$65,000. President Smith noted that the item would be on the agenda for the July 13, 2026 meeting at 6:00 pm.

Agenda Item No. 3 was a Bid Recommendation- Laurel Police Department- Purchase of Unmanned Aerial System. Chief Russell E. Hamill, Laurel Police Department presented the item recommending that the bid be awarded to Skydio via Axon in the amount of \$89,649.60. President Smith noted that the item would be on the agenda for the July 13, 2026 meeting at 6:00 pm.

Agenda Item No. 4 was a Bid Recommendation- Laurel Police Department- Purchase of Peregrine AI System. Chief Russell E. Hamill, Laurel Police Department presented the item recommending the approval of a three-year contract with Peregrine AI in the amount of \$79,500 annually for each year of the contract. President Smith noted that the item would be on the agenda for the July 13, 2026 meeting at 6:00 pm.

Agenda Item No. 5 was Resolution No. 5-2026- A Resolution of the Mayor and City Council of Laurel, Maryland to Dissolve the No-Kill Community Animal Shelter Citizens Advisory Committee Established by Resolution No. 6-2023. Mayor Keith R. Sydnor presented the proposed resolution. Each Councilmember expressed their concern regarding the proposed resolution, and they were not in favor of dissolving the Committee. Therefore, there was no consensus to move the item forward at the time.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 6:56 pm.

Approved:

Date: *September 14, 2026*



Sara A. Green, CPM, MMC
City Clerk

Mayor and City Council Attendance Record

Work Session

July 1, 2026 6:00 pm

Virtual Meeting

Call to Order: 6:00 pm

Meeting Ended: 6:56 pm

Members of the Public: 0

~~Absent~~ Christian L Pulley ✓ Nekesa Matlock ✓ Bill Bailey ✓ Chief Russell Hamill
✓ Crystal Hypolite ✓ James Cornwell-Shiel ✓ Marchelle LeBlanc ✓ Jay Meashey ✓ Tim Miller
✓ S. Michele Saylor ✓ Danny Selby ✓ Lauren Thompson ~~Absent~~ Natalie Williams
✓ Stephanie Anderson ✓ Mark Plazinski + ^{HPD} Capt. Steve Ivory + Joyce Jackson, communications
+ Thomas Helms, DAW

Mayor and Councilmembers Attendance

✓ Councilwoman Clark ✓ Councilman Kole ✓ Councilman Mills
✓ Councilman Simmons ✓ President Smith ✓ Mayor Sydnor

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Work Session

Wednesday, July 1, 2026

6:00 PM

Agenda

Virtual Meeting

Watch the meeting on Laurel TV streaming live in your web browser at <https://laurelvtv.org/watch-live> or locally Laurel TV can be found on Comcast Channel 996 (HD), 71 (SD) or Verizon FiOS Channel 12.

1. Call to Order – Brencis D. Smith, Council President
2. Bid Recommendation- Laurel Police Department- Purchase of Ammunition
3. Bid Recommendation- Laurel Police Department- Purchase of Unmanned Aerial System
4. Bid Recommendation- Laurel Police Department- Purchase of Peregrine AI System
5. Resolution No. 5-2026- A Resolution of the Mayor and City Council of Laurel, Maryland to Dissolve the No-Kill Community Animal Shelter Citizens Advisory Committee Established by Resolution No. 6-2023
6. Adjournment



LAUREL POLICE DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF THE CHIEF

Item 2.

Russell E. Hamill, III
Chief of Police

811 Fifth Street, Laurel, MD 20707-5103 • Phone: 301-498-0092
www.cityoflaurel.org/police • lpd@laurel.md.us • Fax: 410-880-0817

May 26, 2026

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor Keith R. Sydnor
President Smith and the Laurel City Council
FROM: Russell E. Hamill, Chief of Police *REH*
SUBJ: Bid Recommendation for Purchase of Ammunition

The Laurel Police Department is requesting permission to purchase ammunition for Fiscal Year 2027 to be used in accordance with the training standards of the Maryland Police and Correctional Training Commission and this department.

Specifications:

We will be riding the Maryland State Contract #001B96600243 for this purchase through The Gun Shop.

Funding:

Funding for this purchase is included in the Adopted FY2027 Operating Budget in account #301-52571 entitled Ammunition Purchases with a line item total of \$65,000.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that the Mayor and City Council approve the purchase of ammunition in the amount of \$65,000 through the Maryland State Contract pricing with The Gun Shop.

Should you have any questions or desire further information, please contact me at (301) 498-0092, Extension 1130.

REVIEWED:

S. Michele Saylor

S. Michele Saylor, Director
Department of Budget and Personnel Services

06/12/2026

Date

Cc: Christian Pulley, City Administrator
Nekesa Matlock, Deputy City Administrator



LAUREL POLICE DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF THE CHIEF

Item 3.

Russell E. Hamill, III
Chief of Police

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June 2, 2026

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor Keith R. Sydnor
President Smith and the Laurel City Council
FROM: Russell E. Hamill, Chief of Police
SUBJ: Bid Recommendation for Purchase of Unmanned Aerial System

The Laurel Police Department is requesting permission to sign a five-year contract for the use of two Unmanned Aerial Systems from Skydio with funds allocated in the FY2027 Operating Budget. Skydio is affiliated with Axon and payments and billing will be handled by Axon.

The technology will allow the Laurel Police Department to start its first ever Drone as First Responder (DFR) program. Drones will be housed on city buildings and operated remotely by trained and FAA-certified personnel. The devices will be able to arrive over calls for service before officers arrive, and stream live video to dispatchers, responding officers, and supervisors.

The Skydio drones are fully integrated into our current Axon evidence ecosystem. Footage from the drones is automatically uploaded to Axon's evidence.com website. The Skydio drones can locate an officer's Axon body worn camera and in-car camera.

Procurement:

In selecting a DFR vendor, LPD Commanders spoke with numerous agencies and performed site visits with the Montgomery County PD's UAS team and the Anne Arundel County PD's UAS team. We obtained quotes from three companies: Skydio, Paladin, and Brinc. Ultimately, LPD selected Skydio because of their Axon integration, their use of US manufactured drones that are not subject to federal import restrictions, and their reputation with area law enforcement for ease of use and robust customer support. The Skydio platform was used on a trial basis during the week of Preakness 151 and exceeded our expectations.

Bids:

1. Skydio \$89,649.60 annually for five-year contract, US manufactured
2. Brinc \$120,000 annually, free first year, four-year contract,
US manufactured
3. Paladin \$122,000 first year, \$74,000 annually after, Chinese manufactured



LAUREL POLICE DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF THE CHIEF

Item 3.

Russell E. Hamill, III
Chief of Police

811 Fifth Street, Laurel, MD 20707-5103 • Phone: 301-498-0092
www.cityoflaurel.org/police • lpd@laurel.md.us • Fax: 410-880-0817

Funding:

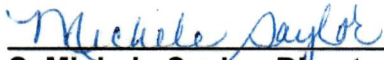
Funding for this purchase is included in the Adopted FY2027 Operating Budget – Department of Information Technology account 52312-Evidence Recording & Collections.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that the Mayor and City Council approve a five-year contract with Skydio via Axon in the amount of \$89,649.60 annually for each year of the contract.

Should you have any questions or desire further information, please contact me at (301) 498-0092, Extension 1130.

REVIEWED:



S. Michele Saylor, Director
Department of Budget and Personnel Services



Date

Cc: Nekesa Matlock, Acting City Administrator
Tim Miller, Acting Deputy City Administrator



LAUREL POLICE DEPARTMENT

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF

Item 4.

Russell E. Hamill, III
Chief of Police

811 Fifth Street, Laurel, MD 20707-5103 • Phone: 301-498-0092
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June 12, 2026

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor Keith R. Sydnor
President Smith and the Laurel City Council
FROM: Russell E. Hamill, Chief of Police
SUBJ: Bid Recommendation for Purchase of Peregrine AI

The Laurel Police Department is requesting permission to contract with Peregrine AI to use their application to enhance the Laurel Police Department's data analytics.

The Peregrine AI system will aggregate and analyze data from a number of existing data sources, including the police department's Records Management System and Computer Aided Dispatch, as well as transcripts from body worn camera videos and license plate readers. The AI tools can quickly summarize investigations, perform link analysis with persons and vehicles, and allow the agency's crime analyst to do in minutes what typically takes hours or days to accomplish. Deep crime analysis will no longer be restricted to only the department's most serious crimes and will become a tool that all officers can deploy in their routine investigations.

The Peregrine product was deployed for a demonstration during the week of Preakness 151 and proved to be a valuable tool during several incidents.

Procurement:

Peregrine AI is a sole source provider who uses a patented technology to handle "de-duplication" of data records. The Prince George's County Police Department is a current client of Peregrine AI and procured them via sole source. The "de-duplication" technology sold exclusively by Peregrine allows for the identification and consolidation of duplicate database entries. Duplicate entity records are a serious concern in our current police records management software, and this technology solution would be of great value.

Funding:

Funding for this purchase is included in the Adopted FY2027 Operating Budget – Department of Information Technology account 52312-Law Enforcement Intelligence Systems.



LAUREL POLICE DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF THE CHIEF

Item 4.

Russell E. Hamill, III
Chief of Police

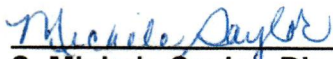
811 Fifth Street, Laurel, MD 20707-5103 • Phone: 301-498-0092
www.cityoflaurel.org/police • lpd@laurel.md.us • Fax: 410-880-0817

Recommendation:

It is recommended that the Mayor and City Council approve a three-year contract with Peregrine AI in the amount of \$79,500 annually for each year of the contract.

Should you have any questions or desire further information, please contact me at (301) 498-0092, Extension 1130.

REVIEWED:



S. Michele Saylor, Director
Department of Budget and Personnel Services

06/12/2026

Date

Cc: Nekesa Matlock, Acting City Administrator
Tim Miller, Acting Deputy City Administrator



CITY OF LAUREL, MARYLAND

Item 5.

RESOLUTION NO. 5-2026

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF LAUREL, MARYLAND TO DISSOLVE THE NO-KILL COMMUNITY ANIMAL SHELTER CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE ESTABLISHED BY RESOLUTION NO. 6-2023

Sponsored by the President at the request of the Administration.

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Council of Laurel, Maryland adopted Resolution No. 6-2023 on July 10, 2023, establishing the No-Kill Community Animal Shelter Citizens Advisory Committee; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of the Committee was to provide input, guidance, and recommendations regarding the development and implementation of a no-kill community animal shelter initiative; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Council have reviewed the current structure, effectiveness, and ongoing need for the Committee; and

WHEREAS, it has been determined that the Committee is no longer necessary in its current form, or that its responsibilities may be more effectively managed through existing City operations, partnerships, or administrative processes; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Council desire to formally dissolve the No-Kill Community Animal Shelter Citizens Advisory Committee.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Resolution No. 6-2023 originally adopted on July 10, 2023 is hereby repealed in its entirety; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the No-Kill Community Animal Shelter Citizens Advisory Committee established by Resolution No. 6-2023 is hereby dissolved and all appointments to the Committee shall terminate upon the effective date of this Resolution; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all records, documents, and materials associated with the Committee shall be transferred to the Office of the City Clerk for the proper archiving according to the applicable records retention policy.

AND, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution shall take effect on the date of its adoption.

ADOPTED this _____ day of _____, 2026.

ATTEST:

SARA A. GREEN, CPM, MMC
City Clerk

BRENCIS D. SMITH
President of the City Council

APPROVED this _____ day of _____, 2026.

KEITH R. SYDNOR
Mayor