

**CITY COUNCIL**

CHRISTINE M. JOHNSON  
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.



**MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF LAUREL**

8103 Sandy Spring Road  
Laurel, Maryland 20707-2502

KEITH R. SYDNOR  
Mayor

CHRISTIAN L. PULLEY, CPM  
City Administrator

TIM MILLER  
Acting Deputy City Administrator

STEPHANIE P. ANDERSON  
City Solicitor

SARA A. GREEN, CPM, MMC  
City Clerk

(301) 725-5300

[www.cityoflaurel.org](http://www.cityoflaurel.org)

**THIRTY-FIRST REGULAR MEETING  
MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF LAUREL  
MONDAY, APRIL 28, 2025  
6:00 PM  
IN-PERSON MEETING  
MINUTES**

The meeting convened in the Council Chamber of the Joseph R. Robison Laurel Municipal Center at approximately 6:30 pm with Council President Kyla M. Clark presiding. Councilwoman Christine M. Johnson, Councilman James Kole, Councilman Jeffrey W. Mills, Councilman Adrian G. Simmons, and Mayor Keith R. Sydnor were present. There were approximately six (6) members of the public in attendance. *Note: Meeting started late due to 5:00 pm Special Work Session running overtime.*

The following staff members were also present: Christian L. Pulley, CPM, City Administrator, Tim Miller, Acting Deputy City Administrator, Sara A. Green, CPM, MMC, City Clerk, Monta L. Burrough, Director, Department of Economic and Community Development, Chrissy Cornwell, Director, Department of Emergency Management, Chief Russell E. Hamill, III, LPD, Tommy Helms, Acting Director, Department of Public Works, Marchelle LeBlanc, Director, Department of Human Services, S. Michele Saylor, Director, Department of Budget and Personnel Services, James Cornwell-Shiel, Director, Department of Information Technology, Deputy Chief Mark Plazinski, Natalie Williams, Director, Department of Communications, Tim Van DerVossen, Assistant Director, Department of Parks and Recreation, and Stephanie P. Anderson, City Solicitor.

Agenda Item No. 4 was approval of the minutes from the April 14, 2025 Mayor and City Council meeting. Councilman Kole made a motion to approve the minutes as written. The motion was seconded by Councilman Mills and carried on a roll call vote of all Councilmembers present.

Next, the Mayor and City Councilmembers provided their reports regarding events and happenings since the last meeting and made announcements regarding upcoming meetings and events.

Mayor Sydnor noted that the following Proclamations had been issued by his Office:

- Global Love Day
- Frontline Worker Appreciation Month



- Municipal Clerks Week
- International Compost Awareness Week
- Teacher Appreciation Week

Agenda Item No. 6 was the following Mayoral Appointment:

- Sharon Gibbs Cooper Emergency Services Commission 04/28/2025-04/28/2030

Councilman Simmons made a motion to confirm the appointment of Ms. Gibbs Cooper. Councilman Kole seconded the motion that was carried on a roll call vote of all Councilmembers present.

Agenda Item No. 7 was the General Public Hearing. President Clark opened the General Public Hearing at approximately 7:03 pm. Xerxes Olaseha, 8301 Ashford Boulevard Laurel, Maryland 20707 was signed up to speak. Mr. Olaseha requested more teen activities in the City of Laurel. There was no one else signed up to speak. President Clark closed the General Public Hearing at approximately 7:05 pm.

Agenda Item No. 8 was the Second Public Hearing with Possible Action on Resolution No. 4-2025-A Resolution of the Mayor and City Council of Laurel, Maryland to Set the Date, Time and Polling Location for Early Voting in the City of Laurel for the General Election of November 2025. President Clark read the title into the record for the second reading. Sara A. Green, CPM, MMC, City Clerk presented the resolution noting that Early Voting would be set for Saturday, November 1, 2025 at both the Joseph R. Robison Laurel Municipal Center, and the Robert J. DiPietro Community Center from 9:00 am-5:00 pm. President Clark opened the public hearing at 7:06 pm. There was no one signed up to speak. President Clark closed the public hearing at 7:06 pm. Councilman Mills made a motion to approve Resolution No. 4-2024 as presented. Councilman Simmons seconded the motion that was carried on a roll call vote of all Councilmembers present. Mayor Sydnor concurred with the vote.

Agenda Item No. 9 was the Second Public Hearing with Possible Action on Resolution No. 5-2025-A Resolution of the Mayor and City Council of Laurel, Maryland to Pay Tribute to Emancipation Day. President Clark read the title into the record for the first public hearing and presented the proposed resolution. President Clark opened the public hearing at approximately 7:08 pm. There was no one signed up to speak. President Clark closed the public hearing at approximately 7:09 pm. Councilman Simmons made a motion to approve Resolution No. 5-2025 as presented. Councilman Mills seconded the motion that was carried on a roll call vote of all Councilmembers. Mayor Sydnor concurred with the vote.

Agenda Item No. 10 was originally Introduction and First Public Hearing on Ordinance No. 2038 regarding election law amendments. However, the item was on the Special Work Session agenda for 5:00 pm that evening and was not moved forward to the regular meeting scheduled for 6:00 pm, so it was eliminated from the regular meeting agenda.

Next, Agenda Item No. 11 was Introduction and First Public Hearing on Charter Resolution No. 181-A Charter Resolution of the Mayor and City Council of Laurel, Maryland Amending, Rearranging and Renumbering Article 600 "Registrations and Elections", Section 601- "Voters and Registration"; Section 602- "Election of Mayor and Councilmembers"; Section 603 "Ward Boundaries"; Section 604- "Polling Places"; Section 605- "Voting Procedures"; Section 606- "Same Day Registration"; Section 607 "Vote-By-Mail-Ballots"; Section 608- "Electioneering"; Section 609 "Election Equipment and Sample Ballots"; Section 610- Compliance With Eligibility Requirements, Attendance, Recall, Disqualification and



Suspension of Elected Officials"; Section 611- "Recall of Elected Official"; Section 612- "Grounds for Recall of Elected Official"; Section 613- "Suspension of Elected Officials"; Section 614- "Referenda"; Section 615- "Advisory Referenda"; Section 616- Adoption and Incorporation of State Law Provisions"; Section 617- Extraordinary Powers- Civil Emergency." President Clark read the title into the record for the first reading. A brief discussion ensued regarding proposed language in the Charter Amendment related to suspension and removal of elected officials. Mayor Sydnor noted that he would be proposing some language edits for the section that would allow for due process in the event an elected official is accused of a crime and convicted.

Agenda Item No. 12 was Possible Adjournment to Closed Session. The Authority for the Closed Session is contained in the Open Meetings Act General Provisions Section 3-305 (b) (7) to consult with counsel to obtain legal advice and Section 3-305 (b) (13) to comply with a specific constitutional, statutory, or judicially imposed requirement that prevents public disclosures about a particular proceeding or matter regarding an internal operational policy.

President Clark asked for a motion to adjourn to closed session. Councilman Kole made a motion to adjourn to closed session that was seconded by Councilwoman Johnson. Roll call continued with Councilman Jeffrey W. Mills, Councilman Adrian G. Simmons, and President Clark voting "Yes". Mayor Sydnor concurred. President Clark read the following statement into the record:

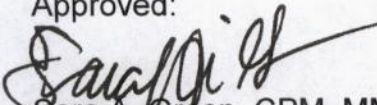
"The following statement is made regarding the adjournment of the Mayor and City Council to Closed Session on this date:

The Authority for this Closed Session is contained in the Open Meetings Act General Provisions Section 3-305 (b) (7) to consult with counsel to obtain legal advice and Section 3-305 (b) (13) to comply with a specific constitutional, statutory, or judicially imposed requirement that prevents public disclosures about a particular proceeding or matter regarding an internal operational policy."

President Clark noted that the Mayor and City Council would reconvene the regular meeting immediately following the closed session. The Mayor and City Council adjourned to closed session at approximately 7:14 pm and noted that a five (5) minute break would be taken prior to entering closed session. Therefore, the closed session began at approximately 7:22 pm. The following people were present at the closed session: Mayor Keith R. Sydnor, Kyla M. Clark, Council President, Christine M. Johnson, Councilwoman, James Kole, Councilman, Jeffrey W. Mills, Councilman, Adrian G. Simmons, Christian L. Pulley, CPM, City Administrator, Tim Miller, Acting Deputy City Administrator, Sara A. Green, CPM, MMC, City Clerk, James Cornwell-Shiel, Director, Department of Information Technology, Natalie Williams, Director, Department of Communications, and Stephanie P. Anderson, City Solicitor. The topic discussed during the closed session was the City's Social Media Policy regarding elected officials. Actions taken during closed session: None. No votes were taken during closed session. The closed session was adjourned at approximately 8:47 pm.

The Mayor and City Council returned to the Chamber and reconvened the regular open meeting. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:50 pm.

Approved:

  
Sara A. Green, CPM, MMC  
City Clerk

Date: *may 28, 2025*



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**MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF LAUREL**

8103 Sandy Spring Road

Laurel, Maryland 20707-2502

**THIRTY-FIRST REGULAR MEETING**

**Monday, April 28, 2025**

**6:00 PM**

**Agenda**

**In-Person 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 – Kyla M. Clark, President
2. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, Mayor Keith R. Sydnor
3. Roll Call- Sara A. Green, CPM, MMC, City Clerk
4. Approval of Minutes
  - April 14, 2025 Regular Meeting
5. Report of the Mayor and City Council
6. Mayoral Appointment
  - Sharon Gibbs Cooper Emergency Services Commission 04/28/25-04/28/30
7. General Public Hearing
8. Second Public Hearing with Possible Action on Resolution No. 4-2025- A Resolution of the Mayor and City Council of Laurel, Maryland to Set the Date, Time and Polling Location for Early Voting in the City of Laurel for the General Election of November 2025
9. Second Public Hearing with Possible Action on Resolution No. 5-2025- A Resolution of the Mayor and City Council of Laurel, Maryland to Pay Tribute to Emancipation Day



10. Introduction and First Public Hearing on Ordinance No. 2038- An Ordinance of the Mayor and City Council of Laurel, Maryland to Amend Chapter 6 Article I, Section 6.1- Purpose, Section 6-2- Applicability, Section 6-3- Definitions, Article II, Section 6-4- The Board of Election Supervisors and Election Judges- Appointments, Section 6-5- Powers and Duties of the Board of Election Supervisors, Section 6-6- Compensation and Oaths of Board of Election Supervisors, Article Iii, Voters, Section 6-7- Voters Lists, Article Iv- Candidates for Public Office, Section 6-9- Nominations and Certificates of Candidacy, Section 6-10- Qualifications for Candidates for Public Office, Section 6-11, Acceptance of Nominations For Public Office, Section 6-12- Candidates to Comply with Laws and Regulations, Section 6-13- Election of Public Officials to be Non-Partisan, Article V- Conduct of Elections, Section 6-14- Establishment of Ward Election Districts, Section 6-15 Election Day, Section 6-16- Electioneering Activities, Section 6-17 Conduct at Polling Places, Section 6-18- Challengers and Watchers, Section 6-19- Campaign Materials, Section 6-20- Canvass of Election, Section 6-21- Returns, Section 6-22- Certification of Results, Section 6-23- Recounts, Article Vi- Fair Campaign Finance Act, Section 6-24- Distribution of Summary of Election Laws, Section 6-25- Appointment of Campaign Treasurer; Candidate Joining Ticket or Slate, Section 6-26- Contributions and Expenditures of Pass Through Treasurer, Section 6-27- Books, Records, and Receipts of Treasurer, Section 6-28- Contributions of Candidate, Section 6-29- Limits of Contributions; Section 6-30- Expenditures by Treasurer, Section 6-31- Election Reports to be Filed by Treasurer, Section 6-32- Requirements for Filing of Reports by Successful Candidate, Section 6-33- Maintenance of Reports, Article V- Violations of Election Laws and Applicable Penalties, Section 6-34- Prohibited Conduct, Section 6-35- Penalties for Certain Prohibited Conduct; and Providing an Effective Date.

11. Introduction and First Public Hearing on Charter Resolution No. 181- A Charter Resolution of the Mayor and City Council of Laurel, Maryland Amending, Rearranging and Renumbering Article 600 "Registrations and Elections", Section 601- "Voters and Registration"; Section 602- "Election of Mayor and Councilmembers"; Section 603 "Ward Boundaries"; Section 604- "Polling Places"; Section 605- "Voting Procedures"; Section 606- "Same Day Registration"; Section 607 "Vote-By-Mail-Ballots"; Section 608- "Electioneering"; Section 609 "Election Equipment and Sample Ballots"; Section 610- Compliance With Eligibility Requirements, Attendance, Recall, Disqualification and Suspension of Elected Officials"; Section 611- "Recall of Elected Official"; Section 612- "Grounds for Recall of Elected Official"; Section 613- "Suspension of Elected Officials"; Section 614- "Referenda"; Section 615- "Advisory Referenda"; Section 616- Adoption and Incorporation of State Law Provisions"; Section 617- Extraordinary Powers- Civil Emergency."

12. Possible Adjournment to Closed Session. The Authority for this Closed Session is contained in the Open Meetings Act General Provisions Section 3-305 (b) (1) and Section 3-305 (b) (7) to discuss a personnel matter and consult with counsel to obtain legal advice regarding the same.

13. Adjournment

**\*\*\*PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY\*\*\***

MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF LAUREL, MARYLAND  
8103 Sandy Spring Road, Laurel, Maryland 20707  
*Regular Thirty-First*  
meeting on Monday, April 28, 2025

Name

*Xerxes Charles*

Address

*8301 Ashford Blvd Laurel MD 20707*

Agenda Item

*7*



**City of Laurel**



**PROCLAMATION  
2025-18**

***Whereas, the Love Foundation, Inc., a non-profit organization, has announced Global Love Day to facilitate in establishing love and peace on our planet;***

***Whereas, Global Love Day will establish a worldwide focus towards "unconditionally loving each other as we love ourselves";***

***Whereas, we are one humanity on this planet;***

***Whereas, all life is interconnected and interdependent;***

***Whereas, all share in the universal bond of love;***

***Whereas, love begins with self-acceptance and forgiveness;***

***Whereas, with respect and compassion we embrace diversity;***

***Whereas, together we make a difference through love;***

***Whereas, the Love Foundation, Inc. invites mankind to declare May 1, 2025, as Global Love Day, a day of forgiveness and unconditional love. Global Love Day will act as a model for all of us to follow, each and every day;***

***NOW, THEREFORE, I, Keith R. Sydnor, Mayor of the City of Laurel hereby dedicate and proclaim May 1, 2025, as***

**GLOBAL LOVE DAY**

***in the City of Laurel and invite all citizens to observe this day, which honors the public cause for Global Love, World Peace, and Universal Joy.***

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Keith R. Sydnor".

**Keith R. Sydnor  
Mayor**



**City of Laurel**



**PROCLAMATION  
2025-19**

**WHEREAS, frontline workers are the builders of our community, exercising curiosity, compassion, courage, and creativity to provide essential services that ensure the safety, health, and education of our residents; and**

**WHEREAS, over 9 million healthcare workers across the United States serve in hospitals, clinics, and long-term care facilities, often placing themselves at risk to provide lifesaving care; and**

**WHEREAS, firefighters respond to an estimated 36 million emergency calls each year, over 800,000 sworn law enforcement officers nationwide work tirelessly to uphold the law and ensure public safety, and emergency medical services (EMS) personnel respond to more than 240 million calls annually; and**

**WHEREAS, teachers dedicate their careers to shaping the future of our communities, with over 3.7 million educators in the U.S. providing knowledge and guidance to our youth; and**

**WHEREAS, frontline workers embody the essence of Builders - flexible thinkers and constructive problem solvers who respect the dignity of all people - by dedicating themselves to overcoming challenges and uniting communities.**

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, Keith R. Sydnor, Mayor of the City of Laurel, do hereby proclaim the month of May as**

**FRONTLINE WORKER APPRECIATION MONTH**

**in the City of Laurel and encourage all residents to join in recognizing and honoring the heroic contributions of our healthcare workers, firefighters, law enforcement officers, EMS personnel, and teachers.**

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Keith R. Sydnor". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

**Keith R. Sydnor  
Mayor**



## **City of Laurel**



### **PROCLAMATION 2025-20**

**WHEREAS: The Office of the Municipal Clerk is the oldest among public servants; and**

**WHEREAS: The Office of the Municipal Clerk provides the professional link between the citizens, the local governing bodies, and agencies... of government at other levels; and**

**WHEREAS: Municipal Clerks have pledged to be ever mindful of their neutrality and impartiality, rendering equal service to all; and**

**WHEREAS: Municipal Clerks continually strive to improve the administration of the affairs of the Office of the Municipal Clerk through participation in education programs, seminars, workshops and the annual meetings of their state, province, county, and international professional organizations.**

**NOW THEREFORE, I, KEITH R. SYDNOR, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF LAUREL, DO HEREBY PROCLAIM MAY 4 – 10, 2025, AS**

### **MUNICIPAL CLERKS WEEK**

**in the City of Laurel and encourage all citizens to extend appreciation to our Municipal Clerks, Maryland Clerks, and Clerks around the world for the key services they perform and their exemplary dedication to the communities they represent.**

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Keith R. Sydnor". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline.

**Keith R. Sydnor  
Mayor**



## **City of Laurel**



### **PROCLAMATION 2025-21**

***Whereas, composting is a way of returning organic resources to the soil and is a way of conserving water during extreme drought or flooding conditions, reducing water consumption and non-point pollution; and a proven method of decreasing the dependence on chemical fertilizers and decreasing erosion; and***

***Whereas, composting is an effective form of waste reduction, reuse and recycling; and since organic materials make up approximately 30% of the material going to landfills, composting reduces the City of Laurel's dependence on landfills and is becoming one of the primary methods used to reach the City's waste diversion goals; and***

***Whereas, materials such as yard trimmings, vegetable cuttings and food scraps have all been composted and converted into a beneficial product known as compost; and***

***Whereas, composting creates green jobs and infrastructure for cities and states who implement composting programs; and***

***Whereas, the Compost Research & Education Foundation, along with Canada, Australia, the United Kingdom and other countries have declared the first full week of May to be the annual International Compost Awareness Week; and***

***Whereas, International Compost Awareness Week is a publicity and education initiative to showcase compost production and demonstrate compost use; and***

***Whereas, this year's theme is Sustainable Communities Begin with Compost! The 2025 theme highlights composting in all kinds of communities at any scale – from the backyard home composter to community composters, to large-scale facilities to all those who recognize the many benefits of using compost on our soils; and***

***Now, therefore, I, Keith R. Sydnor, Mayor of the City of Laurel, do hereby proclaim May 4 – 10, 2025, as***

### **International Compost Awareness Week**

***in the City of Laurel and commend its observance to all citizens.***

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Keith R. Sydnor".

**Keith R. Sydnor  
Mayor**



## **City of Laurel**



### **PROCLAMATION 2025-22**

***WHEREAS: Teachers help to establish supportive, inclusive, and high-quality learning environments which provide students with the education and skills they need to secure meaningful jobs and brighter futures; and***

***WHEREAS: Teachers can have a profound influence on student learning and engagement, helping students to discover, develop, and realize their potential; and***

***WHEREAS: Teachers spend countless hours preparing lessons, evaluating progress, counseling, and coaching students and performing community service; and***

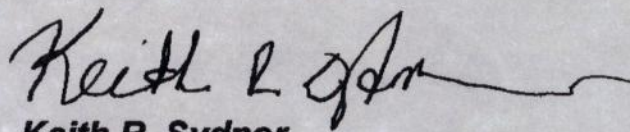
***WHEREAS: Teachers fill many roles, as listeners, explorers, role models, motivators, and mentors; and***

***WHEREAS: It is appropriate that teachers are acknowledged and thanked for their continued dedication and commitment to the education of our students***

***NOW, THEREFORE, I, KEITH R. SYDNOR, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF LAUREL, DO HEREBY PROCLAIM MAY 5 – 9, 2025, AS***

### **TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK**

***in the City of Laurel and encourage citizens in the community to celebrate and express gratitude towards teachers.***

  
**Keith R. Sydnor**  
**Mayor**



# Mayor and City Council Voting Record

April 28, 2025 6:00 pm

In-Person Meeting

Call to Order: 6:30pm

Meeting Ended: 8:50pm

Members of the Public: 6

## Staff Attendance:

☒ Christian L Pulley ☒ Tim Miller ☒ Bill Bailey ☒ Monta Burrough ☒ Chrissy Cornwell  
☒ James Cornwell-Shiel ☒ Chief Russell Hamill ☒ Marchelle LeBlanc ☒ S. Michele Saylor  
☒ Danny Selby ☒ Natalie Williams ☒ Stephanie Anderson ☒ Mark Plazinski Tim van der Vossen

## Roll Call

☒ Councilman Mills ☒ Councilman Kole ☒ Councilwoman Johnson  
☒ Councilman Simmons ☒ President Clark ☒ Mayor Sydnor

## Agenda Item No. 4- Approval of Minutes

- April 14, 2025 Regular Meeting

2nd Councilman Mills 1st Councilman Kole yes Councilwoman Johnson

yes Councilman Simmons yes President Clark



## Agenda Item No. 6- Mayoral Appointment

- Sharon Gibbs Cooper      Emergency Services Commission      04/28/2025-04/28/2030

yes Councilman Mills      yes Councilman Kole      yes Councilwoman Johnson

1st Councilman Simmons      yes President Clark

## Agenda Item No. 7- General Public Hearing

Open: 7:03pm      Closed: 7:05pm

*1 person ASKED for more teen activities in the city of Laurel  
signed up*

Agenda Item No. 8- Second Public Hearing with Possible Action on Resolution No. 4-2025- A Resolution of the Mayor and City Council of Laurel, Maryland to Set the Date, Time, and Polling Location for Early Voting in the City of Laurel for the General Election of November 2025

Open Public Hearing: 7:06

Closed Public Hearing: 7:06pm

Speakers: NONE



1<sup>st</sup> Councilman Mills yes Councilman Kole yes Councilwoman Johnson

2<sup>nd</sup> Councilman Simmons yes President Clark concur Mayor Sydnor

Agenda Item No. 9- Second Public Hearing with Possible Action on Resolution No. 5-2025- A  
Resolution of the Mayor and City Council of Laurel, Maryland to Pay Tribute to Emancipation Day  
7:08pm Public Hearing 7:09 PM

2<sup>nd</sup> Councilman Mills yes Councilman Kole yes Councilwoman Johnson

1<sup>st</sup> Councilman Simmons yes President Clark concur Mayor Sydnor

Agenda Item No. 10- Introduction and First Public Hearing on Ordinance No. 2038- An Ordinance  
of the Mayor and City Council of Laurel, Maryland to Amend Chapter 6 Article I, Section 6.1-  
Purpose, Section 6-2- Applicability, Section 6-3- Definitions, Article II, Section 6-4- The Board of  
Election Supervisors and Election Judges- Appointments, Section 6-5- Powers and Duties of the  
Board of Election Supervisors, Section 6-6- Compensation and Oaths of Board of Election  
Supervisors, Article III, Voters, Section 6-7- Voters Lists, Article IV- Candidates for Public Office,  
Section 6-9- Nominations and Certificates of Candidacy, Section 6-10- Qualifications for  
Candidates for Public Office, Section 6-11, Acceptance of Nominations For Public Office, Section  
6-12- Candidates to Comply with Laws and Regulations, Section 6-13- Election of Public Officials  
to be Non-Partisan, Article V- Conduct of Elections, Section 6-14- Establishment of Ward Election  
Districts, Section 6-15 Election Day, Section 6-16- Electioneering Activities, Section 6-17 Conduct  
at Polling Places, Section 6-18- Challengers and Watchers, Section 6-19- Campaign Materials,  
Section 6-20- Canvass of Election, Section 6-21- Returns, Section 6-22- Certification of Results,  
Section 6-23- Recounts, Article VI- Fair Campaign Finance Act, Section 6-24- Distribution of  
Summary of Election Laws, Section 6-25- Appointment of Campaign Treasurer; Candidate Joining



Ticket or Slate, Section 6-26- Contributions and Expenditures of Pass Through Treasurer, Section 6-27- Books, Records, and Receipts of Treasurer, Section 6-28- Contributions of Candidate, Section 6-29- Limits of Contributions; Section 6-30- Expenditures by Treasurer, Section 6-31- Election Reports to be Filed by Treasurer, Section 6-32- Requirements for Filing of Reports by Successful Candidate, Section 6-33- Maintenance of Reports, Article V- Violations of Election Laws and Applicable Penalties, Section 6-34- Prohibited Conduct, Section 6-35- Penalties for Certain Prohibited Conduct; and Providing an Effective Date.

Open Public Hearing: \_\_\_\_\_

Closed Public Hearing: \_\_\_\_\_

Speakers:

Agenda Item No. 11- Introduction and First Public Hearing on Charter Resolution No. 181- A Charter Resolution of the Mayor and City Council of Laurel, Maryland Amending, Rearranging and Renumbering Article 600 "Registrations and Elections", Section 601- "Voters and Registration"; Section 602- "Election of Mayor and Councilmembers"; Section 603 "Ward Boundaries"; Section 604- "Polling Places"; Section 605- "Voting Procedures"; Section 606- "Same Day Registration"; Section 607 "Vote-By-Mail-Ballots"; Section 608- "Electioneering"; Section 609 "Election Equipment and Sample Ballots"; Section 610- Compliance With Eligibility Requirements, Attendance, Recall, Disqualification and Suspension of Elected Officials"; Section 611- "Recall of Elected Official"; Section 612- "Grounds for Recall of Elected Official"; Section 613- "Suspension



of Elected Officials"; Section 614- "Referenda"; Section 615- "Advisory Referenda"; Section 616- Adoption and Incorporation of State Law Provisions"; Section 617- Extraordinary Powers- Civil Emergency."

Open Public Hearing: \_\_\_\_\_

Closed Public Hearing: \_\_\_\_\_

Speakers: \_\_\_\_\_

Agenda Item No. 12- Possible Adjournment to Closed Session. The Authority for this Closed Session is contained in the Open Meetings Act General Provisions Section 3-305 (b) (7) to consult with counsel to obtain legal advice and Section 3-305 (b) (13) to comply with a specific constitutional, statutory, or judicially imposed requirement that prevents public disclosures about a particular proceeding or matter regarding an internal operational policy.

✓ Councilman Mills

1<sup>st</sup> Councilman Kole

2<sup>nd</sup> Councilwoman Johnson

✓ Councilman Simmons

✓ President Clark

✓ Mayor Sydnor

7:14pm



# Mayor and City Council Voting Record

April 28, 2025 6:00 pm

## In-Person Meeting

Call to Order: \_\_\_\_\_

Meeting Ended: \_\_\_\_\_

Members of the Public: \_\_\_\_\_

### Staff Attendance:

\_\_\_\_Christian L Pulley \_\_\_\_Tim Miller \_\_\_\_Bill Bailey \_\_\_\_Monta Burrough \_\_\_\_Chrissy Cornwell

\_\_\_\_James Cornwell-Shiel \_\_\_\_Chief Russell Hamill \_\_\_\_Marchelle LeBlanc \_\_\_\_S. Michele Saylor

\_\_\_\_Danny Selby \_\_\_\_Natalie Williams \_\_\_\_Stephanie Anderson \_\_\_\_Mark Plazinski

### Roll Call

\_\_\_\_Councilman Mills \_\_\_\_Councilman Kole \_\_\_\_Councilwoman Johnson

\_\_\_\_Councilman Simmons \_\_\_\_President Clark \_\_\_\_Mayor Sydnor

### Agenda Item No. 4- Approval of Minutes

- April 14, 2025 Regular Meeting

\_\_\_\_Councilman Mills \_\_\_\_Councilman Kole \_\_\_\_Councilwoman Johnson

\_\_\_\_Councilman Simmons \_\_\_\_President Clark



## Agenda Item No. 6- Mayoral Appointment

- Sharon Gibbs Cooper      Emergency Services Commission      04/28/2025-04/28/2030

\_\_\_\_\_ Councilman Mills      \_\_\_\_\_ Councilman Kole      \_\_\_\_\_ Councilwoman Johnson

\_\_\_\_\_ Councilman Simmons      \_\_\_\_\_ President Clark

## Agenda Item No. 7- General Public Hearing

Open: \_\_\_\_\_      Closed: \_\_\_\_\_

**Agenda Item No. 8- Second Public Hearing with Possible Action on Resolution No. 4-2025- A Resolution of the Mayor and City Council of Laurel, Maryland to Set the Date, Time, and Polling Location for Early Voting in the City of Laurel for the General Election of November 2025**

Open Public Hearing: \_\_\_\_\_      Closed Public Hearing: \_\_\_\_\_

Speakers:



\_\_\_\_ Councilman Mills      \_\_\_\_ Councilman Kole      \_\_\_\_ Councilwoman Johnson

\_\_\_\_ Councilman Simmons      \_\_\_\_ President Clark      \_\_\_\_ Mayor Sydnor

**Agenda Item No. 9- Second Public Hearing with Possible Action on Resolution No. 5-2025- A Resolution of the Mayor and City Council of Laurel, Maryland to Pay Tribute to Emancipation Day**

Open Public Hearing: \_\_\_\_\_ Closed Public Hearing: \_\_\_\_\_

**Speakers:**

\_\_\_\_ Councilman Mills      \_\_\_\_ Councilman Kole      \_\_\_\_ Councilwoman Johnson

\_\_\_\_ Councilman Simmons      \_\_\_\_ President Clark      \_\_\_\_ Mayor Sydnor

**Agenda Item No. 10- Introduction and First Public Hearing on Ordinance No. 2038- An Ordinance of the Mayor and City Council of Laurel, Maryland to Amend Chapter 6 Article I, Section 6.1- Purpose, Section 6-2- Applicability, Section 6-3- Definitions, Article II, Section 6-4- The Board of Election Supervisors and Election Judges- Appointments, Section 6-5- Powers and Duties of the Board of Election Supervisors, Section 6-6- Compensation and Oaths of Board of Election Supervisors, Article Iii, Voters, Section 6-7- Voters Lists, Article Iv- Candidates for Public Office, Section 6-9- Nominations and Certificates of Candidacy, Section 6-10- Qualifications for Candidates for Public Office, Section 6-11, Acceptance of Nominations For Public Office, Section 6-12- Candidates to Comply with Laws and Regulations, Section 6-13- Election of Public Officials to be Non-Partisan, Article V- Conduct of Elections, Section 6-14- Establishment of Ward Election Districts, Section 6-15 Election Day, Section 6-16- Electioneering Activities, Section 6-17 Conduct**



at Polling Places, Section 6-18- Challengers and Watchers, Section 6-19- Campaign Materials, Section 6-20- Canvass of Election, Section 6-21- Returns, Section 6-22- Certification of Results, Section 6-23- Recounts, Article Vi- Fair Campaign Finance Act, Section 6-24- Distribution of Summary of Election Laws, Section 6-25- Appointment of Campaign Treasurer; Candidate Joining Ticket or Slate, Section 6-26- Contributions and Expenditures of Pass Through Treasurer, Section 6-27- Books, Records, and Receipts of Treasurer, Section 6-28- Contributions of Candidate, Section 6-29- Limits of Contributions; Section 6-30- Expenditures by Treasurer, Section 6-31- Election Reports to be Filed by Treasurer, Section 6-32- Requirements for Filing of Reports by Successful Candidate, Section 6-33- Maintenance of Reports, Article V- Violations of Election Laws and Applicable Penalties, Section 6-34- Prohibited Conduct, Section 6-35- Penalties for Certain Prohibited Conduct; and Providing an Effective Date.

Open Public Hearing: \_\_\_\_\_

Closed Public Hearing: \_\_\_\_\_

Speakers:

Agenda Item No. 11- Introduction and First Public Hearing on Charter Resolution No. 181- A Charter Resolution of the Mayor and City Council of Laurel, Maryland Amending, Rearranging and Renumbering Article 600 "Registrations and Elections", Section 601- "Voters and Registration"; Section 602- "Election of Mayor and Councilmembers"; Section 603 "Ward Boundaries"; Section 604- "Polling Places"; Section 605- "Voting Procedures"; Section 606- "Same Day Registration"; Section 607 "Vote-By-Mail-Ballots"; Section 608- "Electioneering"; Section 609 "Election Equipment and Sample Ballots"; Section 610- Compliance With Eligibility Requirements, Attendance, Recall, Disqualification and Suspension of Elected Officials"; Section 611- "Recall of Elected Official"; Section 612- "Grounds for Recall of Elected Official"; Section 613- "Suspension of Elected Officials"; Section 614- "Referenda"; Section 615- "Advisory Referenda"; Section 616- Adoption and Incorporation of State Law Provisions"; Section 617- Extraordinary Powers- Civil Emergency."

Open Public Hearing: \_\_\_\_\_

Closed Public Hearing: \_\_\_\_\_



Speakers:

**Agenda Item No. 12- Possible Adjournment to Closed Session. The Authority for this Closed Session is contained in the Open Meetings Act General Provisions Section 3-305 (b) (7) to consult with counsel to obtain legal advice and Section 3-305 (b) (13) to comply with a specific constitutional, statutory, or judicially imposed requirement that prevents public disclosures about a particular proceeding or matter regarding an internal operational policy.**

\_\_\_\_\_ Councilman Mills      \_\_\_\_\_ Councilman Kole      \_\_\_\_\_ Councilwoman Johnson

\_\_\_\_\_ Councilman Simmons      \_\_\_\_\_ President Clark      \_\_\_\_\_ Mayor Sydnor





# CITY OF LAUREL, MARYLAND

## RESOLUTION NO. 4-2025

**A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF LAUREL, MARYLAND TO SET THE DATE, TIME AND POLLING LOCATION FOR EARLY VOTING IN THE CITY OF LAUREL FOR THE GENERAL ELECTION OF NOVEMBER 2025.**

*Sponsored by the President at the request of the Administration.*

**WHEREAS**, on January 11, 2021, the City Council adopted Charter Resolution No. 172, Article 600, Registrations and Elections, Section 605, Voting Procedures, Letter B, Voting, Procedures and Hours, **Number 2, Early Voting, Letter A.** Which reads, in part:

*(A) "The City Council or Board may provide for one or more early voting days in any election. Early voting for any election whether for public office or for any ballot question, proposition, or referenda submitted to qualified voters shall be scheduled on dates and times established by resolution of the Mayor and City Council, with voting to be held at the Laurel City Municipal Center and any other location determined in the resolution. Resolutions permitting early voting shall be adopted by the Mayor and City Council not later than May 31 in any year of a general election or less than sixty (60) days prior to any special election. "; and;*

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor and City Council wish to provide for early voting for the City's General Election to take place on November 4, 2025, and to establish the date, time and polling location(s) for such early voting; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to its desire to make voting as accessible as possible, the Mayor and City Council have determined that early voting for the November 4, 2025, General Election will be held no more than fifteen (15) days prior to Election Day, and that it will be held at the Laurel Municipal Center and the Robert J. DiPietro Community Center.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Early Voting for the 2025 City of Laurel General Election will take place on November 1, 2025 at the Laurel Municipal Center and the Robert J. DiPietro Community Center, from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

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

**ADOPTED** this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2025.



**ATTEST:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**SARA A. GREEN, CPM, MMC**  
City Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
**KYLA M. CLARK**  
President of the City Council

**APPROVED this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2025.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**KEITH R. SYDNOR**  
Mayor





## CITY OF LAUREL, MARYLAND

### RESOLUTION NO. 5-2025

#### A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF LAUREL, MARYLAND TO PAY TRIBUTE TO EMANCIPATION DAY

*Sponsored by Council President Kyla M. Clark*

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor and City Council of Laurel, Maryland recognize that Emancipation Day is not only a commemoration of the end of slavery, but also an opportunity to honor the efforts of those who fought for freedom, reflect on the progress made, and reaffirm the ongoing commitment to justice and equality for all; and

**WHEREAS**, Emancipation Day, celebrated annually on November 1st, marks the historic day in 1864 when the people of Maryland, through a referendum, approved by a new State Constitution that included the abolition of slavery, thus freeing more than 87,000 enslaved individuals, including 33,295 people in Southern Maryland; and

**WHEREAS**, the passage of this referendum, which took place during the Civil War, was a monumental step in ending the practice of slavery in Maryland, making it one of the last Northern states to free the enslaved; and

**WHEREAS**, many enslaved people in Maryland, before and after the passage of the referendum, sought freedom by fleeing to Union-held areas, including Washington, D.C., where enslaved people were freed by the federal government in April 1862. Additionally, African Americans in Maryland were able to enlist in the Union Army starting in January 1863; and

**WHEREAS**, the legacy of Emancipation Day is not just one of freedom but also one of perseverance, resilience, and courage. The history of Emancipation Day reminds us of the struggles and sacrifices made by African Americans in Maryland and across the nation to secure their rights and dignity; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by recognizing Emancipation Day, the City of Laurel affirms its dedication to fostering an inclusive community where all residents, regardless of their background, can celebrate the ideals of liberty, equality, and human dignity.

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

**ADOPTED** this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2025.

**ATTEST:**



\_\_\_\_\_  
**SARA A. GREEN, CPM, MMC**  
City Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
**KYLA M. CLARK**  
President of the City Council

**APPROVED** this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2025.

\_\_\_\_\_  
**KEITH R. SYDNOR**  
Mayor



**CITY COUNCIL**

CHRISTINE M. JOHNSON  
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.



**MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF LAUREL**

8103 Sandy Spring Road  
Laurel, Maryland 20707-2502

KEITH R. SYDNOR  
Mayor

CHRISTIAN L. PULLEY, CPM  
City Administrator

TIM MILLER  
Acting Deputy City Administrator

STEPHANIE P. ANDERSON  
City Solicitor

SARA A. GREEN, CPM, MMC  
City Clerk

(301) 725-5300

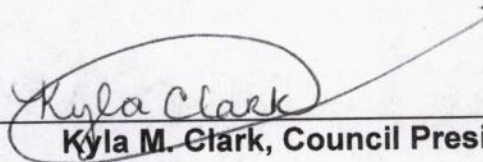
[www.cityoflaurel.org](http://www.cityoflaurel.org)

**CLOSED SESSION STATEMENT**

April 28, 2025 at 6:00 pm

The following statement is made regarding the adjournment of the Mayor and City Council to Closed Session on this date:

The Authority for this Closed Session is contained in the Open Meetings Act General Provisions Section 3-305 (b) (7) to consult with counsel to obtain legal advice and Section 3-305 (b) (13) to comply with a specific constitutional, statutory, or judicially imposed requirement that prevents public disclosures about a particular proceeding or matter regarding an internal operational policy.

  
Kyla M. Clark, Council President



**CITY COUNCIL**

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**PUBLIC NOTICE**

Issued: April 17, 2025

The Mayor and City Council of Laurel will Possibly Adjourn to Closed Session during their regular meeting on **Monday, April 28, 2025** to be held in-person at the Joseph R. Robison Laurel Municipal Center Council Chamber at **6:00 pm**.

The Authority for this Closed Session is contained in the Open Meetings Act General Provisions Section 3-305 (b) (7) to consult with counsel to obtain legal advice and Section 3-305 (b) (13) to comply with a specific constitutional, statutory, or judicially imposed requirement that prevents public disclosures about a particular proceeding or matter regarding an internal operational policy.

Sara A. Green, CPM, MMC  
City Clerk