

CITY COUNCIL

CHRISTINE M. JOHNSON
At-Large

JAMES KOLE
First Ward

ADRIAN G. SIMMONS
First Ward

KYLA 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

JOANNE HALL BARR
Deputy City Administrator

STEPHANIE P. ANDERSON
City Solicitor

SARA A. GREEN, CPM, CMC
City Clerk

(301) 725-5300

www.cityoflaurel.org

**TWENTY-SIXTH REGULAR MEETING
MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF LAUREL
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2025
6:00 PM
VIRTUAL MEETING
MINUTES**

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

The following staff members were also present: Christian L. Pulley, CPM, City Administrator, Joanne Hall Barr, Deputy City Administrator, Sara A. Green, CPM, CMC, City Clerk, Bill Bailey, Director, Department of Parks and Recreation, Monta Burrough, Director, Department of Economic and Community Development, Chrissy Cornwell, Director, Department of Community Resources and Emergency Management, Chief Russell E. Hamill, III, Tim Miller, Director, Department of Public Works, S. Michele Saylor, Director, Department of Budget and Personnel Services, Danny Selby, Director, Department of the Fire Marshal and Permits Services, James Cornwell-Shiel, Director, Department of Information Technology, Natalie Williams, Director, Department of Communications, Deputy Chief Mark Plazinski, Marchelle LeBlanc, Stephanie P. Anderson, City Solicitor.

Agenda Item No. 3 was approval of minutes from the January 27, 2025 Regular Meeting, January and the February 5, 2025 Work Session. Councilman Simmons made a motion to approve the minutes with the amendment of the following to the January 27, 2025 minutes: Page 4- First Paragraph, Second to Last Sentence regarding Councilman Simmons' vote on Charter Amendment No. 180 to read: *Councilman Simmons voting "Yes, with the request of the Mayor to consider folding in the Office of Emergency Management into another part of the Administration."* Councilwoman Johnson seconded the motion that was carried on a roll call vote of all members present.

Agenda Item No. 5 was Mayoral Appointment. President Clark presented the appointment on Mayor Sydnor's behalf:

- Nadol Hishmeh

Master Plan Committee

02/10/2025-02/10/2027

Councilman Kole made a motion to approve the appointment. Councilman Mills seconded the motion that was carried on a roll call vote by all members present.

Agenda Item No. 6 was the General Public Hearing. President Clark opened the General Public Hearing at 6:23 pm. There was no one that was signed up to speak. President Clark closed the General Public Hearing at 6:23 pm.

Next, Agenda Item No. 7 was Introduction and First Public Hearing on Resolution No. 3-2025- A Resolution of the Mayor and City Council of Laurel, Maryland Declaring Support for the Preservation of the Federal Tax Exemption of Municipal Bonds. President Clark read the title of the Resolution into the record for the first reading. Councilman Kole presented the proposed resolution and noted that additional information had been shared with the Council prior to the meeting. President Clark opened the Public Hearing at 6:28 pm. There was no one that was signed up to speak. President Clark closed the Public Hearing at 6:28 pm and noted that the second Public Hearing with Possible Action on the item would at the February 24, 2025 meeting at 6:00 pm.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 6:29 pm.

Approved:

Date:

Sara A. Green, CPM, CMC
City Clerk

Mayor and City Council Voting Record

February 10, 2025 6:00 pm

Virtual Meeting

Call to Order: 6:00pm

Meeting Ended: 6:29pm

Members of the Public: 0

Staff Attendance:

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

Roll Call

- Councilman Mills Councilman Kole Councilwoman Johnson
- Councilman Simmons President Clark absent Mayor Sydnor

Agenda Item No. 3- Approval of Minutes- January 27, 2025 Regular Meeting

- yes Councilman Mills yes Councilman Kole no Councilwoman Johnson
- 1st Councilman Simmons yes President Clark
- no amendment

Approval of Minutes- February 5, 2025 Work Session

yes Councilman Mills yes Councilman Kole 2nd Councilwoman Johnson

1st Councilman Simmons yes President Clark

Agenda Item No. 5- Mayoral Appointment

- Nadol Hishmeh Master Plan Committee 02/10/2025-02/10/2027

2nd Councilman Mills 1st Councilman Kole yes Councilwoman Johnson

yes Councilman Simmons yes President Clark

Agenda Item No. 6- General Public Hearing

Open: 6:23pm Closed: 6:23pm

Agenda Item No. 7- Introduction and First Public Hearing on Resolution No. 3-2025- A Resolution of the Mayor and City Council of Laurel, Maryland Declaring Support for the Preservation of the Federal Tax Exemption of Municipal Bonds.

Public Hearing Open: 6:28pm Closed: 6:28pm

CITY COUNCIL

CHRISTINE M. JOHNSON
At-Large

JAMES KOLE
First Ward

ADRIAN G. SIMMONS
First Ward

KYLA 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

JOANNE HALL BARR
Deputy City Administrator

STEPHANIE P. ANDERSON
City Solicitor

SARA A. GREEN, CPM, CMC
City Clerk

(301) 725-5300

www.cityoflaurel.org

**TWENTY-SIXTH REGULAR MEETING
MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF LAUREL
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2025
6:00 PM**

AGENDA (Revised- 02/10/2025)

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.

Contact the Clerk for Zoom information at clerk@laurel.md.us no later than 2:00 pm the day of the meeting.

1. Call to Order – Kyla M. Clark, President
2. Roll Call- Sara A. Green, CPM, CMC, City Clerk
3. Approval of Minutes
 - January 27, 2025 Regular Meeting
 - February 5, 2025 Work Session

4. Report of the Mayor and City Council
5. Mayoral Appointment

Appointment

Nadol Hishmeh Master Plan Committee 02/10/2025-02/10/2027

6. General Public Hearing
7. Introduction and First Public Hearing on Resolution No. 3-2025- A Resolution of the Mayor and City Council of Laurel, Maryland Declaring Support for the Preservation of the Federal Tax Exemption of Municipal Bonds.
8. Adjournment



CITY OF LAUREL OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

8103 Sandy Spring Road, Laurel, MD 20707
Phone: 301-725-5300 ext. 2125 • Fax: 301-725-6831

Item 5.

Keith R. Sydnor
Mayor

January 31, 2025

MEMORANDUM

TO: Kyla Clark, Council President
Laurel City Councilmembers
FROM: Keith R. Sydnor, Mayor
SUBJ: Mayoral Appointment

I plan to make the following appointment at the February 10, 2025, Mayor and City Council meeting.

APPOINTMENT

Nadol Hishmeh

Master Plan Committee

02/10/25 – 02/10/27

I look forward to your confirmation of this appointment.

ec: Sara A. Green, CPM, CMC, City Clerk



CITY OF LAUREL, MARYLAND

RESOLUTION NO. 3-2025

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF LAUREL, MARYLAND DECLARING SUPPORT FOR THE PRESERVATION OF THE FEDERAL TAX EXEMPTION OF MUNICIPAL BONDS.

Sponsored by Councilman James Kole

WHEREAS, the tax-exempt municipal bond market is a widely used source of capital for states, local governments, tribes, territories, and non-profit borrowers that finances a tremendous share of the nation's public infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, state and local governments finance about three-quarters of the public infrastructure in the United States and use tax-exempt bonds to do so, with the federal government providing only about one-quarter of the investment; and

WHEREAS, federal tax exemption for municipal bonds, dating back to the 1800s and incorporated into the modern tax code in 1913, has been crucial for state and local governments to affordably finance critical infrastructure projects; and

WHEREAS, tax-exempt bonds offer borrowers to achieve a multiplier effect of 2.11, meaning that for every dollar, borrowers achieve \$2.11 in borrowing cost savings thereby demonstrating the efficiency and effectiveness of this exemption in facilitating infrastructure investment; and

WHEREAS, tax-exempt bonds provide for essential infrastructure projects, such as roads, bridges, utilities, broadband, water and sewer systems, and hospitals, which are vital to the health and well-being of our community such that without such bonds, the cost of borrowing would be more expensive thereby causing an increase in taxes and fees that would place an undue burden on taxpayers; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Council of Laurel, Maryland finds and determines that tax-exempt municipal bonds provide an opportunity for economic development along its path, better facilitate the movement of agriculture products, equipment, and other goods, and increase safety.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and City Council of Laurel, Maryland that the Mayor and City Council hereby encourages the Maryland Congressional Delegation to assist the City of Laurel, Maryland by preserving the tax-exempt status of municipal bonds by supporting and ensuring the protection of the federal tax exemption of municipal bonds.

AND, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution shall take effect on the date of its adoption and that copies of this Resolution shall be furnished to all members of the Maryland Congressional Delegation.

CITY COUNCIL

CHRISTINE M. JOHNSON
At-Large

JAMES KOLE
First Ward

ADRIAN G. SIMMONS
First Ward

KYLA 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

JOANNE HALL BARR
Deputy City Administrator

STEPHANIE P. ANDERSON
City Solicitor

SARA A. GREEN, CPM, CMC
City Clerk

(301) 725-5300

www.cityoflaurel.org

**TWENTY-SIXTH REGULAR MEETING
MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF LAUREL
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2025
6:00 PM
VIRTUAL MEETING
MINUTES**

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

The following staff members were also present: Christian L. Pulley, CPM, City Administrator, Joanne Hall Barr, Deputy City Administrator, Sara A. Green, CPM, CMC, City Clerk, Bill Bailey, Director, Department of Parks and Recreation, Monta Burrough, Director, Department of Economic and Community Development, Chrissy Cornwell, Director, Department of Community Resources and Emergency Management, Chief Russell E. Hamill, III, Tim Miller, Director, Department of Public Works, S. Michele Saylor, Director, Department of Budget and Personnel Services, Danny Selby, Director, Department of the Fire Marshal and Permits Services, James Cornwell-Shiel, Director, Department of Information Technology, Natalie Williams, Director, Department of Communications, Deputy Chief Mark Plazinski, Marchelle LeBlanc, Stephanie P. Anderson, City Solicitor.

Agenda Item No. 3 was approval of minutes from the January 27, 2025 Regular Meeting, January and the February 5, 2025 Work Session. Councilman Simmons made a motion to approve the minutes with the amendment of the following to the January 27, 2025 minutes: Page 4- First Paragraph, Second to Last Sentence regarding Councilman Simmons' vote on Charter Amendment No. 180 to read: *Councilman Simmons voting "Yes, with the request of the Mayor to consider folding in the Office of Emergency Management into another part of the Administration."* Councilwoman Johnson seconded the motion that was carried on a roll call vote of all members present.

Agenda Item No. 5 was Mayoral Appointment. President Clark presented the appointment on Mayor Sydnor's behalf:

- Nadol Hishmeh

Master Plan Committee

02/10/2025-02/10/2027