

**MINUTES
CITY OF LAUREL
CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2025**

A Council Workshop was held in Council Chambers and called to order by Mayor Dave Waggoner at 6:30 p.m. on December 16, 2025.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tom Canape	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Heidi Sparks
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Michelle Mize	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jessica Banks
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Casey Wheeler	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Irv Wilke
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Richard Klose	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jodi Mackay

OTHERS PRESENT:

Brittney Harakal, Administrative Assistant
Kurt Markegard, CAO
Forrest Sanderson, LURA Coordinator

Public Input:

There were none.

General Items

1. Appointment of Peggy Pollock to the Laurel Urban Renewal Agency for a four-year term ending December 31, 2029.

The 2025 Legislature made changes to the organizational makeup of urban renewal and TIF districts. Both the school district and the county are to have representation. As a term becomes available, it will be filled with one of those members. It is required to replace Cheryl, whose term is expiring, with Peggy, who is a representative of the school district.

2. Appointment of Cheryl Hill to the Laurel Urban Renewal Agency - Advisory of a four-year term ending December 31, 2029.

Cheryl has served on the board for several years and has been key in moving projects forward. She makes the meetings and takes the minutes. She is willing to serve as an advisory member while the ordinance is being processed to change the number of voting members.

Cheryl Hill commented that she is disheartened to need to step down to an advisory role; however, she still wants to continue to see these projects through. When the ordinance is passed, she wants to return to a voting role.

Executive Review

3. **Mayor:** Ordinance - An Ordinance Amending Title 20, Chapter 02 Of The Laurel Municipal Code Related To The Laurel Urban Renewal Agency.

SB3 drives this ordinance change, see attached. The proposal is to increase the board from 5 to 7 voting members. A County representative must fill the following vacancy.

Cami Story, LURA Chair, thanked the Staff for getting this item on the agenda. She is disheartened that Cheryl has to step down to an advisory role, as LURA has been working on this since September.

Council Issues

Reminder that next week, both the Budget/Finance Committee and City Council will meet on Monday at 5:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m., respectively.

The Emergency Services Committee has been cancelled for December.

Other Items

Attendance at Upcoming Council Meeting

All Council Members plan to attend next week's meeting.

Announcements

4. Swearing in of newly elected officials on December 22, 2025, City Council Meeting.

An additional announcement was made regarding the Boards/Committees/Commissions that Council Members sit on. It was requested that Council Members submit to the Mayor which ones they would like to sit on. There will need to be a special meeting on January 6th for the Mayor to appoint to the Boards/Committees/Commissions so that Budget/Finance can review the claims and payroll prior to the following City Council meeting on January 13th.

The council workshop adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Brittney Harakal

Administrative Assistant

NOTE: This meeting is open to the public. This meeting is for information and discussion of the Council for the listed workshop agenda items.



AN ACT REQUIRING A DISTRICT THAT USES TAX INCREMENT FINANCING TO CREATE AN ADVISORY COMMITTEE; AND AMENDING SECTIONS 7-15-4234 AND 7-15-4282, MCA.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

Section 1. Section 7-15-4234, MCA, is amended to read:

"7-15-4234. Urban renewal agency to be administered by appointed board of commissioners.

(1) If the urban renewal agency is authorized to transact business and exercise powers under this part, the mayor, by and with the advice and consent of the local governing body, shall appoint a board of commissioners of the urban renewal agency consisting of no fewer than five commissioners, including one representative from the county or consolidated city-county government and one representative from a school district with boundaries that overlap with the urban renewal area.

(2) The initial membership ~~shall~~ must consist, at a minimum, of one commissioner appointed for 1 year, one for 2 years, one for 3 years, and two for 4 years. Each subsequent appointment must be for 4 years. A certificate of the appointment or reappointment of a commissioner must be filed with the clerk of the municipality, and the certificate is conclusive evidence of the proper appointment of the commissioner.

(3) Each commissioner shall hold office until a successor has been appointed and has qualified.

(4) A commissioner may not receive compensation for services but is entitled to the necessary expenses, including traveling expenses, incurred in the discharge of duties.

(5) Any persons may be appointed as commissioners if they reside within the municipality.

(6) A commissioner may be removed for inefficiency, neglect of duty, or misconduct in office."

Section 2. Section 7-15-4282, MCA, is amended to read:

"7-15-4282. Authorization for tax increment financing -- advisory committee. (1) An urban

renewal plan as defined in 7-15-4206 or a targeted economic development district comprehensive development plan created as provided in 7-15-4279 may contain a provision or be amended to contain a tax increment provision as provided in 7-15-4282 through 7-15-4294. The local governing body shall approve the adoption of a tax increment provision included in an urban renewal plan. The legislative body of a local government shall approve the adoption of a tax increment provision included in a targeted economic development district comprehensive development plan.

(2) (a) Before adopting a tax increment financing provision as part of an urban renewal plan or a comprehensive development plan, a municipality shall provide notice to the county and the school district in which the urban renewal district or targeted economic development district is located and provide the county and school district with the opportunity to meet and consult in a public meeting with the opportunity for public comment regarding the proposed tax increment financing provision and its effect on the county or school district.

(b) Before adopting a tax increment financing provision as part of a comprehensive development plan, a county shall provide notice to the school district in which the targeted economic development district is located and provide the school district with the opportunity to meet and consult in a public meeting with the opportunity for public comment regarding the proposed tax increment financing provision and its effect on the school district.

(3) The tax increment financing provision must take into account the effect on the county and school districts that include local government territory.

(4) (a) Except as provided in subsection (4)(b), the legislative body of a local government that adopts a tax increment financing provision shall appoint an advisory committee to advise the local government about the administration of the urban renewal area or targeted economic development district. The committee must include at least one representative from each incorporated city or town, county, or school district with boundaries that overlap with the urban renewal area or targeted economic development district. The committee may include representatives of other taxing bodies with boundaries that overlap with the urban renewal area or targeted economic development district.

(b) An urban renewal area administered by an urban renewal agency created under 7-15-4232(2) is not required to appoint an advisory committee as provided in subsection (4)(a)."

Section 3. Transition. If the urban renewal agency provided for in 7-15-4234 is composed of five commissioners on [the effective date of this act], in the event of a vacancy or on the next appointment the mayor, by and with the advice and consent of the local governing body, shall appoint commissioners consisting of one representative from the county or consolidated city-county followed by one representative from a school district with boundaries that overlap with the urban renewal area.

- END -

I hereby certify that the within bill,
SB 3, originated in the Senate.

Secretary of the Senate

President of the Senate

Signed this _____ day
of _____, 2025.

Speaker of the House

Signed this _____ day
of _____, 2025.

SENATE BILL NO. 3

INTRODUCED BY J. TREBAS

BY REQUEST OF THE REVENUE INTERIM COMMITTEE

AN ACT REQUIRING A DISTRICT THAT USES TAX INCREMENT FINANCING TO CREATE AN ADVISORY
COMMITTEE; AND AMENDING SECTION SECTIONS 7-15-4234 AND 7-15-4282, MCA.