



# **CITY OF LEEDS, ALABAMA**

## **REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

Leeds Municipal Annex - 1412 9th Street; Leeds, Alabama 35094

**July 19, 2021 @ 6:00 PM**

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### **CALL COUNCIL MEETING TO ORDER**

Mayor David Miller called the meeting to order at 6:05 pm.

### **ROLL CALL / INVOCATION / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

#### **PRESENT**

Mayor David Miller  
Council member Kenneth Washington  
Council member Eric Turner  
Council member Johnny Dutton  
Council member Angie Latta  
Council member Devoris Ragland-Pierce

#### **INVOCATION**

Council member Eric Turner

#### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mayor David Miller

### **PUBLIC HEARING**

1. Consider Determination of Certain Conditions to be a Public Nuisance and an Unsafe Building at 7829 Lake Avenue  
No one was present. There was no public comment. Item was referred to Council.
2. Consider Determination of Certain Conditions to be a Public Nuisance and an Unsafe Building at 7950 Charles Barkley Avenue  
No one was present. There was no public comment. Item was referred to Council.
3. Consider Determination of Certain Conditions to be a Public Nuisance and an Unsafe Building at 1615 Ashville Road  
No one was present. There was no public comment. Item was referred to Council.

Public Hearing closed at 6:10 pm.

### **APPROVE COUNCIL MINUTES**

4. Minutes from July 06, 2021

Motion to approve minutes from July 06, 2021 made by Council member Turner, Seconded by Council member Ragland-Pierce. Voting Yea: Mayor Miller, Council member Washington, Council member Turner, Council member Dutton, Council member Latta, Council member Ragland-Pierce

**REPORTS OF OFFICERS:**

5. Mayor's Report: Mayor David Miller

Mayor Miller presented a check to Coach Hood for LHS football equipment. Mayor Miller announced that Ms. Ragland-Pierce is now chairperson of the Public Safety Committee.

Mayor Miller announced that Item 23-Leeds Water Works Board Expansion needs to be removed from tonight's agenda. Motion to remove Item 23-Resolution 2021-07-10 (Leeds Water Works Board Expansion) made by Council member Turner, Seconded by Council member Ragland-Pierce. Voting Yea: Mayor Miller, Council member Washington, Council member Turner, Council member Dutton, Council member Latta and Council member Ragland-Pierce.

Mayor Miller announced that Ms. Laura Barnes has withdrawn her application for the LWWB vacancy (Item 24-LWWB appointment).

6. Police Department: Chief Atkinson

Chief Atkinson gave an update of the recent drug busts which included cash, drugs and a stolen vehicle.

7. Fire Department: Chief Parsons

Chief Parsons submitted reports for May 2021 and June 2021. Also, Chief Parsons addressed the Mayor and Council and gave a report of a rope class with ALEA (Alabama Law Enforcement Agency).

8. Library: Library Director Carden

Director Carden announced expanded service hours starting August 02, 2021.

9. Municipal Court: Magistrate Roberts

No report.

10. Development Services Department: City Administrator Watson

No report.

11. Public Works Department: Public Works Director Warren

Absent

Social Services Department: Director Bryan

Director Bryan announced that current days of operation are Monday thru Wednesday. Starting August 02, 2021, their days will be Monday thru Thursday.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

There was none.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

12. Resolution 2021-07-06: Consider authorizing Preliminary Official Statement and refinancing of City's General Obligation debt  
Mr. David Langham and Mr. Lance Hyche, The Frazer Lanier Company, introduced themselves to the Mayor and Council. They are the City's investment bankers who are presenting an offer to reduce our interest rate on current bonds.  
Motion to approve Resolution 2021-07-06 made by Council member Dutton, Seconded by Council member Washington. Voting Yea: Mayor Miller, Council member Washington, Council member Turner, Council member Dutton, Council member Latta, Council member Ragland-Pierce
13. Resolution 2021-07-01: Consider a lease of meeting space at the Civic Center  
Mr. Don Tice, Knights of Columbus Council 5597, addressed Mayor and Council regarding questions of operation.  
Motion to approve Resolution 2021-07-01 made by Council member Turner, Seconded by Council member Latta. Voting Yea: Mayor Miller, Council member Washington, Council member Turner, Council member Latta, Council member Ragland-Pierce. Voting Nay: Council member Dutton
14. Resolution 21-000720: Consider Declaring Certain Conditions to be a Public Nuisance and an Unsafe Building at 7829 Lake Avenue  
Motion to approve Resolution 21-000720 made by Council member Washington, Seconded by Council member Turner. Voting Yea: Mayor Miller, Council member Washington, Council member Turner, Council member Dutton, Council member Latta, Council member Ragland-Pierce
15. Resolution 21-000721: Consider Declaring Certain Conditions to be a Public Nuisance and an Unsafe Building at 7950 Charles Barkley Avenue  
Motion to approve Resolution 21-000721 made by Council member Washington, Seconded by Council member Ragland-Pierce. Voting Yea: Mayor Miller, Council member Washington, Council member Turner, Council member Dutton, Council member Latta, Council member Ragland-Pierce
16. Resolution 21-001773: Consider Declaring Certain Conditions to be a Public Nuisance and an Unsafe Building at 1615 Ashville Road  
Motion to approve Resolution 21-001773 made by Council member Ragland-Pierce, Seconded by Council member Turner. Voting Yea: Mayor Miller, Council member Washington, Council member Turner, Council member Dutton, Council member Latta, Council member Ragland-Pierce

17. Resolution 2021-07-03: Consider traffic control measures at Zeigler Road and Stewart Road  
Motion to approve Resolution 2021-07-03 made by Council member Dutton, Seconded by Council member Turner. Voting Yea: Mayor Miller, Council member Washington, Council member Turner, Council member Dutton, Council member Latta, Council member Ragland-Pierce
18. Resolution 2021-07-04: Consider a budget amendment and approval to purchase an automated license plate reader  
Chief Atkinson addressed Mayor and Council regarding the license plate reader proposal.  
Motion to approve Resolution 2021-07-04 made by Council member Dutton, Seconded by Council member Latta. Voting Yea: Mayor Miller, Council member Washington, Council member Turner, Council member Dutton, Council member Latta, Council member Ragland-Pierce
19. Resolution 2021-07-05: Consider a budget amendment for two additional employees in the Administration Department  
Motion to approve Resolution 2021-07-05 made by Council member Dutton, Seconded by Council member Turner. Voting Yea: Mayor Miller, Council member Washington, Council member Turner, Council member Dutton, Council member Latta, Council member Ragland-Pierce
20. Resolution 2021-07-07: Consider Updating City Credit Card and Employee Use Schedule  
Motion to approve Resolution 2021-07-07 made by Council member Dutton, Seconded by Council member Latta. Voting Yea: Mayor Miller, Council member Washington, Council member Turner, Council member Dutton, Council member Latta, Council member Ragland-Pierce
21. Resolution 2021-07-08: Consider Appointments to the Board of Trustees of the Leeds Jane Culbreth Library  
Motion to approve Resolution 2021-07-08 to re-appoint Brent Reese made by Council member Turner, Seconded by Council member Washington. Voting Yea: Mayor Miller, Council member Washington, Council member Turner, Council member Dutton, Council member Latta, Council member Ragland-Pierce.  
Motion to approve Resolution 2021-07-08 to appoint Susan Miller made by Council member Dutton, Seconded by Council member Latta. Voting Yea: Mayor Miller, Council member Washington, Council member Turner, Council member Dutton, Council member Latta, Council member Ragland-Pierce.
22. Resolution 2021-07-09: Consider Adoption and Ratification of June 2021 City Expenditures/Payables  
Motion to approve Resolution 2021-07-09 made by Council member Dutton, Seconded by Council member Turner. Voting Yea: Mayor Miller, Council member Washington, Council member Turner, Council member Dutton, Council member Latta, Council member Ragland-Pierce
23. Resolution 2021-07-10: Consider Leeds Water Works Board Expansion

Resolution 2021-07-10 was removed from the agenda earlier in the meeting.

24. Resolution 2021-07-11: Consider an Appointment to the Leeds Water Works Board  
Applicants for Leeds Water Works Board will be considered according to their application submittal.

1st applicant: Ms. Laura Barnes

Withdrew application at beginning of the meeting.

2nd applicant: Mr. Brad Pool

There was no motion made. Application consideration fails for lack of motion.

3rd applicant: Mr. Eddie Moore

Motion to approve Resolution 2021-07-11 to appoint Mr. Eddie Moore made by Council member Turner, Seconded by Council member Dutton. Voting Yea: Mayor Miller, Council member Turner, Council member Dutton, Council member Latta. Voting Nay: Council member Washington, Council member Ragland-Pierce. Mr. Eddie Moore is appointed to serve the remaining term of Mr. Lee Barnes Sr.

25. Resolution 2021-07-12: Consider Appointments of Municipal Judge and Public Defender

Municipal Judge:

Council member Turner nominates current judge, Mr. Cliff Price. Council member Dutton seconds.

Council member Ragland-Pierce nominates Mr. Moses Stone. Council member Washington seconds.

Mayor Miller takes a roll call vote for Resolution 2021-07-12 to appoint Mr. Cliff Price as Municipal Judge. Voting Yea: Council member Turner, Council member Dutton. Voting Nay: Mayor Miller, Council member Washington, Council member Ragland-Pierce. Abstaining: Council member Latta. Nomination fails due to lack of majority vote.

Mayor Miller takes a roll call vote for Resolution 2021-07-12 to appoint Mr. Moses Stone as Municipal Judge. Voting Yea: Mayor Miller, Council member Washington, Council member Ragland-Pierce. Voting Nay: Council member Turner, Council member Dutton. Abstaining: Council member Latta. Mayor Miller asks City Attorney Scott Barnett regarding the votes. Mr. Barnett advised that of the members who voted a majority rules in favor of Mr. Stone. An abstention vote is basically an absence of a vote. Therefore, Mr. Moses Stone is appointed Municipal Judge effective immediately.

Public Defender:

Council member Dutton nominates Ms. Brooks Burdette. Council member Ragland-Pierce seconds.

Mayor Miller takes a voice vote for Resolution 2021-07-12 to appoint Brooks Burdette as Public Defender. Voting Yea: Mayor Miller, Council member Washington, Council member Turner, Council member Dutton, Council member Latta and Council member Ragland-Pierce. Ms. Brooks Burdette is appointed Public Defender effective immediately.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Mr. Jimmie Roy, extremely happy that the Senior Center has re-opened.

Pastor Willie Frazier, Mt. Pleasant Missionary Baptist Church, asked Mayor and Council for help keeping big trucks from tearing up their parking lot and landscaping.

Reverend Ernest Mitchell, 1480 Dakota Street, addressed Mayor and Council regarding his neighbor's overgrown property in the Alabama Power powerlines.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion to adjourn made by Council member Turner. Voting Yea: Mayor Miller, Council member Washington, Council member Turner, Council member Dutton, Council member Latta, Council member Ragland-Pierce.

The meeting adjourned at 7:20 pm.

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David Miller, Mayor

Attest:

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Toushi Artbitelle, City Clerk