



CITY OF LEEDS, ALABAMA

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

City Hall Annex - Meeting Room - 1412 9th St, Leeds, AL 35094

December 19, 2022 @ 6:00 PM

CALL COUNCIL MEETING TO ORDER

Mayor David Miller called the meeting to order at 6:04 pm.

ROLL CALL / INVOCATION / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PRESENT

Mayor David Miller
Council member Eric Turner
Council member Johnny Dutton
Council member Devoris Ragland-Pierce

ABSENT

Council member Kenneth Washington
Council member Angie Latta

INVOCATION

Council member Eric Turner

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor David Miller

CUTOFF FOR PUBLIC COMMENT SIGN-UP

PUBLIC HEARING

1. A request for a Liquor Manufacturer License to operate at 8316 Parkway Drive, Suite 108; Leeds AL 35094

Mr. Austin Creel, owner - Sweet Home Spirits, Inc, addressed the Mayor and Council. Mayor Miller asked for Chief Irwin's recommendation. Chief Irwin stated he was against the approval and any other opinion would need to be said in executive session. The item was referred to Council.

2. R22-002042/R22-002045/R22-002066 - Unsafe Buildings at 1332/1326/1356 Beech St

No one was present. Chief Irwin stated they needed to be condemned. The Police Department have served four (4) search warrants this year and several were arrested for distribution on the night of Christmas parade. There was no other public comment. Item was referred to Council.

The Public Hearing closed at 6:08 pm.

APPROVE COUNCIL MINUTES

3. Minutes from December 05, 2022

Motion to approve Minutes from December 05, 2022 made by Council member Turner, Seconded by Council member Ragland-Pierce. Voting Yea: Mayor Miller, Council member Turner, Council member Dutton, Council member Ragland-Pierce

REPORTS OF OFFICERS:

4. Mayor's Report: Mayor David Miller
No report
5. Police Department: Chief Irwin
Chief Irwin sent his monthly report to Council members. Today was 'Shop with a Cop' and was outstanding.
6. Fire Department: Chief Parsons
Chief Parsons gave a safety reminder about using space heaters. Last night, Santa rode around a portion of the City. More Santa rides throughout the City will be on December 20-22, 2022.
7. Municipal Court: Magistrate Roberts
Ms. Roberts reported that last week was the last court docket for 2022. Her office will be closed to the public for end of year training. However, they will answer phone calls.
8. Development Services Department: City Administrator Watson
Mr. Watson was absent. Ms. Willis reported that the over-time report is in their packet and gave a reminder about January's business license renewal will be through Avenu Insights & Analytics. City Hall will be available for renewals and assistance.
9. Public Works Department: Public Works Director Warren
No report
10. Social Services Department: Director Bryan
No report

OLD BUSINESS:

There was none.

NEW BUSINESS:

11. Resolution 2022-12-06: Consider Approval of Issuance of Liquor Manufacturer License to Sweet Home Spirits Inc
City Attorney Johnny Brunson stated that they should hold off until they hear Chief Irwin's objections. This item will be moved to after executive session.
12. R22-002042/R22-002045/R22-002066 - Unsafe Buildings at 1332/1326/1356 Beech St
Motion to approve Resolution 22-002042, Resolution 22-002045 and Resolution 22-002066 made by Council member Ragland-Pierce, Seconded by Council member Turner. Voting Yea: Mayor Miller, Council member Turner, Council member Dutton, Council member Ragland-Pierce
13. Executive Meeting

City Attorney Scott Barnett stated the Executive Session is a proper request under Sections 36-25-7(a)(1) and 36-25-7(a)(3). Mayor Miller made a motion for Unanimous consent to adjourn into Executive Session. Voting Yea: Mayor Miller, Council member Turner, Council member Dutton, Council member Ragland-Pierce. The Council adjourned into Executive Session at 6:17 pm and returned at 7:48 pm.

Resolution 2022-12-06: Consider Approval of Issuance of Liquor Manufacturer License to Sweet Home Spirits Inc

Motion to table Resolution 2022-12-06 for more information made by Council member Dutton, Seconded by Council member Turner. Voting Yea: Mayor Miller, Council member Turner, Council member Dutton, Council member Ragland-Pierce

14. Resolution 2022-12-07: Consider Approving the Report of City Attorneys to be Discussed with Media

Motion to table Resolution 2022-12-07 until such time information is received made by Council member Ragland-Pierce, Seconded by Council member Turner. Voting Yea: Mayor Miller, Council member Turner, Council member Dutton, Council member Ragland-Pierce

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Ms. Amber Yeackle, 8028 4th Avenue, brought up the sound quality of the microphones.

Mr. Judd Moore, 7360 Mountain View Lane, spoke on the matter of the money that was apparently paid to Barnes & Barnes, as discussed at the last meeting. He then spoke on Russia's freedom of the press and speech.

Mr. Alex Warner, 1003 Crest Road, said rumors about Leeds on the alleged misappropriation of funds have been circulating. He urged the City to have the Redevelopment Authority's records available to be viewed. He also asked if there was a Commercial Development Authority as he could not find any information on one for Leeds.

ADJOURNMENT

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

The meeting adjourned at 7:57 pm.

David Miller, Mayor

Attest:

Toushi Artbitelle, City Clerk