



# CITY OF LEEDS, ALABAMA

## REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

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

April 03, 2023 @ 6:00 PM

### CALL COUNCIL MEETING TO ORDER

Mayor David Miller called the meeting to order at 6:03 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

### CUTOFF FOR PUBLIC COMMENT SIGN-UP

### APPROVE COUNCIL MINUTES

1. Minutes from March 20, 2023

Motion to approve Minutes from April 03, 2023 made by Council member Turner, Seconded by Council member Dutton. Voting Yea: Mayor Miller, Council member Washington, Council member Turner, Council member Dutton. Voting Abstaining: Council member Latta, Council member Ragland-Pierce

### REPORTS OF OFFICERS:

2. Mayor's Report: Mayor David Miller

Mayor Miller read a proclamation recognizing April 10-14, 2023 as Public Safety Telecommunications Week and handed it to representatives from Blount County 911.

Mayor Miller read a proclamation honoring Rodean Russell and handed it to family representative Council member Devoris Ragland-Pierce.

A video was played informing those present of the Leeds Walking Trail celebrating the 100th birthday of the Leeds Jane Culbreth Library.

3. Police Department: Chief Irwin

Chief Irwin acknowledged that dispatchers are critical for First Responders.

Council member Washington mentioned the 'trash' train that was stopped at the crossing on Henry Ellen Road. Chief Parsons added that 2 trains have been stopped at this crossing within the last 10 days. He met with a representative with Norfolk Southern Hazmat Unit regarding the 'trash' train. It was hauling garbage from New Jersey. Mayor Miller added that the railroad is exempt from everything except for Clean Water Act violations. Due to recent rain, the cargo cars were leaking and a complaint has been filed. Chief Parsons said to check the Fire Department's Face Book page for a link to report blocked crossings.

Council member Washington mentioned the destruction that Fentanyl has caused. Chief Irwin said that on March 23, 2023 House Bill 1 was passed in Montgomery and will soon go before Governor Ivey for her signature. Under this legislation, one gram of fentanyl would require a three-year sentence and up to eight grams would mean life in prison.

4. Fire Department: Chief Parsons

Chief Parsons stated that 911 Dispatchers are the First Responder that you deal with if you call 9-1-1. He asked for prayers for LifeSaver 4 that recently crashed. He will have two graduating from firefighter school soon.

5. Municipal Court: Magistrate Roberts  
Absent
6. Development Services Department: City Administrator Watson  
No Report
7. Public Works Department: Public Works Director Warren  
No Report
8. Social Services Department: Director Bryan  
No Report

## **PUBLIC HEARING**

9. RA22-000007: Ordinance assenting to the modification of the Zoning Ordinance to modify the R-5, Garden Home District and to delete the R-6, Patio Home District  
Mr. Edward Cook, Leeds Planning & Zoning Chairman, stated this is a follow-up to the previously approved moratorium. It would apply to any future R-5 development.  
Mr. Dave Mackey, Leeds Planning & Zoning Vice-Chair, added if terrain is an issue then the driveway can be in the front with the garage in the rear.  
Mr. Joe White, local developer - 7129 Elliott Lane, Agrees with the changes however it will increase pricing of new homes and will create a crisis in affordability.  
Ms. Susan Carswell, 2120 Montevallo Road, stated that first-time homebuyers do not need brand new homes.  
There was no other public comment. The item was referred to Council.
10. A request for an Alcoholic Beverage License to Neal B. Jackson DBA Jackson Rime Realty at 310 Rex Lake Road; Leeds, AL 35094  
Mr. Neal Jackson, applicant - Jackson Rime LLC dba Hampton Inn, stated this is a requirement for all Hampton locations. All front desk clerks will be trained.  
There was no other public comment. The item was referred to Council.  
Public Hearing closed at 7:05 pm.

## **OLD BUSINESS:**

There was no Old Business.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

11. Executive Session  
City Attorney Johnny Brunson addressed Council and stated the Executive Session is advisory only and can be tabled to the next meeting.  
Motion to table Executive Session until the next meeting 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
12. Ordinance 2023-04-01: Consider a Modification to the Zoning Ordinance of the R-5, Garden Home District, and R-6, Patio Home District  
Motion for Unanimous Consent to Consider Ordinance 2023-04-01 made by Council member Turner, Seconded by Council member Latta. Voting Yea: Mayor Miller, Council member Turner, Council member Dutton, Council member Latta, Council member Ragland-Pierce. Voting Nay: Council member Washington.
13. Resolution 2023-04-01: Consider Approval of Issuance of Retail Beer License (on-premise) and Retail Table Wine License (on-premise) to Neal B. Jackson, DBA Jackson Rime Realty at 310 Rex Lake Road; Leeds AL 35094  
Motion to approve Resolution 2023-04-01 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

14. Resolution 2023-04-02: Consider Adopting the Division "G" Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan

Motion to approve Resolution 2023-04-02 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

15. Resolution 2023-04-03: Consider Approving Budget Adjustment for Public Works Department to refurbish Holiday Lighting

Motion to approve Resolution 2023-04-03 made by Council member Turner, 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

16. Resolution 2023-04-04: Consider Approval of 2023 "Back-to-School" Sales Tax Holiday

Motion to approve Resolution 2023-04-04 made by Council member Ragland-Pierce, 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

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Ms. Amber Vines, Main Street Leeds, gave an update of their progress.

Ms. Laurie Ward, 1252 Norman Drive, declined to speak.

Mr. Randy Ray, 6287 Ziegler Road - representative of Leeds Historical Society, they are working with Leeds Jane Culbreth Library on a historic downtown walking tour to celebrate 100 years of the library.

Ms. Donna Williams, 7263 Maine Avenue, gave thanks to the City regarding efforts made to help move the stopped train at RR crossing on Henry Ellen Road.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion to adjourn 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

The meeting adjourned at 7:20 pm.

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David Miller, Mayor

Attest:

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Toushi Artbitelle, City Clerk