

**CITY OF LEEDS, ALABAMA
REGULAR SCHEDULED COUNCIL MEETING
OCTOBER 21, 2013**

The City Council of the City of Leeds, Alabama met for a Regular Scheduled Council Meeting on Monday, October 21, 2013 at 6:00 p.m. at the Leeds Civic Center Meeting Room, 1000 Park Drive, Leeds, Alabama 35094.

1. CALL TO ORDER: The Mayor called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM with Councilmembers Johnny Dutton, Devoris Roscha Ragland, Eric Turner, Craig Wadsworth and Kenneth Washington present.

2. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE:The Invocation was led by Jimmy Roy Johnson.

3. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF COUNCIL MINUTES: Minutes from the Council Meeting on October 7, 2013 were reviewed. Motion to approve the minutes as presented by Councilmember Turner with a second by Councilmember Dutton; the motion passed with Councilmember Ragland abstaining as not being present.

4. OLD BUSINESS:

a) Ordinance 2013-10-01 Authorizing Warrants. City Attorney Scott Barnett suggested the Council table Ordinance 2013-10-01 until the final amount can be included. Motion to table the ordinance by Councilmember Washington with a second by Councilmember Ragland; the motion passed with all present voting yes.

5. DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:

a) Administration, Mayor Miller: Mayor informed the council of the results of the recent bond rating results. The analyst raised the city's rating two places to AA from the current status of A+; this improved rating will directly affect the rates of the upcoming warrants.

b) Fire Department, Chief Pierce: No Report.

c) Police Department, Chief Jackson: Report provided to Council.

d) Library, Director Williams: Excused absence. The Library report was provided to the Council.

e) Inspection Department, Superintendent Watson: No Report.

f) Parks and Recreation Department, Supervisor Keating: No Report.

g) Streets and Sanitation Department, Supervisor Keating: Mr. Keating announced that First Avenue is open between First Avenue and 10th Street but 9th Street leading to Lehigh is still closed allowing the concrete to cure.

h) Municipal Court, Magistrate Roberts: Excused absence.

6. COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS:

a) Finance Chairperson, Eric Turner: No Report.

b) Public Safety Committee, Devoris Roscha Ragland: No Report.

c) Parks & Recreation Committee, Craig Wadsworth: No Report.

7. NEW BUSINESS:

a) Stanley Burrell, President of Leeds Youth Basketball, addressed the Council with the following information: the children in this program are ages 5-12. The Civic Center and the Moton Center are not good places to play. Mr. John Moore,

Superintendent of the City Schools refused when asked about the possibility of using the school gym. Councilmember Washington commented that when the schools were built, they were supposed to be available for community activities and asked Mayor Miller to speak to Mr. Moore about this issue. Mayor Miller stated that the ultimate decision is up to the Board of Education. When asked by Councilmember Craig Wadsworth, Mr. Burrell stated that there are six teams (or about 70 children) in the program.

b) Transit Study. Mr. Richey, of Whitman, Requardt & Associates, LLP was introduced by Laura Land, representative from the Regional Planning Commission. Mr. Richey has been named as the RPC Consultant regarding this matter. Mr. Richey informed the council of the public hearing being held next week regarding this topic. There was a handout given to council from Mr. Richey. Richey spoke of the processes involved with this type of project and the need to name a steering committee member to be part of this project. He stated that this person could be an elected official or staff person.

c) Resolution 2013-10-03 Authorize Tree Removal. Mr. Keating explained the resolution, stating that the tree is dying; Mr. Cook added the approval of the Tree Commission. Motion to approve Resolution 2013-10-03 by Councilmember Washington with a second by Councilmember Wadsworth; the motion passed with all present voting yes.

d) Resolution 2013-10-04 Set Annexation Public Hearing. The properties involved are 830 and 840 Southern Trace Parkway. Motion to approve the Resolution and to set the Public Hearing for February 3, 2014 by Councilmember Dutton with a second by Councilmember Wadsworth; the motion passed with all present voting yes.

e) Resolution 2013-10-05 Set Annexation Public Hearing. The property is identified as 689 Southern Trace Parkway, the Club House for the development. Motion to approve the Resolution and set the Public Hearing for February 3, 2014 by Councilmember Dutton with a second by Councilmember Wadsworth; the motion passed with all present voting yes.

f) Ordinance 2013-10-05 Moratorium Related to Permitting of Collection Bins. Motion to adopt the ordinance with the amended statement replacing the words "Planning and Zoning" with "City Council" by Councilmember Dutton with a second by Councilmember Ragland; after discussion from Councilmember Washington and Attorney Brunson, the motion passed with all present voting yes.

g) Ordinance 2013-10-03 Amendment to the City Zoning Map. Motion to adopt Ordinance 2013-10-03 by Councilmember Turner with a second by Councilmember Wadsworth; the motion passed with all present voting yes.

h) Ordinance 2013-10-04 Amending Unsafe Building Ordinance.

A motion to suspend the rules and consider this a first reading for the Ordinance by Councilmember Ragland, with a second by Councilmember Washington; the motion to suspend the rules passed with all present voting yes.

Ms. Kathy Drake addressed the Council regarding a burnt home on Oliver Street next to her son's residence. Ms. Drake indicated that the burnt home has been there since the first part of the year and nothing has been done to abate this nuisance.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2013-10-04 by Councilmember Wadsworth with a second by Councilmember Ragland; after discussion from Superintendent Watson and Councilmember Washington, the motion passed with all present voting yes.

8. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Mr. Stanley Burrell in an additional request to speak stated that the Civic Center, Jerry Oxford and Moton Gymnasiums are not up to standards. Mr. Burrell asked why he cannot get permission from the City Schools to use their facilities. Mayor Miller responded by indicating that it is a Board of Education matter and cannot be decided by the City Council. Councilmember Washington reminded those present that when the schools were built, it was understood that they would be community friendly towards activities and Councilmember Washington asked that the Mayor speak to School Superintendent Moore about this matter. The Mayor indicated that he would visit with the Superintendent but the City does not have legal authority over the BOE. Burrell reminded all present that there are about 70 kids in the program and he is seeking a place to play on Saturdays.

City Attorney Brunson asked that the Council excuse itself to Executive Session. Motion to go into Executive Session by Councilmember Wadsworth, with a second by Councilmember Turner; the motion passed with all present voting yes.

City Attorney Barnett stated that no further action is anticipated after the Executive Session and declares that the Session meets with the Alabama State Open Meetings Act. Mayor Miller ruled to finish the public comment portion of the meeting first and then adjourn to executive session.

8. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Ms. Melva Garner, 7601 Georgia Avenue, regarding a drainage problem which was a result of work completed by the Leeds Water Works Board. Councilmember Washington indicated that he will attend the next Water Board meeting to bring this matter to their attention to resolve.

ADJOURNMENT: Council adjourned to Executive Session at 6:45PM and adjourned the Executive Session at 7:25PM. Motion by Councilmember Turner with a second by to adjourn the Regular Council Meeting at 7:27PM.



David Miller, Mayor

ATTEST:



Kevin Fouts, City Clerk