

**CITY OF LEEDS, ALABAMA
PUBLIC HEARING AND
REGULAR SCHEDULED COUNCIL MEETING
MAY 05, 2014**

The City Council of the City of Leeds, Alabama met for a Public Hearing and a Regular Scheduled Council Meeting on Monday, May 5, 2014 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 6:09 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 Councilmember Turner.

PUBLIC HEARING:

The TAP (Transportation Alternative Program) Public Hearing was called to order at 6:10PM by Mayor Miller. The mayor gave a brief description of the proposed project. There were no comments from the public and the Mayor closed the Public Hearing at 6:11PM.

REGULAR SCHEDULED COUNCIL MEETING:

3. REVIEW AND APPROVE COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES: April 21, 2014 Council Meeting Minutes and April 30, 2014 Called Council Meeting Minutes were reviewed. Councilmember Washington, with a second by Councilmember Turner, moved to approve minutes for April 21, 2014 and April 30, 2014 with a correction in the minutes of April 30th to show that Mr. Turner was absent. The motion passed with all present voting yes.

4. DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:

a) Administration, Mayor Miller: The Mayor announced that a city employee was injured today. He has burns and is hospitalized at UAB Hospital.

b) Fire Department, Chief Pierce: No Report.

c) Police Department, Chief Jackson: No Report.

d) Library, Director Williams: Ms. Williams invite everybody to the Scholastic Book Fair Monday, May 12 through Monday, May 19 during normal library hours.

Mayor Miller announced new rules for voting in the upcoming election scheduled for June 3, 2014, indicating that a Photo Identification will be required. The Mayor called attention to the voter registration applications available at the rear table.

Mayor Miller also thanked the Departments and all volunteers with the Creek Bank Festival for the best year ever.

e) Inspection Department, Superintendent Watson: No Report.

f) Parks and Recreation Department, Supervisor Keating: Mr. Keating announced that in order to assist voters, the State will have a photo ID processing event from 1pm to 4pm, Wednesday, May 7, 2014 at the Leeds Civic Center.

g) Streets and Sanitation Department, Supervisor Keating: No Report.

h) Municipal Court, Magistrate Roberts: No Report.

5. 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.

d) Primary School Construction Review Committee. Mr. Ben Watson presented information to the Council. The Architect has submitted the plans for the school to the State Building Department and approvals are expected any day now. The Site Package has been completed and deemed economically feasible. Watson reports the Site Package is ready to bid but the Committee is waiting for the Developer to complete their obligations. The School Board and the Architect have completed their duties to date and are now waiting for the Developer.

Mr. Watson informed the Council that there is approximately 40,000 to 50,000 cubic yards of excess soil that will need to be stock piled on site to balance the site for the building. The question of possible erosion problems from that stock pile back to the building site was discussed. While possible, Mr. Watson pointed out that the agreements state that erosion is not acceptable and that everything done properly will minimize that possibility. Councilmember Washington asked if the proposed site is outside of the sinkhole area; Watson responded that there were 25 borings on the proposed site by the Geo Tech firm and no sink holes were found. Councilmember Washington commented that it would be nice not to have the Stock Pile on site. Mr. Watson responded it would cost \$750,000 to \$800,000 to move the soil, so it was left on site as a cost savings measure. There was a question from the audience about the location of the School; the Mayor answered, giving the location as near the intersection of Zeigler Road and Rex Lake Road.

6. NEW BUSINESS:

a) Barber Motorsports Museum Presentation To Council: Mr. Don Erwin, from Barber Motorsports Museum, presented a plaque to the Council certifying that the Guinness Book of World Records recognizes the Barber Motorsports Museum as being the largest motorcycle museum in the world. Mr. Erwin stated that Leeds has always been part of this partnership and presentation of this plaque to the city is appropriate. Erwin indicated that the museum has been located there for 11 years and has approximately 1,400 motorcycles on display.

b) Oliver Crossing Subdivision Presentation To Council: Sherri Johnson spoke about a bike and walking trail that crosses Oliver Road. The Subdivision is seeking a cross walk marking due to children playing in the area. Mayor indicates that he has instructed the City's engineer to look into this matter and present a solution to the Council.

c) Resolution 2014-05-01 Regarding Sales Tax Holiday: Motion to approve Resolution 2014-05-01 by Councilmember Washington with a second by Councilmember Ragland; the motion passed with all present voting yes.

d) Ordinance 2014-05-01 Amending Park Rules Ordinance: Mayor Miller gave a brief description of the purpose of the Ordinance and an update of the Splash Pad Park progress.

Motion to suspend the rules by Councilmember Wadsworth with a second by Councilmember Dutton; the motion passed with all voting yes.

Mayor Miller indicated that admission to the Splash Pad would be for Leeds residents only or an out of town guest of a resident. Motion to adopt Ordinance 2014-05-01 by Councilmember Wadsworth with a second by Councilmember Ragland. Discussion followed. Councilmember Washington questioned grills not being allowed in the park. The Mayor answered that there is a very limited grass area; some immediate area will be covered with an artificial grass such as AstroTurf

in order to keep grass clippings from being tracked into the pad area. Councilmember Washington recommended that the City place grills there and thereby control the location of the grills. Councilmember Washington also questioned the ban on cigarette smoking at the Splash Pad; there currently is an ordinance that bans cigarette smoking on City Property and this would be redundant. Attorney Brunson reminded Council that this prohibition could still be on the sign. Councilmember Wadsworth and Councilmember Ragland agreed to amend his motion to include changes suggested by legal council to allow residents to bring in guests. The motion passed with all present voting yes.

Attorney Brunson brought to the attention of the Council that Councilmember Turner was not present at the April 30, 2014 meeting and to reflect as much in the minutes. Mr. Brunson also indicated that the firm is monitoring how electronic cigarette rules are being monitored and will update the Council accordingly.

7. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Betty Willingham, Lynn Avenue, stated her concern about cemetery maintenance issues. Ms. Willingham is seeking to have an active committee to oversee contractors and asked if there any plans to do anything with the cemetery for its upkeep. Ms. Willingham indicates that old flowers, weeds, settling and etc. is occurring. Mayor Miller indicted that the Cemetery Board has not been active but he will look into the matter. Ms. Willingham stated that she is willing to serve on the Committee. Mayor informed Ms. Willingham that he will look into this matter.

Kathye Drake, 1008 Kings Forest Drive, supported Ms. Willingham's statement.

ADJOURNMENT: With no other comments from the Public, Councilmember Turner moved to adjourn the meeting with a second by Councilmember Wadsworth. The meeting was adjourned at 6:53PM.



David Miller, Mayor

ATTEST:



Kevin Fouts, City Clerk