

**CITY OF LEEDS, ALABAMA
REGULAR SCHEDULED COUNCIL MEETING
JULY 7, 2014**

The City Council of the City of Leeds, Alabama met for a Regular Scheduled Council Meeting on Monday, July 7, 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 6:00 PM with Councilmembers Devoris Roscha Ragland, Eric Turner, Craig Wadsworth and Kenneth Washington present. Councilmember Johnny Dutton was absent.

2. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE: The Invocation was led by Councilmember Turner.

3. REVIEW AND APPROVE COUNCIL MINUTES: Minutes of the Council Meeting on June 16, 2014 were reviewed. Motion to approve the minutes by Councilmember Turner and seconded by Councilmember Ragland. The motion passed with all present voting yes.

4. OLD BUSINESS:

There was no old business to come before the Council.

5. DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:

a) Administration, Mayor Miller: Mayor Miller called attention to the Proclamation planned for Miss Brooke Kelly, outstanding gymnast for Leeds. Ms. Kelly is away, visiting colleges to make her choice of a school to attend and the proclamation will be presented at a later date.

b) Update on the Cogbill Street Extension. The Mayor introduced Mr. Tyler Davis of CCI Planning and Engineering to give the Council an update of the Cogbill Street Bridge project. Davis indicated that the engineer has completed a preliminary design with City officials last week. The Mayor asked when the project will be started; Mr. Davis suggested it would happen pretty quickly after another two weeks of working out the details.

c) Fire Department, Chief Pierce: June report provided.

d) Police Department, Chief Jackson: No Report.

e) Library, Director Williams: Ms. Williams reported that Ms. Eve Parker's program called "Boom" will be presented tomorrow afternoon, July 8. On Thursday, July 10, a program by Professor Zounds is planned for the morning and at 2 pm, the "Bubble & Squeak" program. Next week on Tuesday, July 15th the regular Totttime will be held as well as the Walt Disney movie, "The Computer Wore Tennis Shoes". In the afternoon of July 15, Ms. Eve will present the "READ" program.

f) Inspection Department, Superintendent Watson. No Report.

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

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

h) Municipal Court, Magistrate Roberts: Report supplied to Council.

6. COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS:

a) Finance Chairperson, Eric Turner: No Report.

b) Public Safety Committee, Devoris Roscha Ragland: 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, P.E.:** Watson reported that the Project is in review with USX (United States Steel) and the Committee has not had a status update. Mr. Watson reported that the project is still on track to be completed for next school year if something happens soon. A preliminary Deed has been received and plans are still on track for completion of the school by the opening of the school year.

7. **NEW BUSINESS:**

a) **Walter Lewis of Benchmark Securities to Address Council:** Mr. Lewis presented information to the Council and presented a summary of his company's services available to the City.

b) **Large Playground at Highway 119, Carol Phillips:** Ms. Phillips discussed with the Council the need to have a drinking fountain and bathroom facilities to be installed at the playground area. Phillips also thanked the Fire Department for spraying the playground equipment for cleanliness. The Mayor expressed appreciation to Ms. Phillips for all the work she has done to make that playground accessible.

c) **High School Football Stadium, Carol Phillips:** Phillips thanked the Council for the projects done to help promote the City, specifically the Signs at Exit 140, the Splash Pad facilities, Primary School Financing, and the new High School sign. Ms. Phillips called attention to City staff members Kevin Fouts, Brad Watson, and George Keating for all the work they have done with these and other smaller projects. After presenting a brief history of the financial progress of the city in 2004 until today, Phillips disclosed that in a recent article Leeds and Madison County were being considered to be aired on ESPN. Phillips later stated that the Leeds facility will not be aired, due to the condition of the Stadium. Ms. Phillips commented that she is disappointed that the City will not be able to leverage the free publicity for the city from the games being aired. Phillips is convinced that the City has the best leaders in place and they could figure out a way to finance a new football stadium. The Mayor indicated that he agreed with all that she had stated and suggested the council also agreed. Miller states in considering overall needs, the Primary School was considered the most important as well as a new City Hall. The Mayor also stated that there are new stores moving into Leeds along with other deals that he cannot mention at this time. Mayor stated that the City looked at some options, including renovating the current stadium, but learned it was less expensive to build a new facility. Mr. Holbert Thomas, 8576 Dover Drive, addressed the council about the work the Football staff does to prepare for a game. Thomas gave a brief time line of the state of the facility and states that it is time to find a way to build a stadium.

d) **Resolution 2014-07-01 Confirming Costs of Weeds Abatement:** Motion to approve Resolution 2014-07-01 by Councilmember Wadsworth with a second by Councilmember Washington; the motion passed with all present voting yes.

e) **Resolution 2014-07-02 Declare Weeds on Certain Properties A Public Nuisance and Ordering Its Abatement.** Motion to approve Resolution 2014-07-02 by Councilmember Turner with a second by Councilmember Ragland. After some discussion the motion passed with all present voting yes.

f) **Resolution 2014-07-03 Acceptance & Approval of Certain Street Lights Within The City.** Motion to approve Resolution 2014-07-03 by Councilmember Wadsworth with a second by Councilmember Turner; after discussion, motion passed with all present voting yes. Mayor announced that if there are any street lights out, citizens are instructed to identify the pole number and report to the City to alert AL Power to repair the fixture.

g) Ordinance 2014-07-01 Restating, Renewing, Amending and Adopting Rules, Regulations, and Reservation Guidelines For the Parks.

Motion to suspend the rules by Councilmember Ragland with a second by Councilmember Wadsworth. The motion passed with all present voting to suspend the rules.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2014-07-01 by Councilmember Wadsworth with a second by Councilmember Turner; the motion passed with all present voting yes.

h) Ordinance 2014-07-02 One Year Moratorium on Certain New Business Licenses.

Motion to suspend the rules by Councilmember Wadsworth with a second by Councilmember Ragland; motion passed with all present voting yes to suspension of the rules.

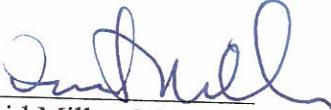
Motion to adopt Ordinance 2014-07-02 by Councilmember Wadsworth with a second by Councilmember Ragland. After brief discussion by Brad Watson indicating that the Redevelopment Authority has asked for this to allow them time to develop the form-based code, the motion passed with all present voting yes.

i) Ordinance 2014-07-03 Large Truck Restriction on Forest Drive.

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

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2014-07-03 by Councilmember Washington with a second by Councilmember Wadsworth; the motion passed with all present voting yes.

8. PUBLIC COMMENT: No comments were offered by the public.



David Miller, Mayor

ATTEST:



Kevin Fouts, City Clerk