

**CITY OF LEEDS, ALABAMA  
REGULAR SCHEDULED COUNCIL MEETING  
JULY 18, 2016**

The Council of the City of Leeds, Alabama met for a Regular Scheduled Council Meeting on Monday, July 18, 2016, at 6:00PM in the Leeds Civic Center Meeting Room, 1000 Park Drive, Leeds, Alabama 35094.

**1. CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor David Miller called the meeting to order at 6:04PM with Councilmembers Johnny Dutton, Devoris Roscha Ragland-Pierce, Craig Wadsworth and Kenneth Washington present. Councilmember Eric Turner was absent.

**2. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** the invocation was given by Councilmember Johnny Dutton.

**3. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF COUNCIL MINUTES:** minutes from the July 11, 2016 City Council Meeting were reviewed. Motion to approve minutes as written given by Councilmember Dutton with a second by Councilmember Wadsworth; the motion passed with Councilmember Washington abstaining.

Motion to excuse the absence of Councilmember Turner was offered by Councilmember Dutton with a second by Councilmember Ragland-Pierce; the motion passed unanimously.

**4. OLD BUSINESS:** there was no old business to come before the Council.

**5. DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:**

**a) Administration, Mayor Miller.** Mayor Miller announced the Open House for the new Primary School on August 14, 2016 at 5:00PM.

**b) Fire Department, Chief Parsons.** Chief Parson reported a training exercise held at the old quarry on Shale Road. Members of Leeds, Moody, Pell City, and Talladega Departments participated in the exercise, which was covered by local television news stations.

**c) Police Department, Chief Jackson.** Report included in Council Packet.

**d) Library, Director Williams.** Ms. Williams announced there are two weeks remaining in the summer program. Other library plans include the Stuffed Animals Slumber Party planned for August 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> and a retirement program in September, October and December regarding Medicare programs.

**e) Inspection Department, Superintendent Watson.** No Report.

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

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

**h) Municipal Court, Magistrate Roberts.** No Report.

Mayor David Miller introduced Pat Thetford, candidate for Civil Circuit Judge for Jefferson County. Mr. Thetford addressed the Council.

**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.

**d) Primary School Construction Review Committee, Mr. Ben Watson, P.E.** Mr. Watson distributed invoices and reported the school is on schedule for final inspections on July 27<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Watson recommends payment of the invoices submitted for a total of \$788,070.24. Motion to pay invoices subject to Board of Education approval by Councilmember Wadsworth with a second by Councilmember Dutton. The motion passed with all present voting yes.

Motion to add item 7-c for unanimous consent to consider Resolution 2016-07-09 by Councilmember Washington with a second by Councilmember Wadsworth to add to agenda, motion passed unanimously.

## **7. NEW BUSINESS:**

**a) Resolution 2016-07-07 Consider Requiring Contractors Hired By The City to Maintain Workers Compensation Insurance Coverage.** Motion to approve Resolution 2016-07-07 by Councilmember Wadsworth with a second by Councilmember Ragland-Pierce; the motion passed unanimously.

**b) Resolution 2016-07-08 Consider Preparation of List Of Voters.** Motion to approve Resolution 2016-07-08 by Councilmember Dutton with a second by Councilmember Ragland-Pierce; motion passed unanimously.

**c) Resolution 2016-07-09 Approve Election Officers:** Motion to approve Resolution 2016-07-09 by Councilmember Wadsworth with a second by Councilmember Dutton; the motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Miller reported that the meeting room sound system is operational and technicians will work on the feedback issues.

## **8. PUBLIC COMMENT:**

**Rose Stephenson, 1245 Trails End Road,** addressed the Council regarding a Splash Pad matter. Ms. Stephenson reported that she resides in St. Clair county, has a Leeds address and is not sure if her residence is in Moody, Leeds or unincorporated St. Clair County. Upon discussion, Attorney Brunson suggested that the City determine the current jurisdiction of the Stephenson's residence. Inspections Superintendent Watson reported that the Stephenson's residence is located in unincorporated St. Clair County. Mr. Watson also reported that the Stephenson's property is not contiguous with the Corporate Limits of the City of Leeds and the only option would be to annex into a city (perhaps the City of Moody).

**Hobart Thomas, 8536 Dover Drive.** Mr. Thomas asked about the funds allotment by district for road repair. The Mayor stated the funds are allocated by necessities and not by size of district. Mr. Thomas also asked about the land being cleared along Park Drive; the mayor clarified that land as being a parking lot. Thomas asked where City Hall would be located; Mayor Miller indicated that City Hall would be located on First Avenue where the City has negotiated land from LeHigh Cement Company. Mr. Thomas asked if there are police officers available for a rapid response team if there were to be an emergency situation at the school.

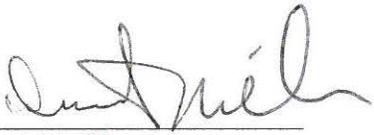
**Kathye Drake, 1008 Kings Forest Drive,** commented on her research on salaries for City Employees. Ms. Drake reported that employees come to Leeds to be trained and then move on to other jurisdictions for better pay, resulting in high employee turnover. Ms. Drake stated that the city should be considered in the next budget for a COLA (Cost of Living Adjustment). Drake reported that the last COLA was in 2012.

**Stacey Tawbush, 1725 Dorrrough Avenue.** Ms. Tawbush discussed about the Leeds Youth Program not having access to facilities at the school. Tawbush reported having to cancel two practice sessions for this reason. She also reported not being able to contact anyone at the Civic Center to get access to the gymnasium. Ms. Tawbush requested a key to the concession stand in order to have access to the bathrooms. Councilmember Washington suggested there be a meeting with the

City's Park Board to determine where the Leeds Youth Football can practice and play. Tawbush reports there are 115 boys registered for the Leeds Youth Football program up from 86 last year.

**Jerry Trott, 8532 Covington Way.** Mr. Trott discussed recommendations posted by St. Clair County regarding mosquito control. Trott discussed the water retention at the storm water facility located in the 7<sup>th</sup> sector. **Ms. Judy Goff**, President of the neighborhood Homeowners Association, indicated there are no funds available to maintain the pond. Mr. Trott stated the facility was deeded to the association. Councilmember Washington stated the association should be collecting funds to pay for repairs of this type which are the responsibility of the Subdivision. Mr. Trott stated the water being retained in the facility is a health hazard. Councilmembers Washington, Dutton, Wadsworth and Ragland-Pierce stated that the issue is a Homeowners Association matter to resolve and needs to be resolved as such and not by the city. City Attorney Barnett stated that even though the City abated a problem in years past, he advised the City not to consider doing anything with this matter as it is a private property maintenance issue.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Motion to adjourn by Councilmember Dutton at 7:23PM.



David Miller, Mayor

ATTEST:



Kevin Fouts, City Clerk

**STATEMENT FROM MAYOR TO COUNCIL  
NOTIFYING COUNCIL THAT ONLY ONE PERSON FILED A  
STATEMENT OF CANDIDACY FOR A PARTICULAR OFFICE**

**STATE OF ALABAMA  
JEFFERSON COUNTY**

To the Council of the City of Leeds, Leeds, Alabama

This is to certify that only one person filed a statement of candidacy for the office of  
City Council District Four (4) by 5:00 p.m. on the third Tuesday in July preceding the day of  
August 23, 2016, the date set for an election of municipal officers in the City of Leeds, Alabama, and  
the name of such person is Ryan Bell.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
David Miller, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Kevin Fouts, City Clerk

**STATEMENT FROM MAYOR TO COUNCIL  
NOTIFYING COUNCIL THAT ONLY ONE PERSON FILED A  
STATEMENT OF CANDIDACY FOR A PARTICULAR OFFICE**

**STATE OF ALABAMA  
JEFFERSON COUNTY**

To the Council of the City of Leeds, Leeds, Alabama

This is to certify that only one person filed a statement of candidacy for the office of  
City Council District Two (2) by 5:00 p.m. on the third Tuesday in July preceding the day of  
August 23, 2016, the date set for an election of municipal officers in the City of Leeds, Alabama, and  
the name of such person is Eric Turner.



David Miller, Mayor

ATTEST:



Kevin Fouts, City Clerk

**STATEMENT FROM MAYOR TO COUNCIL  
NOTIFYING COUNCIL THAT ONLY ONE PERSON FILED A  
STATEMENT OF CANDIDACY FOR A PARTICULAR OFFICE**

**STATE OF ALABAMA  
JEFFERSON COUNTY**

To the Council of the City of Leeds, Leeds, Alabama

This is to certify that only one person filed a statement of candidacy for the office of  
City Council District Three (3) by 5:00 p.m. on the third Tuesday in July preceding the day of  
August 23, 2016, the date set for an election of municipal officers in the City of Leeds, Alabama, and  
the name of such person is Johnny Dutton.



David Miller, Mayor

ATTEST:



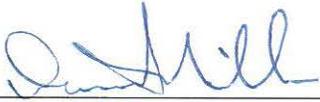
Kevin Fouts, City Clerk

**STATEMENT FROM MAYOR TO COUNCIL  
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**STATE OF ALABAMA  
JEFFERSON COUNTY**

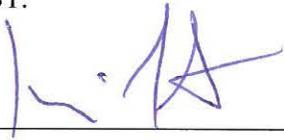
To the Council of the City of Leeds, Leeds, Alabama

This is to certify that only one person filed a statement of candidacy for the office of  
City Council District One (1) by 5:00 p.m. on the third Tuesday in July preceding the day of  
August 23, 2016, the date set for an election of municipal officers in the City of Leeds, Alabama, and  
the name of such person is Kenneth Washington.

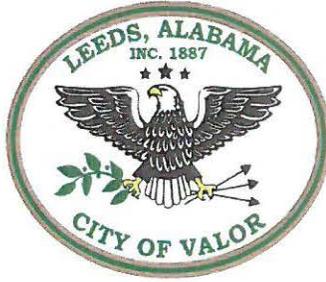


David Miller, Mayor

ATTEST:



Kevin Fouts, City Clerk



**CERTIFICATE OF ELECTION**

STATE OF ALABAMA

JEFFERSON COUNTY

CITY OF LEEDS

The undersigned hereby certify that Eric G. Turner was the only person to file a statement of candidacy for the office of Leeds City Council, District Two (2), in the general municipal election to be held in the City of Leeds, Alabama, on August 23, 2016. Accordingly, pursuant to the provisions of Section 11-46-26 of the Code of Alabama, 1972, as amended, Eric G. Turner was duly elected to the office of Leeds City Council, District Two (2), of the City of Leeds, Alabama, for the term commencing on the first Monday of November, 2016.

Given Under our hand pursuant to the requirements of Sections 11-46-20 et seq. Of the Alabama Code of 1975, as amended, this 1<sup>st</sup> day of August, 2016.

David Miller, Mayor

Kenneth Washington, Councilmember

Eric Turner, Councilmember

Johnny Dutton, Councilmember

Craig Wadsworth, Councilmember

Devoris Ragland - Pierce, Councilmember



**CERTIFICATE OF ELECTION**

STATE OF ALABAMA

JEFFERSON COUNTY

CITY OF LEEDS

The undersigned hereby certify that Ryan Bell was the only person to file a statement of candidacy for the office of Leeds City Council, District Four (4), in the general municipal election to be held in the City of Leeds, Alabama, on August 23, 2016. Accordingly, pursuant to the provisions of Section 11-46-26 of the Code of Alabama, 1972, as amended, Ryan Bell was duly elected to the office of Leeds City Council, District Four (4), of the City of Leeds, Alabama, for the term commencing on the first Monday of November, 2016.

Given Under our hand pursuant to the requirements of Sections 11-46-20 et seq. Of the Alabama Code of 1975, as amended, this 1<sup>st</sup> day of August, 2016.

David Miller, Mayor

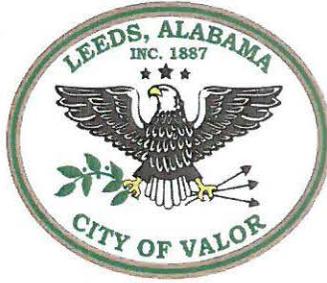
Kenneth Washington, Councilmember

Eric Turner, Councilmember

Johnny Dutton, Councilmember

Craig Wadsworth, Councilmember

Devoris Ragland - Pierce, Councilmember



**CERTIFICATE OF ELECTION**

STATE OF ALABAMA

JEFFERSON COUNTY

CITY OF LEEDS

The undersigned hereby certify that Kenneth Washington was the only person to file a statement of candidacy for the office of Leeds City Council, District One (1), in the general municipal election to be held in the City of Leeds, Alabama, on August 23, 2016. Accordingly, pursuant to the provisions of Section 11-46-26 of the Code of Alabama, 1972, as amended, Kenneth Washington was duly elected to the office of Leeds City Council, District One (1), of the City of Leeds, Alabama, for the term commencing on the first Monday of November, 2016.

Given Under our hand pursuant to the requirements of Sections 11-46-20 et seq. Of the Alabama Code of 1975, as amended, this 1<sup>st</sup> day of August, 2016.

David Miller, Mayor

Kenneth Washington, Councilmember

Eric Turner, Councilmember

Johnny Dutton, Councilmember

Craig Wadsworth, Councilmember

Devoris Ragland - Pierce, Councilmember



**CERTIFICATE OF ELECTION**

STATE OF ALABAMA

JEFFERSON COUNTY

CITY OF LEEDS

The undersigned hereby certify that Johnny G. Dutton was the only person to file a statement of candidacy for the office of Leeds City Council, District Three (3), in the general municipal election to be held in the City of Leeds, Alabama, on August 23, 2016. Accordingly, pursuant to the provisions of Section 11-46-26 of the Code of Alabama, 1972, as amended, Johnny G. Dutton was duly elected to the office of Leeds City Council, District Three (3), of the City of Leeds, Alabama, for the term commencing on the first Monday of November, 2016.

Given Under our hand pursuant to the requirements of Sections 11-46-20 et seq. Of the Alabama Code of 1975, as amended, this 1<sup>st</sup> day of August, 2016.

David Miller, Mayor

Kenneth Washington, Councilmember

Eric Turner, Councilmember

Johnny Dutton, Councilmember

Craig Wadsworth, Councilmember

Devoris Ragland - Pierce, Councilmember