

# TOWN OF LEEDS

RESOLUTION 2026-06

## A RESOLUTION OF THE LEEDS TOWN COUNCIL TO ADOPT A POLICY FOR THE OPENING CEREMONY FOR TOWN COUNCIL AND PLANNING COMMISSION MEETINGS

WHEREAS the Town Council of the Town of Leeds, Utah (the “*Town Council*”) desires to adopt a policy to include an Opening Ceremony at the start of Town Council and Planning Commission meetings;

WHEREAS the Leeds Town Council and Planning Commission have traditionally invited the presentation of thoughts, readings, and invocations, along with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag, as an Opening Ceremony before certain Town Council and Planning Commission meetings. This opening to the Town’s publicly noticed meetings of Town Council and Planning Commission meetings is solely for a secular purpose, among other reasons to: (1) provide a moment during which Council members, Planning Commissioners and members of the public reflect on the importance of the business before the Town Council and Planning Commission; (2) promote an atmosphere of civility; (3) encourage lofty thought and high-mindedness; (4) recognize cultural diversity; (5) foster sensitivity for and recognize the uniqueness of all segments of our community. The presentations shall be done on a volunteer basis and without cost to the Town. The presentations are intended to be nondenominational and non-proselytizing in character; however, the Town will not dictate the form or content of any such presentation. It is the formal policy of the Leeds Town Council to seek out a wide variety of community organizations, churches, and individuals to offer thoughts, readings, and invocations at Town Council and Planning Commission meetings to achieve its stated purposes; and

WHEREAS the Town Council held an open and public meeting on January 14, 2026, and by majority vote adopted a policy for the opening ceremony for Town Council and Planning Commission meetings, as herein defined:

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE TOWN COUNCIL, by majority vote, did approve the following:

1. That the Town Clerk/Recorder shall schedule the presentation of thoughts, readings, and invocations.
2. That if the scheduled presenter does not show up at the meeting, no last minute substitution will be made
3. That the Town will mail a letter every six months to area churches and civic groups inviting them to contact the Clerk/Recorder to schedule a thought, reading or invocation.

4. That individuals who are not given this invitation are also welcome to present by giving the Town a written request to do so.
5. That the Town Council will be given a report every six months containing the names and affiliation of those who have made presentations.
6. That a “suggestion for presenters” covering the five reasons listed in the second whereas of this resolution be given to each proposed presenter.
7. That the title of the matter on the agenda is changed to “Invocation, Reading, or Thought.”
8. That this resolution will become effective January 28, 2026.

PASSED BY RESOLUTION THIS 14th DAY OF January 2026.

LEEDS, WASHINGTON COUNTY, UTAH

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Mayor, Wayne Peterson

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Clerk/Recorder, Cari Bishop

Mayor Wayne Peterson, voted

Councilmember Christine Harvey, voted

Councilmember Kohl Furley, voted

Councilmember Jeffrey Allen, voted

Councilmember Aaron Price, voted

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