

Town of Leeds

Town Council Meeting for Wednesday, January 05, 2026

1. **Call To Order/Roll Call:**

ROLL CALL:	<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent</u>
MAYOR: WAYNE D. PETERSON	<u>X</u>	<u> </u>
COUNCILMEMBER: JEFFREY ALLEN	<u>X</u>	<u> </u>
COUNCILMEMBER: CHRISTINE HARVEY	<u>X</u>	<u> </u>
COUNCILMEMBER: AARON PRICE	<u>X</u>	<u> </u>
COUNCILMEMBER: KOHL FURLEY	<u>X</u>	<u> </u>
TOWN PLANNER: SCOTT MESSEL	<u> </u>	<u>X</u>

2. **Invocation:** Susan Savage

3. **Pledge of Allegiance**

4. **Oaths of Office:**

a. Oath of office of Newly Elected Mayor Wayne D. Peterson

Clerk gave oath to newly elected Mayor term of office January 5, 2026-January 7, 2030.

b. Oath of office of Newly Elected Councilmember Christine Harvey

Clerk gave oath to newly elected Councilmember term of office January 5, 2026-January 7, 2030.

c. Oath of office of Newly Elected Councilmember Jeffrey Allen

Clerk gave oath to newly elected Councilmember January 5, 2026-January 4, 2028.

d. Oath of office of Newly Elected Councilmember Aaron Price

Clerk gave oath to newly elected Councilmember term of office January 5, 2026-January 7, 2030.

5. **Citizen Comments:**

Martha Ham: Timely, pertinent, and accurate communication with Leeds citizenry is vital to the success of any governing body. For this reason, I want to put on the record a request that this mayor and council develop a website and social media policy that directs administration to follow a basic policy that will ensure communication be carried out following the guidelines set out by the council. I emphasize that this should be a council approved policy not the mayor or clerk, or any individual in an official role with the town. Please make it a priority to hire a professional webmaster to oversee the development and upkeep of the website. There are too many pitfalls associated with volunteers to take charge of our major arm of communication with the public. You might even consider putting some citizens in an advisory role on the committee to develop the policy. We have people in our community who have some experience with this. The website is an arm of communication. The social media pages are another. Of course, the policy needs to cover any social media pages the town may choose to utilize. It should be a strict policy that only official social media policies overseen and initiated by the town, governed by council's social media policy, are allowed to use the town's official logo and any representation that the site represents the town government. I believe that Mayor Peterson plans to reinstate a routine newsletter that comes to folks both via e-mail and print, maybe not via e-mail, but I applaud that decision to have it back in print. The last form of official communication that I will speak to is the electronic sign

outside. If there is a controversy about the safety of the sign, let's resolve it. I don't know if we own the sign or rent it. Personally, I find it to be a great reminder of important meetings coming up.

Linda Horsley: Congratulations to all of you and thank you for serving. I would just like to recommend that we improve our agenda items. Currently, you don't know what exactly that agenda item is all about. And I think if people recognized what was going to be some background, the purpose of the agenda items, that went forward, that it would really help the community keep informed about what is happening. But just by putting The Cove means nothing. But that is my recommendation.

Steve Dyroff: Congratulations to each of you. Thank you very much, Jeff. Mayor, it's good to see you back. Miss Christine and Aaron, thank you all. This also deserves congratulations to the town of Leeds, too. They did a good job and have been good people. Just really quick, my comments, your past and your discussions with everybody helped get you elected to this. But it's your judgment and what the people think you're going to do in the future. Here's what we're counting on. And may the good Lord bless you all in that endeavor.

Michelle Johnson: I would like to also congratulate you. I'm going to say good luck. We really do appreciate you being here. I think we did make a really good decision with our voting. I look forward to working with you all. Welcome back, Mr. Furley. The sign does belong to the town, to answer that question. I'm just really happy to see you guys here. I do have to go back. But I'm really excited working with all of you in the future.

Dale Barnes: You who have been here quite a long time remember the power outages that we used to have. Sometimes, they sent a couple of guys in here to smooth it over, because people were having problems. Well, some of them had recorded low voltages, higher than it should be voltages, they went out of here like whipped pups. I was on the council at that time, and we had, there was \$1,300 in for a park, and I said to the mayor, why don't we put in a playground for the kids? She says, go ahead. I talked to the power company out of another \$1,300 to go with what we had. Then I found out if I bought it in the wintertime, I could get half price. So that's why we ended up with the park for the kids. The power company donated \$1,300 for that. Since then, our power has been more dependable. I think they realized it's cheaper to spend a little more money to keep the power good rather than having it fluctuate all over the place. So that's the story behind it.

6. Adjournment: 12:19 PM

Approved this 14th Day of January 2026.



Wayne D. Peterson, Mayor

ATTEST:



Cari Bishop, Clerk/Recorder