

**City of Tarrant  
Council Meeting Minutes  
Monday, September 20, 2021  
Tarrant City Hall**

**The City Council of the City of Tarrant, Alabama** met for regular session on Monday, September 20, 2021 at 7:01 pm at City Hall. Mayor Newton called the meeting to order. Charles Johnson gave the invocation and Council Member John T. “Tommy” Bryant led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The following officials were present during roll call:

Wayman A. Newton	Mayor
Veronica Bandy Freeman	Council Member
Tracie B. Threadford	Council Member
Catherine “Cathy” Anderson	Council Member
Deborah “Debbie” Matthews	Council Member
John T. “Tommy” Bryant	Council Member

First the council considered previous minutes.

Council Member Veronica Freeman made a motion to Table the Minutes from the September 8, 2021 until she’s had a chance to read them. Council Member Freeman sited that she had not received the pre-meeting packet until arriving to the council meeting. She stated she’s always picked up her packet from the police station and it was not there as expected. Mayor Newton informed her that the packets will continue to be emailed and the City Clerk will have paper copies available in City Hall by 5pm of the last working day before scheduled meetings. With a second from Council Member Catherine “Cathy” Anderson the motion went to vote. No other member sited not having received their pre-meeting packet. Mayor Newton then called for a roll call vote

Yeas:

Council Member Freeman  
Council Member Anderson  
Council Member Matthews  
Council Member Bryant

Nays:

Council Member Threadford  
Mayor Newton

Motion passed.

#### COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR

The Mayor then let the council and citizens know about upcoming events in the City. Mayor Newton then addressed concerns express by a taxpayer regarding the City not having a public storm shelter. The Mayor informed everyone that the City is looking into FEMA grants that will pay for building a City’s storm shelter and directed them to Jefferson County EMA and their website to locate the closest public storm shelter in the meantime.

#### Committee Report

None

#### Old Business

Mayor Newton again introduced Resolution No. 8833 as old business. A requesting an abatement of taxes on Grass and Weed Lien fees. The Mayor had questions about whether the property is owner occupied or unoccupied and how long the owner has had possession of the property. I explained that this a tax lien property that the owner acquired a few years earlier but was unaware of the liens attached to it. Mayor Newton confirmed with me the agreed upon

abatement rate. Council Member Anderson then made a motion to approve the resolution with a second from Council Member Anderson. No further discussion. A roll call vote was held.

Yeas:

Council Member Threadford  
Council Member Anderson  
Council Member Matthews  
Council Member Bryant  
Mayor Newton

Nays:

Council Member Freeman

Motion passed.

The council then considered Resolution #8835 – Creating The Tarrant Crime Commission Policy. Police Chief Major addressed the council further explaining the purpose and importance of the Tarrant Crime Commission. Council Member Anderson questioned if there would be only one participant per district. Council Member Bryant asked if there are any similar programs being implement locally. He went on to express concern and give warning that the initiative could turn into merely a grip session against the police. Council Member Threadford made motion to approve the resolution with a second from Council Member Matthews. There was no further discussion. A roll call vote was held.

Yeas:

Council Member Freeman  
Council Member Threadford  
Council Member Anderson  
Council Member Matthews  
Council Member Bryant  
Mayor Newton

Nays:

None

Motion passed.

Mayor Newton introduced Ordinance No. 1138 – Amending sections 2 and 3 of Ordinance No. 992. Council Member Anderson made motion to Suspend the Rules for Consideration with a second from Council Member Threadford. Council Member Freeman interjected with a request to approve upcoming travel. There was no more discussion. Mayor Newton called for a roll call vote.

Yeas:

Council Member Freeman  
Council Member Threadford  
Council Member Anderson  
Council Member Matthews  
Council Member Bryant  
Mayor Newton

Nays:

None

Motion passed.

Council Member Threadford then introduced and read aloud Ordinance No. 1138 in its entirety. Council Member Threadford made motion to approve Ordinance No. 1138 and properly seconded by Council Member Anderson. Council Member Freeman made motion to approve her upcoming travel. The Mayor informed her that her request isn't up for motion.

A roll call vote was held.

Yeas:

Council Member Threadford

Council Member Freeman

Council Member Anderson

Council Member Matthews

Council Member Bryant

Mayor Newton

Nays:

None

Motion passed.

#### Public Comments

Mayor Newton introduced 2 new city employees. Both are Accounting Assistant II's with one being placed in the electric department and the other in the administrative office.

Waynette Bonham submitted a Freedom of Information Act request for information. Inquired about Christmas decorations on Ford Avenue. Then addressed the behavior of the Council and Mayor during council meetings.

Lehman Harris, Jr addressed Public Works with concerns about road work on 15<sup>th</sup> Street. Charlie Williams responded that the leg work is being done but is subject to the budget funding.

Mr. Peter addressed the Mayor and Council informing them of a problem on the street where his home is located. He stated that after he's picked up and bagged the trash, the crew on the pick-up truck is dumping the trash back out onto the grounds. Mayor Newton thanked him for his assistance with picking up the trash around his neighborhood and will put him in touch with Charlie Williams.

#### Vouchers and Expenses

Council Member Threadford made motion to approve Vouchers & Expenses as of September 20, 2021 with a second from Council Member Anderson. There was no discussion. A roll call vote was held.

Yeas:

Council Member Threadford

Council Member Anderson

Council Member Matthews

Mayor Newton

Nays:

Council Member Freeman

Council Member Bryant

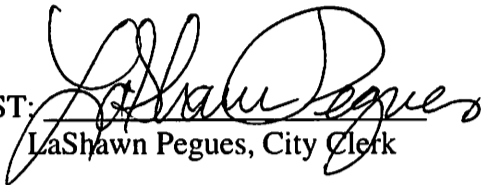
Motion passed.

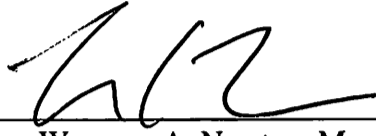
Council Member Threadford made motion to adjourn and properly seconded by Council Member Anderson.

Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 7:35 pm

READ AND APPROVED THIS THE 4<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF OCTOBER, 2021.

ATTEST:   
LaShawn Pegues, City Clerk

APPROVED:   
Wayman A. Newton, Mayor