

CITY OF TARRANT
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 4, 2023
TARRANT CITY HALL

The City Council of the City of Tarrant, Alabama, met in a regularly scheduled meeting on Wednesday, January 4, 2023, at 7:00PM at City Hall.

Mayor Wayman A. Newton called the meeting to order at 7:01PM following the council work session that began at 6:00PM on the agenda items.

Officer Giles led those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance. Michael Brymer gave the invocation.

Councilor Threadford moved to appoint Michael Brymer, the city attorney who was present, as the acting city clerk for the meeting. Councilor Anderson seconded the motion. There was no discussion. All present voted in favor, and the motion was agreed to.

Mayor Newton asked for a roll call. The following officials were present during the roll call:

Councilor Deborah "Debbie" Matthews
Councilor Veronica Bandy Freeman
Mayor Wayman A. Newton
Councilor Traci B. Threadford
Councilor John T. "Tommy" Bryant

A quorum was determined to be present for the meeting.

No minutes submitted to approve.

The following items were communicated from the Mayor's office to those in attendance:

A gentleman who owns rental properties within the city spoke asking to coordinate between the electric department and the city's building department asking to streamline those processes. It was clarified that TVA's inspection requirement is separate.

Mayor Newton requested tax equivalency information from the electric department.

This ended the communications from the Mayor's office.

Councilor John T. "Tommy" Bryant left the meeting at approximately 7:08PM to attend to an emergency personal matter.

Next, the Mayor asked for any communications from any councilors present. Councilor Freeman asked the Mayor about following up on certain issues and items that need attention in her district. These had been communicated primarily via e-mail to the Mayor. After discussion between the two, Councilor Freeman requested an entry in the minutes reflecting her e-mails to the Mayor requesting he address these items in the district had not been addressed.

This ended the communications from the city councilors.

The Mayor then called for committee reports.

No committee reports were made.

There being no old business on the agenda for the council to consider, the council began consideration of new business.

Mayor Newton introduced Resolution No. 8980, A Resolution Authorizing Abatement for a Public Nuisance at 1009 Linthicum Street, Tarrant, Alabama 35217. After introducing the resolution, Mayor Newton opened a public hearing on the matter.

Asking if anyone would like to speak on the matter, the property owner, Mr. Weatherspoon, along with his attorney, Mr. Hunter Horton, were present and addressed the city council. Both Mr. Weatherspoon and Mr. Hunter Horton were also present at the council work session at 6:00PM prior to the regular meeting and addressed the city council then as well. Mr. David Caisin, the City's Chief Building Office, was present and also spoke on the resolution. After a great deal of discussion on the resolution and the condition of the property, the Mayor declared the public hearing closed.

After the public hearing was closed, Councilor Anderson moved to table Resolution No. 8980, A Resolution Authorizing Abatement for a Public Nuisance at 1009 Linthicum Street, Tarrant, AL 35217. Councilor Freeman seconded the motion to table. Mayor Newton called for a vote.

Yeas:

Councilor Deborah "Debbie" Matthews
Councilor Veronica Bandy Freeman
Mayor Wayman A. Newton
Councilor Catherine "Cathy" Anderson
Councilor Traci B. Threadford

The yeas being five (5) and the nays being zero (0), the motion to table Resolution 8980 was agreed to, and the Resolution tabled.

Mayor Newton introduced Resolution No. 8981, A Resolution Declaring Public Nuisance and Authorizing Abatement for Property Located at 653 Springdale Road, Tarrant, AL 35217. After introducing the resolution, the Mayor opened a public hearing on the matter.

Asking if anyone would like the speak on the matter, Mr. David Caisin, the City's Chief Building Official, and the property owner were present and both addressed the council. Both Mr. Caisin and the property owner addressed the city council during the work session that convened at 6:00PM prior to the regular meeting. The property owner requested thirty (30) additional days to address the condition of the property and remove the items. The Mayor declared the public hearing on the matter closed.

Following the public hearing, Councilor Anderson moved to table Resolution 8981 to allow the property owner additional time to address the nuisance. Councilor Threadford seconded the motion. Mayor Newton called for a vote.

Yeas:

Councilor Deborah "Debbie" Matthews
Councilor Veronica Bandy Freeman
Mayor Wayman A. Newton
Councilor Catherine "Cathy" Anderson
Councilor Traci B. Threadford

The yeas being five (5) and the nays being zero (0), the motion to table Resolution 8981 was agreed to, and the Resolution tabled.

Mayor Newton introduced Resolution 8982, A Resolution Declaring Public Nuisance and Authorizing Abatement for Property Located at 92 Long Street, Tarrant, AL 35217. After introducing the resolution, Mayor Newton opened a public hearing on the matter.

Asking if anyone would like to speak on the matter, the property owner, Mr. Samuel Brewster, Jr., Mr. David Caisin, City Chief Building Official, and Mr. Joseph Wayne Carlton, a relative of Mr. Brewster, were present and addressed the council. The parties were present at the council work session that convened at 6:00PM prior to the regular meeting. After extensive discussion on the matter, Mayor Newton declared the public hearing closed on the matter.

Councilor Anderson moved to table Resolution 8982 for thirty (30) days to allow property owner additional time to address the nuisance. Councilor Freeman seconded the motion. Mayor Newton called for a vote.

Yeas:

Councilor Deborah "Debbie" Matthews
Councilor Veronica Bandy Freeman
Mayor Wayman A. Newton
Councilor Catherine "Cathy" Anderson
Councilor Traci B. Threadford.

The yeas being five (5) and the nays being zero (0), the motion to table Resolution 8982 was agreed to, and the Resolution tabled.

Next, the City Council heard from members of the public who had signed in to speak prior to the meeting.

First, Mr. Kelvin Slaughter addressed the city council regarding the towing of his camper and other items.

Second, Mr. Chuck Winborn spoke regarding the amount of gun fire that occurred New Years Eve and the serious concern and threat to public safety that presented. Several city councilors also heard this and expressed their concern about how dangerous this is. All city councilors and the mayor implored citizens to stop this life-threatening activity. He also inquired regarding when a new city clerk would be hired.

Ms. Sandra Matthews spoke regarding flooding issues in her yard at her residence on Lynnfield Circle. She requested an update on the work to address those flooding issues behind her home.

This concluded comments from the public.

Next, Councilor Threadford moved to approve the vouchers and expenses as presented. Councilor Anderson seconded the motion. Mayor Newton called for a vote.

Yeas:

Councilor Debora "Debbie" Matthews
Mayor Wayman A. Newton
Councilor Catherine "Cathy" Anderson
Councilor Traci B. Threadford

Nays:

Councilor Veronica Bandy Freeman

The yeas being four (4) and the nays being one (1), the motion was agreed to, and the vouchers and expenses were approved as presented.

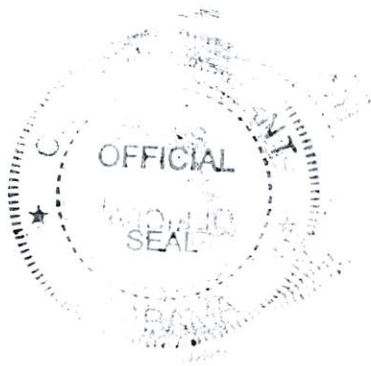
There being no further business to be brought before the council, Councilor Threadford moved to adjourn the meeting. Councilor Anderson seconded the motion. A voice vote was taken with all present being in favor.


The meeting was adjourned at 8:30PM.

Respectfully submitted,


Michael Brymer
Acting City Clerk for the January 4, 2023, City Council Meeting

READ AND APPROVED this the 18th day of January 2023.



APPROVED: 

ATTEST:



Michael T. Soyars
Acting City Clerk