

CITY OF TARRANT
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 6, 2023
TARRANT CITY HALL

The City Council of the City of Tarrant, Alabama, met in a regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, February 6, 2023, at 7:00PM at City Hall.

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

Chief of Police Wendell Major led those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance. Fire Lt. Patrick Bennett 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 Veronica Bandy Freeman
Mayor Wayman A. Newton
Councilor Catherine "Cathy" Anderson
Councilor Traci B. Threadford
Councilor John T. "Tommy" Bryant

Councilor Deborah "Debbie" Matthews was absent.

A quorum was determined to be present for the meeting.

The minutes from the January 18, 2023, regularly scheduled council meeting were presented for review and approval. Councilor Freeman corrected the minutes to reflect that she had requested the delivery of the agenda at her home as passed by the city council along with additional e-mail documents that she requested from the Mayor, and the Mayor declined to deliver the agenda to her home. Councilor Threadford requested a second correction on page three (3) to change Lynnfield Circle to "Infield Circle." Councilor Threadford moved to approve the minutes as amended. Councilor Anderson seconded the motion. Mayor Newton called for a roll call vote.

Yeas:

Councilor Veronica Bandy Freeman
Councilor Catherine "Cathy" Anderson
Councilor Traci B. Threadford
Councilor John T. "Tommy" Bryant

Nays:

None

Not voting:

Mayor Wayman A. Newton

The yeas being four (4) and the nays being zero (0) with one (1) member not voting, the motion to approve the minutes as amended was adopted, and the minutes for the January 18, 2023, council meeting were approved as amended.

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

The list of eligibles for the Fire Chief position was circulated to the council members present.

The Mayor also circulated a copy of the financial status of the accounts of the City as of February 6, 2022, to the council.

This ended the communications from the Mayor's office.

The Mayor next asked for any communications from the city councilors present.

Councilor Bryant inquired as to the progress of the dam construction funded by the FEMA grant. The Mayor advised in the deadline was in April some time, but that, subject to weather, the project was expected to be completed in the coming weeks well in advance of the FEMA funding deadline. Once completed, a final inspection would also be required.

This ended the communications from the city councilors.

There were no matters for the council to consider in executive session.

The Mayor then called for committee reports.

No committee reports were made.

The city council next considered old business.

Councilor Threadford introduced Resolution No. 8981, A Resolution Declaring Public Nuisance and Authorizing Abatement for Property Located at 653 Springdale Road, Tarrant, AL 35217. After introducing Resolution 8981, Councilor Threadford moved to withdraw the resolution which was seconded by Councilor Anderson. Mayor Newton called for a vote.

Yeas:

Councilor Veronica Bandy Freeman
Councilor Catherine "Cathy" Anderson
Councilor Traci B. Threadford
Councilor John T. "Tommy" Bryant

Nays:

None

Not Voting:

Mayor Wayman A. Newton

The yeas being four (4) and the nays being zero (0) with one (1) member not voting, the motion to withdraw Resolution 8981 was agreed to, and the Resolution withdrawn.

Councilor Bryant introduced Resolution No. 8982, A Resolution Declaring Public Nuisance and Authorizing Abatement for Property Located at 92 Long Street, Tarrant, AL 35217. After introducing the resolution, the Mayor opened a public hearing on the matter. No one came forward to speak for or against the item. The Mayor then closed the public meeting after a reasonable time to allow those present to speak on the resolution.

After introducing Resolution 8982, Councilor Bryant moved to adopt Resolution 8982. Councilor Threadford seconded the motion. Mayor Newton called for a vote.

Yeas:

Councilor Veronica Bandy Freeman
Councilor Catherine "Cathy" Anderson
Councilor Traci B. Threadford
Councilor John T. "Tommy" Bryant

Nays:

None

Not voting:

Mayor Wayman A. Newton

The yeas being four (4) and the nays being zero (0) with one (1) member not voting, the motion to adopt Resolution 8982 was agreed to, and the resolution adopted.

Councilor Threadford introduced Ordinance No. 1153, An Ordinance to Establish the Powers of the Superintendent of the City Electric Department. After reading the ordinance for a second time, Councilor Threadford moved to adopt Ordinance No. 1153. Councilor Freeman seconded the motion. After a brief discussion, Mayor Newton called for a vote.

Councilor Veronica Bandy Freeman
Councilor Catherine "Cathy" Anderson
Councilor Traci B. Threadford
Councilor John T. "Tommy" Bryant

Nays:

Mayor Wayman A. Newton

The yeas being four (4) and the nays being one (1), the motion to adopt Ordinance No. 1153 was agreed to, and the Ordinance was adopted.

Councilor Threadford introduced Resolution No. 8985, A Resolution Authorizing the Mayor to Execute a Service Request Form Between the City of Tarrant and the Birmingham-Jefferson County Transit Authority. After introducing the resolution, Councilor Threadford moved to table Resolution 8985. Councilor Freeman seconded the motion. Mayor Newton clarified that he received an e-mail on January 20, 2023, at 7:27 A.M. requesting the agreement appended as part of the resolution be signed and returned. Then, Mayor Newton then called for a vote.

Yeas:

Councilor Veronica Bandy Freeman
Councilor Catherine "Cathy" Anderson
Councilor Traci B. Threadford
Councilor John T. "Tommy" Bryant

Nays:

None

Not voting:

Mayor Wayman A. Newton

The yeas being four (4) and the nays being zero (0) with one member not voting, the motion to table Resolution 8985 was agreed to, and the Resolution tabled.

Councilor Bryant introduced Resolution No. 8986, A Resolution Directing the Attendance of the City of Tarrant Electric Department Principal Accountant at the Second Scheduled Council Meeting of Each Month to Present the City of Tarrant Electric Department's Current Account Balance and Financial Status. After reading the resolution, Councilor Bryant moved to amend the resolution to change the word "principal" to "senior" before accountant in the introduction, in section 4, in section 5, and in section 6 of the Resolution. Mayor Newton seconded the motion to amend the resolution. Mayor Newton then called for a vote on the amendment.

Yeas:

Councilor Veronica Bandy Freeman
Councilor Catherine "Cathy" Anderson
Councilor Traci B. Threadford
Councilor John T. "Tommy" Bryant

Nays:

None

Not voting:

Mayor Wayman A. Newton

The yeas being four (4) and the nays being zero (0) with one member not voting, the motion to amend Resolution 8986 was agreed to and the resolution amended.

Next, Councilor Bryant moved to adopt Resolution 8986 as amended. Councilor Threadford seconded the motion. Mayor Newton then called for a vote.

Yeas:

Councilor Veronica Bandy Freeman
Councilor Catherine "Cathy" Anderson
Councilor Traci B. Threadford
Councilor John T. "Tommy" Bryant

Nays:

None

Not voting:

Mayor Wayman A. Newton

The yeas being four (4) and the nays being zero (0) with one member not voting, the motion to adopt Resolution 8986 was agreed to, and the Resolution adopted.

Councilor Bryant introduced Resolution No. 8987, A Resolution Directing the Attendance of the City of Tarrant Principal Accountant at the Second Scheduled Council Meeting of Each Month to Present the City of Tarrant's Current Account Balance and Financial Status. After reading the resolution, Councilor Bryant moved to adopt Resolution 8987. Councilor Freeman seconded the motion. Mayor Newton called for a vote.

Yeas:

Councilor Veronica Bandy Freeman
Councilor Catherine "Cathy" Anderson
Councilor Traci B. Threadford
Councilor John T. "Tommy" Bryant

Nays:

Mayor Wayman A. Newton

The yeas being four (4) and the nays being one (1), the motion to adopt Resolution 8987 was agreed to, and the Resolution adopted.

Councilor Threadford introduced Resolution No. 8988, A Resolution Declaring Public Nuisance and Authorizing Abatement for Property Located at 2317 Etowah Street, Tarrant, AL 35217. After

introducing the Resolution, Councilor Threadford moved to table Resolution No. 8988. Councilor Anderson seconded the motion. Mayor Newton called for a vote.

Yeas:

Councilor Veronica Bandy Freeman
Councilor Catherine "Cathy" Anderson
Councilor Traci B. Threadford
Councilor John T. "Tommy" Bryant

Nays:

None

Not voting:

Mayor Wayman A. Newton

The yeas being four (4) and the nays being zero (0) with one member not voting, the motion to table Resolution 8988 was agreed to, and the Resolution tabled.

Councilor Freeman introduced Resolution No. 8989, A Resolution Declaring Public Nuisance and Authorizing Abatement for Property Located at 2133 Weatherly Avenue, Tarrant, AL 35217. After introducing the resolution, Councilor Freeman moved to withdraw the resolution. Councilor Threadford seconded the motion. Mayor Newton called for a vote.

Yeas:

Councilor Veronica Bandy Freeman
Councilor Catherine "Cathy" Anderson
Councilor Traci B. Threadford
Councilor John T. "Tommy" Bryant

Nays:

None

Not voting:

Mayor Wayman A. Newton

The yeas being four (4) and the nays being zero (0) with one member not voting, the motion to withdraw Resolution 8989 was agreed to, and the Resolution withdrawn.

Councilor Anderson introduced Resolution 8990, A Resolution Declaring Public Nuisance and Authorizing Abatement for Property Located at 1804 Springfield Street, Tarrant, AL 35217. After introducing the resolution, Councilor Anderson moved to table the resolution. Councilor Threadford seconded the motion. Mayor Newton called for a vote.

Yeas:

Councilor Veronica Bandy Freeman
Councilor Catherine "Cathy" Anderson
Councilor Traci B. Threadford
Councilor John T. "Tommy" Bryant

Nays:

None

Not voting:

Mayor Wayman A. Newton

The yeas being four (4) and the nays being zero (0) with one member not voting, the motion to table Resolution 8989 was agreed to, and the Resolution tabled.

Councilor Anderson introduced Resolution 8991, A Resolution Declaring Public Nuisance and Authorizing Abatement and Enforcement of City Ordinances. After reading the resolution, the Mayor opened a public meeting for anyone in attendance to speak for or against this item. Several individuals living on Owen Street were present. Mr. and Mrs. Parker addressed the council on behalf of those in attendance in support of the resolution. No one spoke against the resolution. Then, the Mayor closed the public hearing. Councilor Anderson then moved to adopt Resolution No. 8991. Councilor Bryant seconded the motion. Mayor Newton then called for a vote.

Yeas:

Councilor Veronica Bandy Freeman
Councilor Catherine "Cathy" Anderson
Councilor Traci B. Threadford
Councilor John T. "Tommy" Bryant

Nays:

None

Not voting:

Mayor Wayman A. Newton

The yeas being four (4) and the nays being zero (0) with one member not voting, the motion to adopt Resolution 8991 was agreed to, and the Resolution adopted.

Councilor Anderson next introduced Resolution No. 8992, A Resolution Declaring Public Nuisance and Authorizing Abatement for Property Located at 2200 Etowah Street, Tarrant, AL 35217. After introducing the resolution, Councilor Anderson moved to withdraw the resolution, Councilor Threadford seconded the motion. Mayor Newton called for a vote.

Yeas:

Councilor Veronica Bandy Freeman
Councilor Catherine "Cathy" Anderson
Councilor Traci B. Threadford
Councilor John T. "Tommy" Bryant

Nays:

None

Not voting:

Mayor Wayman A. Newton

The yeas being four (4) and the nays being zero (0) with one member not voting, the motion to withdraw Resolution 8992 was agreed to, and the Resolution withdrawn.

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

First, Mr. Chuck addressed the city council regarding the truck traffic in and through Brummitt Heights to the landfill regarding safety concerns with the operators of those trucks.

Second, Mr. and Mrs. Parker addressed the council regarding the dumping of garbage and littering on Owen Street and along East Lake Blvd. They expressed appreciation for the council's action in passing Resolution 8991.

Third, Ms. Winifried Dill addressed the council regarding various matters including emergency response from Tarrant Fire Department, dumping at specific locations throughout the City, and the street cameras which may be able to be placed in certain areas to address the dumping issue.

Fourth, Mr. Chuck Winborn addressed the council regarding concern of rental property in neighborhoods being used for section 8 housing.

Fifth, Ms. Evelyn Boykin, a resident of Birmingham part of Brummitt Heights, addressed the council regarding damage to the tire of her vehicle from a pot hole in the road. She requested reimbursement for the amount to fix and repair the tire.

Sixth, Mr. Murray, a former city employee, addressed the council regarding the issues surrounding his termination of employment and requesting job back.

This concluded the comments from the public.

Councilor Freeman left the council chambers following the public comments.

Councilor Threadford moved to approve the vouchers as presented. Councilor Anderson seconded the motion. A voice vote was taken with all present being in favor of approval. The vouchers 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 8:39PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Brymer
Acting City Clerk for the February 6, 2023, City Council Meeting

READ AND APPROVED this the 20th day of February _____ 2023.



APPROVED: _____

ATTEST:


Michael Brymer
Acting City Clerk