

CITY OF TARRANT
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 20, 2023
TARRANT CITY HALL

The City Council of the City of Tarrant, Alabama, met in a regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, February 20, 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.

Mayor Newton then asked everyone to join in a moment of silence in memory of former Mayor Loxcil Tuck who passed away on February 17, 2023.

Following the moment of silence, Chief of Police Wendell Major led those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance. Rev. Caldwell 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
Councilor Traci B. Threadford
Councilor Catherine "Cathy" Anderson
Councilor Deborah "Debbie" Matthews
Mayor Wayman A. Newton

Councilor John T. "Tommy" Bryant was absent.

A quorum was determined to be present for the meeting.

The minutes from the February 6, 2023, regularly scheduled council meeting were presented for review and approval. After review, Councilor Threadford moved to approve the minutes as presented. Councilor Anderson seconded the motion. Mayor Newton called for a roll call vote.

Yeas:

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

Nays:

None

The yeas being five (5) and the nays being zero (0), the motion to approve the minutes as presented were adopted, and the minutes from the February 6, 2023, council meeting were approved.

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

Mayor Newton announced the death of former City of Tarrant mayor, Loxcil Tuck, who passed away on February 17, 2023. Mayor Newton expressed the condolences to the Tuck family on behalf of the City. The Mayor then read aloud the proclamation that was presented to the Tuck family at the funeral services for former Mayor Tuck earlier in the day. The Mayor then asked for anyone who would like to express memories of thoughts of Mayor Tuck.

Councilor Anderson and Councilor Matthews both spoke of their respective memories of Mayor Tuck.

Mayor Newton then asked for those present to remember his personal assistant, Ms. Tacy McCall and the McCall family in thoughts and prayers and Ms. McCall's husband recently passed away.

Mayor Newton then asked for those present to remember Councilor John T. "Tommy" Bryant who also lost a close family member earlier today.

This ended the communications from the Mayor's office.

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

No communications were made from any council member present.

The Mayor then called for committee reports.

No committee reports were made, but Councilor Threadford asked to set a work session to complete the proposed FY 2022-2023 budget, review and interview fire chief candidates, and review and interview city clerk candidates. After discussion, it was agreed that a work session for these items would be scheduled for Thursday, March 2, 2023, at 6:00PM in the council chambers of Tarrant City Hall.

The city council next considered old business.

Councilor Anderson introduced Resolution No. 8985, A Resolution Authorizing the Mayor to Execute a Transit Service Agreement between the City of Tarrant and the Birmingham-Jefferson County Transit Authority (d/b/a Max). [NOTE: Mr. Glenn Dickerson and another representative from the Birmingham-Jefferson County Transit Authority appeared during the work session discussed the proposed agreement and answered questions from the council.] After introducing Resolution 8985, Councilor Anderson moved to adopt Resolution 8985. Councilor Threadford seconded the motion. Mayor Newton called for a vote.

Yeas:

Councilor Veronica Bandy Freeman
Councilor Traci B. Threadford
Councilor Catherine "Cathy" Anderson
Councilor Deborah "Debbie" Matthews

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 8985 was agreed to, and the Resolution adopted.

The council next considered new business.

Next, Mayor Wayman A. Newton introduced Resolution 8993, A Resolution Considering the Claim of Ms. E.D. Boykin and Authorizing Payment of the Claim. Councilor Anderson seconded the motion. [NOTE: Ms. Boykin, who was also present at the council meeting, was present at the work session at which the council and Ms. Boykin engaged in extensive discussion about the claim.] After introducing Resolution 8983, Mayor Newton moved to adopt Resolution 8983. Councilor Anderson seconded the motion. Mayor Newton called for a vote.

Yeas:

None.

Nays:

Councilor Catherine "Cathy" Anderson
Councilor Deborah "Debbie" Matthews

Abstain:

Councilor Veronica Bandy Freeman
Councilor Traci B. Threadford

Not voting:

Mayor Wayman A. Newton

The yeas being zero (0) and the nays being two (2) with two (2) members abstaining and one (1) member not voting, the motion to adopt Resolution 8983 was not agreed to, and the resolution was not adopted.

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

First, Mr. Kevin Patello, who resides on East Norman, addressed the council about a notice of violation for dumping trash/garbage at or around his property. Mayor Newton stated he would have someone from public works contact Mr. Patello regarding the current status of the property.

Second, Ms. Overstreet addressed the council about a consistent stream of water flowing across a road way / side walk which has developed algae and become slippery along with other damage and flooding to her property and her neighbors.

Third, Mr. Jason addressed the council regarding the Notice of Violation he received regarding his building on Pinson Street. He has addressed the items identified in the notice which would verbally acknowledged by Mr. Caisin. Jason requested something in writing noting that those violations had been addressed. Jason next must get with Lt. Bennett in the fire department in order to complete a fire inspection for an fire occupancy limit to be established.

Councilor Freeman then asked whether a certain city employee was a designated building inspector for the city. Mayor Newton indicated that employee was not a designated building inspector. Councilor Freeman then stated a resident had approached her stating this employee had held himself out to be a building inspector for the city.

Fourth, Rev. Caldwell addressed the council thanking the councilors for their donations and gifts brought to the retirement community during the Christmas holidays. The gifts were very appreciated by the residents. Rev. Caldwell invited all city councilors present to come by the facility for a tour and to meet the residents.

Fifth, Ms. Kathy Snipe, of Green Street, addressed the council regarding a sofa being placed on the street for garbage pick up that has been there for quite some time. It was indicated that the sofa was actually within the corporate limits of the City of Birmingham. She also mentioned a pothole along a street not far away. The Mayor indicated someone would contact her to find the exact location of the pot hold for it to be inspected to determine the extent of the repair.

This concluded the comments from the public.

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

Yeas:

Councilor Traci B. Threadford
Councilor Catherine "Cathy" Anderson
Councilor Deborah "Debbie" Matthews

Nays:

Councilor Veronica Bandy Freeman

Not voting:

Mayor Wayman A. Newton

The yeas being three (3) and the nays being one (1) with one (1) member not voting, the motion to approve the vouchers and expenses as presented was agreed to, and the vouchers and expenses approved.

Councilor Threadford then asked about the possibility of the Tarrant H.S. baseball team using the city baseball fields to practice and play games at. Mayor Newton indicated he was unaware the high school baseball team wanted to use the facility, but for the high school team to go through normal channels to handle scheduling for use of the facility when needed.

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 7:50PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Brymer
Acting City Clerk for the February 18, 2023, City Council Meeting

READ AND APPROVED this the 6th day of March, 2023.



APPROVED:

ATTEST:

Michael Brymer
Acting City Clerk