

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

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

Chief of Police Wendell Major led those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance. Fire Lt. Patrick Bennett gave the invocation.

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

Councilor Veronica Bandy Freeman
Councilor Catherine "Cathy" Anderson
Councilor Deborah "Debbie" Matthews
Councilor John T. "Tommy" Bryant
Mayor Wayman A. Newton

Councilor Tracie B. Threadgill was absent.

A quorum was determined to be present for the meeting.

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

Yeas:

Councilor Veronica Bandy Freeman
Councilor Catherine "Cathy" Anderson
Councilor Deborah "Debbie" Matthews
Councilor John T. "Tommy" Bryant
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 March 6, 2023, council meeting were approved.

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

[Note that the United Way presentation on referenced on the agenda took place during the council work session.]

The Mayor announced the Easter Egg hunt will be held on Saturday, April 8, 2023, at Hewitt Park from 11:00AM to 2:00PM. He encouraged all churches and neighborhood associations to attend and set up booth or table for the event. The event would start at 11:00AM with booth access and other activities including some give aways. The egg hunt would begin around 1:00PM. The mayor encouraged all citizens to attend.

This ended the communications from the Mayor's office.

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

No communications were relayed from the city councilors present.

The Mayor then called for committee reports.

No committee reports were made.

The city council next considered old business.

[Note the council received public comments regarding the vicious animal ordinance in the council work session.]

There being no old business to be brought before the council, the council next considered new business.

Mayor Newton introduced and read Resolution 8999, A Resolution To Rescind Resolution 8998 Granting Limited License for Green Valley Services to Enter City Owned Property for the Purpose of Surveying a Potential Road Bed. After being read, Mayor Newton moved to adopt Resolution 8999. Councilor Anderson seconded the motion. Mayor Newton called for a vote.

Yeas:

- Councilor Veronica Bandy Freeman
- Councilor Catherine "Cathy" Anderson
- Councilor Deborah "Debbie" Matthews
- Councilor John T. "Tommy" Bryant
- Mayor Wayman A. Newton

Nays:

None

The yeas being five (5) and the nays being zero (0), the motion to adopt Resolution 8999 was agreed to, and the resolution was adopted.

Mayor Newton next introduced and read Resolution 9000, A Resolution Authorizing Additional Expenditures to Interface E-Force CAD Call Information with Existing Fire Department ERS. After being read, Mayor Newton moved for the adoption of Resolution 9000. Councilor Freeman seconded the motion. After some discussion, including hearing from Fire Lt. Bennett, Mayor Newton then called for a vote.

Yeas:

- Councilor Veronica Bandy Freeman
- Councilor Catherine "Cathy" Anderson
- Councilor Deborah "Debbie" Matthews
- Councilor John T. "Tommy" Bryant
- Mayor Wayman A. Newton

Nays:

None

The yeas being five (5) and the nays being zero (0), the motion to adopt Resolution 9000 was agreed to, and the resolution adopted.

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

First, Fire Lt. Ron Lyvers of the Tarrant Fire Department addressed the council expressing his support for Lt. Patrick Bennett to be named fire chief. Lt. Lyvers spoke at length regarding Lt. Bennett's career with the Tarrant Fire Department ("TFD") specifically stating Lt. Bennett has consistently gone above and beyond the call of duty in support of TFD, and that morale was very high in the fire department under Lt. Bennett's interim leadership. Lt. Lyvers has been with TFD twenty-five years.

Second, Fire Lt. Jackson of the TFD spoke in favor of the council next hiring Lt. Patrick Bennett to be fire chief. Lt. Jackson reiterated all that Lt. Lyvers said and offered his own perspective as to why Lt. Bennett should be named the next fire chief.

Third, Mr. Brantley, who resides on Day Street, addressed the council about certain homes on Day Street who do not pay for trash service but are placing trash at the curb for pick up. Mr. Brantley gave the council and mayor a map and stating which homes he believes do not currently pay for trash service. The Mayor stated he had previously had staff check the addresses along Day Street, but they were unable to identify the homes who did not pay for service but were placing the cans curbside. Mr. Brantley indicated that there were still residents who did not pay for the service. The Mayor stated he would forward to the appropriate city department for review and, if necessary, enforcement.

Fourth, a resident of the City spoke thanking the mayor for the responsiveness of the public works department following an eviction along Birmingham Avenue. This lady indicated that, as soon as they were notified, public works responded and cleared the items set out by the sheriff in enforcing the eviction in a prompt and professional manner.

Fifth, a gentlemen, who was a resident of Brummitt Heights, spoke regarding the access points to the landfill. The gentlemen indicated that the trucks along the public roads were tearing up those roads causing an issue for the residents.

Sixth, Ms. Boykin, a resident of the Birmingham section of Brumitt Heights, regarding the truck access and landfill issues to Green Valley Landfill. Specifically, Ms. Boykin asked about who gave the trucks authority to operate on the public roads through Brumitt Heights. Ms. Boykin also asked about the City paving Treadwell Road.

This concluded comments from the public.

Finally, the council considered the vouchers and expenses of the city. Mayor Newton moved to approve the vouchers and expenses as presented. Councilor Anderson seconded the motion. Mayor Newton called for a vote.

Yeas:

Councilor Catherine "Cathy" Anderson
Councilor Deborah "Debbie" Matthews
Mayor Wayman A. Newton

Nays:

Councilor Veronica Bandy Freeman
Councilor John T. "Tommy" Bryant

The yeas being three (3) and the nays being two (2), the motion to approve the vouchers and expenses as presented was agreed to, and the vouchers and expenses approved.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 8:49PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Michael Brymer

Acting City Clerk for the March 20, 2023, City Council Meeting

READ AND APPROVED this the ___ day of _____ 2023.

APPROVED:

ATTEST:

Acting City Clerk

Tabled 4.3.23