

CITY OF TARRANT
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 18, 2023
TARRANT CITY HALL

The City Council of the City of Tarrant, Alabama, met in a regularly scheduled meeting on Monday September 18, 2023, at 7:00PM at City Hall.

Mayor Wayman A. Newton called the meeting to order at 7:05PM following the council work session that began at 6:00PM to discuss items on the agenda and other matters.

Tarrant City Fire Chief Patrick Bennett lead those in attendance in the invocation. Mr. Scott Evans lead those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Councilor John T. "Tommy" Bryant
Councilor Tracie B. Threadford
Councilor Catherine "Cathy" Anderson
Councilor Veronica Bandy Freeman
Councilor Deborah "Debbie" Mathews
Mayor Wayman A. Newton

A quorum was determined to be present at the meeting.

The minutes from the September 6, 2023 regularly scheduled council meeting were presented for review and approval. Councilor Bryant corrected the minutes to reflect that he did not abstain from Resolution No. 9048, but responded as a 'not voting' during the Resolution No. 9048 voting course of action. After review, Councilor Threadford moved to approve the minutes from September 6, 2023 meeting as amended. Councilor Anderson seconded the motion. Mayor Newton called for a vote.

Yeas:

Councilor John T. "Tommy" Bryant
Councilor Tracie B. Threadford
Councilor Deborah "Debbie" Mathews
Councilor Veronica Bandy Freeman
Councilor Deborah "Debbie" Mathews.

Nays:

None

Not voting:

Mayor Wayman A. Newton

The yeas being five (5) 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 September 6, 2023, council meeting were approved as amended.

The Mayor informed those in attendance that on September 29th there will be the 4th Friday on Ford from 6:00PM to 9:00PM. This months theme will be a Fiesta in recognition of National Hispanic Heritage Month for the month of September.

The Mayor also informed that this Saturday, September 23rd, 2023 there will be a "Silence the Violence" community event held from 4:00PM to 8:00PM at 1201 Fulton Avenue. The event is in recognition and remembrance of Kwesi Barham, a Tarrant High School graduate, who was tragically murdered in 2021.

On the week of October 9th to October 13, 2023 from 8:30AM to 6:30PM the Tarrant Municipal Court Office will grant an Amnesty Week 2023. Depending on the type of crime, individuals with warrants will be given the option to settle what is owed to the courts to prevent from being arrested. The Mayor informed all in attendance that more information can be retrieved from the City of Tarrant Magistrates Office.

Community cleanup day for the City of Tarrant will be on Saturday morning from 8:00AM to 12:00PM September 30, 2023.

This ended the communications from the Mayor's office.

Councilor Freeman expressed concerns on communication and validity of motions to Resolutions.

Councilor Threadford informed all who were present that Council Attorney Charlie Waldrep will be sponsoring a petting zoo and a face painting booth on behalf of the children for the Fiesta held on September 29, 2023 from 6:00PM to 9:00PM.

Councilor Threadford also informed all who were present that on October 4, 2023 there will be a "National Night Out" sponsored in conjunction with the Crime Commission and the Tarrant City Council from 5:30PM to 7:30PM on Ford Avenue. The purpose of the event is for the public to get to know the Crime Commission and the First Responders at a more 'casual' level.

City Council and Robbie Pritmore, a citizen of the City of Tarrant, will be holding the 2023 Thanksgiving Turkey raffle. There will be two turkeys for each District and the draw will be held on November 18, 2023 at 2:00PM. The deadline for registration is November 17, 2023, and the Turkeys will be distributed at the November 20, 2023 Council meeting. Must be a City of Tarrant resident to qualify to register and citizens can sign up on the District group page.

Councilor Threadford continued to inform all who were present of the 2023 City of Tarrant Christmas Parade and Extravaganza sponsored by the Council. The Parade will be on December 9, 2023 from 5:00PM to 9:00PM. There will be contests for different Floats and the Council is asking all Departments to participate. Prizes will be rewarded. Point of contact for the application is Councilor Threadford.

Councilor Freeman intervened and asked for comment to go on record that she had been asking the Mayor for information for the past two years and has not received any information, and that she is entitled to receive this information under the Freedom of Information Act.

Next, Councilor Threadford introduced the Non-Profit Organization called Night Life Outlawz referred to as NLO. NLO will be hosting two Saturday sessions on Auto Basic Prevention Training on September 23 and September 30, 2023 from 11:00AM to 2:00PM at the Tarrant City Police Department. Training sessions are for all ages.

In conclusion, Councilor Threadford updated to all who were present that the City of Tarrant received applications for the Recreation Board. Councilor Threadford announced that interviews will be held at the next pre-council meeting on October 2, 2023.

This ended the communications from the city Councilors.

The Mayor then called for committee reports.

No reports were made.

The Council next considered old business.

No old business was pending before the city council, the council next moved to consider new business on the agenda.

The Council next considered items of new business.

Councilor Threadford read and introduced Resolution No. 9049, A Resolution Authorizing the Mayor to Negotiate With the City of Birmingham and Jefferson County for the Placement of a Traffic Control Device at the Intersection of Tarrant-Huffman Road and Treadwell Road. After

Mayor Newman introduced the Resolution, Councilor Freeman moved to table the Resolution. Councilor Threadford seconded the motion. Mayor Newton called for a vote.

Yeas:

Councilor John T. "Tommy" Bryant
Councilor Tracie B. Threadford
Councilor Cathy Anderson
Councilor Veronica Bandy Freeman
Councilor Deborah "Debbie" Mathews

Nays:

None

Not voting:

Mayor Wayman A. Newton

The yeas being five (5) and the nays being zero (0) with one (1) member not voting, the motion to table Resolution No. 9049 was agreed to, and the Resolution was withdrawn.

Councilor Bryant introduced Resolution No. 9050, A Resolution Authorizing the Purchase of Basketball Goals for the City of Tarrant Recreation Center. Councilor Bryant motioned to authorize and approve Resolution No. 9050. Councilor Threadford seconded the motion. Mayor Newton called for a vote.

Yeas:

Councilor John T. "Tommy" Bryant
Councilor Tracie B. Threadford
Councilor Cathy Anderson
Councilor Veronica Bandy Freeman
Councilor Deborah "Debbie" Mathews

Nays:

None

Not voting:

Mayor Wayman A. Newton

The yeas being five (5) and the nays being zero (0) with one (1) member not voting, the motion to authorize and approve Resolution No. 9050 was agreed to, and the Resolution was authorized and approved.

Councilor Bryant introduced Resolution No. 9051, A Resolution Authorizing and Approving the Purchase of Shelves for Filing Storage and Archive Use for the City of Tarrant Administration Department. Councilor Bryant motioned to adopt Resolution No. 9051. Councilor Anderson seconded the motion. Mayor Newton called for a vote.

Yeas:

Councilor John T. "Tommy" Bryant
Councilor Tracie B. Threadford
Councilor Cathy Anderson
Councilor Veronica Bandy Freeman
Councilor Deborah "Debbie" Mathews

Nays:

None

Not voting:

Mayor Wayman A. Newton

The yeas being five (5) and the nays being zero (0) with one (1) member not voting, the motion to table Resolution No. 9051 was agreed to, and the Resolution was adopted.

Councilor Bryant read Resolution No. 9052, A Resolution Authorizing the Purchase of Replacement Name Plates for Council Dais. There was discussion on the \$2,500.00 ceiling price for one plate. The ceiling was moved to \$50.00. Councilor Bryant motioned to adopt Resolution No. 9052 as amended. Councilor Freeman seconded the motion. Mayor Newton called for a vote.

Yeas:

Councilor John T. "Tommy" Bryant
Councilor Tracie B. Threadford
Councilor Cathy Anderson
Councilor Veronica Bandy Freeman
Councilor Deborah "Debbie" Mathews

Nays:

None

Not voting:

Mayor Wayman A. Newton

The yeas being five (5) and the nays being zero (0) with one (1) member not voting, the motion to authorize Resolution No. 9052 was agreed to, and the Resolution was adopted.

Councilor Anderson introduced and read Resolution No. 9053, A Resolution Authorizing the Alabama department of Revenue to Administer and Collect Sales, Use, Rental, and Lodgings Taxes Levied by the City of Tarrant. Councilor Anderson motioned to adopt Resolution No. 9053. Councilor Threadford seconded the motion. Mayor Newton called for a vote.

Yeas:

Councilor John T. "Tommy" Bryant
Councilor Tracie B. Threadford
Councilor Anderson
Councilor Veronica Bandy Freeman
Councilor Deborah "Debbie" Mathews

Nays:

None

Not voting:

Mayor Wayman A. Newton

The yeas being five (5) and the nays being zero (0) with one (1) member not voting, the motion to authorize Resolution No. 9053 was agreed to, and the Resolution was adopted.

Mayor Newton made a motion to add Ordinance No. 1156, on to the Agenda and to suspend the First Reading of the Ordinance and to pass is. Mayor Newton moved to adopt Ordinance No. 1156, An Ordinance Establishing and Implementing a Program to Charge Mitigation Rates for the Deployment of Emergency and Non-Emergency Services by the Tarrant Fire Department for

Services Provided and Rendered by the Tarrant Fire Department on Behalf of the City of Tarrant, Alabama. Councilor Anderson seconded the motion. Mayor Newton called for a vote.

Yeas:

Councilor Tracie B. Threadford
Councilor Anderson
Councilor Veronica Bandy Freeman
Councilor Deborah "Debbie" Mathews

Nays:

Councilor Bryant

Not voting:

Mayor Wayman A. Newton

The yeas being four (4) and the nays being one (1) with one (1) member not voting, the motion to adopt Ordinance No. 1156 was failed due to non-unanimous vote on suspension of first reading, and the motion was moved to its first reading.

Councilor Anderson read Ordinance No. 1156 for its first reading.

Next, the City Council reviewed the Vouchers and Expenses for the City of Tarrant and Tarrant Electric Department for September 18, 2023. Councilor Threadford moved to approve the vouchers and expenses for the City of Tarrant and Tarrant Electric Department for September 18, 2023. Councilor Bryant seconded the motion. Mayor Newton called for a vote.

Yeas:

Councilor John T. "Tommy" Bryant
Councilor Tracie B. Threadford
Councilor Cathy Anderson
Councilor Veronica Bandy Freeman
Councilor Deborah "Debbie" Mathews

Nays:

None

The yeas being five (5) and the nays being zero (0), the motion to approve the vouchers and expenses for the City of Tarrant and Tarrant Electric Department for September, 2023 was approved, and the motion was adopted

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

First, Evelyn Boyken. Reminded City of Tarrant of September 15, 2023 legal outcome with Jefferson County Courts. Ms. Boyken asked the City of Tarrant Council when she will be reimbursed for the legal outcome. Mayor Newton referred Ms. Boyken to City of Tarrant Council Finance Department and reassured her that the outcome letter was just forwarded to the City Clerk of Tarrant. Ms. Boyken also made recommendation on the houses that will be demolished and provided some history of the houses.

This concluded public comments.

The City of Tarrant discussed concerns on the Public Works Department and the lack of City of Tarrant Police Officers. It was determined that a culture of outsiders come into the City of Tarrant to dump their trash. Council asked Chief Major to resubmit Camera request for problem locations in the City of Tarrant.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:47PM

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Laverne Knight
City Clerk September 18, 2023
City of Tarrant Council Meeting, Alabama

READ AND APPROVED this the 18th day of September, 2023.



The City of Tarrant, Alabama

APPROVED: 
WAYMAN NEWTON, MAYOR

ATTEST:



Dr. Laverne Knight