

CITY OF TARRANT
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
AUGUST 5, 2024
TARRANT CITY HALL

The City Council of the City of Tarrant, Alabama, met in a regularly scheduled meeting on Monday August 5, 2024, at 7:00 PM at City Hall.

Mayor Wayman A. Newton called the meeting to order at 7:03 PM immediately following the council work session that began at 6:00PM to discuss items on the agenda and other matters.

Pastor Tracey Everson, a new City of Tarrant resident, lead those in attendance in the invocation. City of Tarrant Fire Chief Patrick Bennett 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" Matthews
Mayor Wayman A. Newton

A quorum was determined to be present at the meeting.

The minutes from the July 15, 2024 regularly scheduled council meeting and the minutes for the July 22, 2024 special meeting were presented for review and approval. After review, Councilor Threadford moved to approve the minutes. Councilor Bryant seconded the motion. Mayor Newton called for a vote.

Yeas:

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

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 were adopted, and the minutes for July 15, 2024, council meeting were approved.

The Mayor gave a statement wishing everyone a happy and first day of school on the upcoming Wednesday.

Councilor Threadford provided updated on all those in attendance on August 3, 2024 Wild Cat weekend from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm at the City of Tarrant Rec. Center. There were an estimated 200 families in attendance who were provided with backpacks, and about 30 free haircuts were given. A lengthy list of donators included; Chamber of Commerce, First Faith Baptiste Ministries City of Tarrant Councilor Cathy Freeman, City of Tarrant City Council recognized Manager John Brown, a few members from the Class of 85, and Charlie Waldrep were just a few that were acknowledged.

Councilor Freeman provided information on an upcoming 'Prayer Changers Walk' scheduled for Saturday, August 17, 2024 beginning at 11:00 am and ending 12:00 pm. The prayer walk will begin at Salvation Ministries 1225 East Lake Blvd. Councilor Freeman reminded all those in attendance that she was doing this event as a private citizen and not as a public official. Councilor Freeman indicated that the theme of the prayer walk would be 'Pray Without Ceasing' based on the biblical scripture taken from 1 Thessalonians 5:17. After Councilor Freeman provided information on the upcoming event she sincerely apologized to Mayor Newton for all past conflicts and arguments exchanged between herself and the Mayor. All in attendance provided Councilor Freeman support with a thank you and a clapping ovation. Councilor Freeman also provided the City Clerk with a poster describing the event indicating more information and her status clearly marked as a citizen with her private telephone number included.

There were no Committee Reports.

The Mayor and Council moved on to Old Business.

Councilor Threadford introduced Resolution No. 9186, A Resolution Authorizing the Use of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funds by the City of Tarrant, Alabama, Received Under the Standard Allowance Provision for Lost Revenue Pursuant to 31 C.F.R. § 35. Councilor Threadford moved to table Resolution No. 9186 to the next regular scheduled meeting. Councilor Anderson seconded the motion. Mayor Newton called for a vote.

Yeas:

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

Nays:

None

Not voting:

Mayor Wayman Newton

The yeas being five (5) and the nays being zero (0) with one (1) member not voting, the motion to table Resolution No. 9186 was agreed, and the Resolution was tabled.

Next the City Council moved on to New Business.

Mayor Newton introduced and read Resolution No. 9191, A Resolution Removing Chief Wendell Major from the Office of Chief of Police for the City of Tarrant. There was no seconder.

Councilor Threadford introduced and read Resolution No. 9192, A Resolution Authorizing and Approving the City of Tarrant to Enter into a Purchase Agreement with Axon Enterprises, Inc. Councilor Threadford moved to table Resolution No. 9192 until American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funds are resolved. Councilor Anderson seconded the motion. Mayor Newton called for a vote.

Yeas:

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

Nays:

None

Not voting:

Mayor Wayman Newton

The yeas being five (5) and the nays being zero (0) with one (1) member not voting, the motion table Resolution No. 9192 was agreed, and the Resolution was tabled.

Councilor Bryant introduced and read Resolution No. 9193, A Resolution Authorizing the Mayor to File on Behalf of the City of Tarrant, A Renewal Loan with Peoples Bank of Alabama. Councilor Bryant motioned to approve Resolution No. 9193. Councilor Threadford seconded the motion. Mayor Newton called for a vote.

Yeas:

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

Nays:

None

Not voting:

Mayor Wayman Newton

The yeas being five (5) and the nays being zero (0) with one (1) member not voting, the motion to approve Resolution No. 9193 was agreed, and the Resolution was approved.

Mayor Newton introduced Resolution No. 9194, A Resolution Authorizing the Purchase of 2025 Freightliner M2 Limb Loaders for Tarrant Public Works Department. Mayor Newton moved to table Resolution No. 9194 until a more detailed cost analysis is completed. Councilor Freeman seconded the motion. Mayor Newton called for a vote.

Yeas:

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

Nays:

None

Not voting:

Mayor Wayman Newton

The yeas being five (5) and the nays being zero (0) with one (1) member not voting, the motion to table Resolution No. 9194 was agreed, and the Resolution was tabled.

Councilor Anderson introduced and read Resolution No. 9195, A Resolution Authorizing the Submission of An Alabama 911 Board Cycle 10 Grant Application for Expenditures Related to the Transfer of Call Handling Services from the Jefferson County 911 to Tarrant Dispatch. Councilor Anderson moved to approve Resolution No. 9195. Councilor Threadford seconded the motion. Mayor Newton called for a vote.

Yeas:

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

Nays:

None

Not voting:

Mayor Wayman Newton

The yeas being five (5) and the nays being zero (0) with one (1) member not voting, the motion to approve Resolution No. 9195 was agreed, and the Resolution was approved.

Councilor Threadford introduced and read Resolution No. 9196, A Resolution to Institute a Hiring Freeze on All Non-Public Safety Positions Within the City of Tarrant, Alabama, and the City of Tarrant, Alabama Electric Department. The Mayor mentioned that for the record, there is a high turn over rate in the Public Works Department and that if nothing gets done then it would be on the Council. Councilor Threadford moved to approve Resolution No. 9196. Councilor Anderson seconded the motion. Mayor Newton called for a vote.

Yeas:

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

Nays:

None

Not voting:

Mayor Wayman Newton

The yeas being five (5) and the nays being zero (0) with one (1) member not voting, the motion to approve Resolution No. 9196 was agreed, and the Resolution was approved.

Resolution No. 9197 on the Agenda regarding Abatement for address 1525 Elizabeth Ave., Birmingham, Alabama 35217 was declared RESOLVED.

Mayor Newton stated that the next item on the agenda would be a public hearing, for consideration of declaring certain properties a public nuisance pursuant to Ordinance No. 1017 of the City of Tarrant. Mayor Newton opened a public hearing of abatement for each of the following properties:

Resolution No. 9198 – A Resolution of the City of Tarrant Pursuant to Ordinance No. 1017 of the City of Tarrant Declaring Certain Properties a Public Nuisance 1254 Park Ave., Birmingham, Alabama 35217. Abatement.

Resolution No. 9199 – A Resolution of the City of Tarrant Pursuant to Ordinance No. 1017 of the City of Tarrant Declaring Certain Properties a Public Nuisance 1342 Park Ave., Birmingham, Alabama 35217. Abatement.

Resolution No. 9200 – A Resolution of the City of Tarrant Pursuant to Ordinance No. 1017 of the City of Tarrant Declaring Certain Properties a Public Nuisance 1346 Park Ave., Birmingham, Alabama 35217. Abatement.

Resolution No. 9201 – A Resolution of the City of Tarrant Pursuant to Ordinance

No. 1017 of the City of Tarrant Declaring Certain Properties a Public Nuisance 1316 Thomason, Birmingham, Alabama 35217. Abatement.

After closing the public comments for the said properties, Mayor Newton recommended Resolution No. 9198 for abatement be tabled for next meeting to give the owner time to take care of the issue. Mayor Newton made a motion to table Resolution No. 9198. Councilor Anderson seconded the motion. Mayor Newton called for a vote.

Yeas:

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

Nays:

None

Not voting:

Mayor Wayman Newton

The yeas being five (5) and the nays being zero (0) with one (1) member not voting, the motion to table Resolution No. 9198 was agreed, and the Resolution was tabled.

Next Mayor Newton entertained a motion to entertain Resolution No. 9199, Resolution No. 9200, and Resolution No. 9201 all as a public nuisances pursuant to City of Tarrant Ordinance No. 1017. Councilor Bryant moved to approve Resolution No. 9199, Resolution No. 9200, and Resolution No. 9201 all as a public nuisance pursuant to City of Tarrant Ordinance 1017. Councilor Threadford seconded the motion. Mayor Newton called for a vote.

Yeas:

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

Nays:

None

Not voting:

Mayor Wayman Newton

The yeas being five (5) and the nays being zero (0) with one (1) member not voting, the motion to approve Resolution No. 9199, Resolution No. 9200, and Resolution No. 9201 was agreed, and the Resolutions were approved.

The Council moved on to Presentations of Petitions and Other Communications.

There were no presentations and petitions and other communications.

Next, the City Council reviewed the vouchers and expenses for the City of Tarrant for August 5, 2024 and Tarrant Electric Department for August 5, 2024. Councilor Threadford moved to approve the vouchers and expenses for the City of Tarrant and the City of Tarrant Electric for week ending August 5, 2024. Councilor Anderson seconded the motion. Mayor Newton called for a vote.

Yeas:

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

Nays:

Councilor John T. "Tommy" Bryant
Councilor Veronica Bandy Freeman
Mayor Wayman A. Newton

Not voting:

None

The yeas being three (3) and the nays being three (3) with zero (0) member not voting, the motion to approve the vouchers and expenses for the City of Tarrant for August 5, 2024 and the Tarrant Electric Department for August 5, 2024 failed.

Next, the Council moved to Public Comments.

First, Chuck Winborn questioned the Mayor character. Mr. Winborn reminded all those in attendance that he would continue providing past incidents on the Mayor due to Mayors continuous discreditation upon the Chief of Police. Mr. Winborn read a story written by Carol Robinson taken from al.com dated November 8, 2022. Mr. Winborn also recommended all those in attendance to read articles from Joey Bryant from al.com. Mayor Newton responded in defense by reading a past facebook post taken from Chuck Winborns' 2015 personal account.

Second, Ms. Paketha Mosley was asked to approach the podium. Ms. Mosley described a Municipal Court incident regarding the current magistrate. In the incident, she described the Municipal Court magistrate as disrespectful and irate behavior using phrases such as 'yelling, screaming etc.' Ms. Mosley submitted an incident report to the City of Tarrant Council for review. The Mayor apologized for the Magistrates behavior. Councilor Threadford affirmed municipal court records being publicly displayed on facebook's social media. Councilor Threadford asked the City Clerk to photocopy the written incident report for each Council member to ensure paper trail documentation.


Third, Ms. Julianne Tharp and Ms. Barbara Jackson provided an update on the organization called Greater Birmingham Alliance to Stop Pollution (Gasp). The organization described their efforts for the organization and informed the Council of a community talk to be held at the Tarrant Rec Center on August 15, 2024 at 6:00 pm.

Fourth, Valarie McClellan provided a view regarding the City of Tarrant conduct and questioned the current infrastructure of the City of Tarrant.

Fifth, Ms. Rivers of Messiah's House introduced herself and thanked everyone for their support. Ms. Messiah provided information on what the Messiah's House organization offers. Enrichment programs for children and classes included Math, Science and English. Ms. Rivers requested 100 males to volunteers to aid the organization.

There being no further comments from the public, the Mayor entertained a motion to adjourn. Councilor Threadford made a motion to adjourn. Councilor Anderson seconded the motion. A verbal vote was taken with all in favor. Meeting adjourned at approximately 7:56 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Dr. Laverne Knight
City Clerk August 5, 2024

City of Tarrant Council Meeting, Alabama

READ AND APPROVED this the 5th day of August, 2024.

The City of Tarrant, Alabama

APPROVED: _____
WAYMAN NEWTON, MAYOR



ATTEST:

Dr. Laverne Knight

CITY OF TARRANT
COUNCIL SPECIAL CALLED MEETING MINUTES
AUGUST 8, 2024
TARRANT CITY HALL

The City Council of the City of Tarrant, Alabama, met in a special called meeting on Monday August 8, 2024, at 4:45 PM at City Hall.

Mayor Newton called the meeting to order at 4:45 PM.

There was no prayer.

There was no pledge of allegiance.

There was no roll call.

There were no minutes.

There were no communications from the Mayor.

There were no committee reports.

There was no old business.

There were no committee reports.

Mayor Newton announced new business.

Mayor Newton re introduced Resolution No. 9181, A Resolution Authorizing and Approving Gameday Athletic Surfaces to Resurface and Install Irrigation for the City of Tarrant on the Old Tarrant High School Football Field and Complex. There was discussion on adding \$1,200 to the current max amount of the previously approved \$86,518.00. Councilor Bryant made a motion to amend Resolution 9181 by adding \$1,200.00 to the said expenditure of \$86,518. Councilor Threadford seconded the motion. There was no unreadiness. Mayor Newton called for a vote.

Yeas:

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

Nays:

None

Not voting:

None

The yeas being five (5), the nays being zero (0), with zero (0) member not voting, the motion to approve Resolution No. 9181 was agreed, and the Resolution was approved.

Mayor Newton introduced a discussion on Business License and recommended that the clerk be the authorized representative for the request. The City Clerk refused due to an already employee assigned to the task.

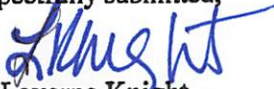
There was no presentation of petitions and other communications.

There were no vouchers and expenses.

There were no public comments.

The meeting ended at 5:10 pm with no formal closing.

Respectfully submitted,



Dr. Laverne Knight
City Clerk August 8, 2024

City of Tarrant Council Meeting, Alabama



READ AND APPROVED this the 8th day of August, 2024.

The City of Tarrant, Alabama

APPROVED: _____
WAYMAN NEWTON, MAYOR

ATTEST:



Dr. Laverne Knight