

CITY OF TARRANT  
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
AUGUST 7, 2023  
TARRANT CITY HALL

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

Mayor Wayman A. Newton called the meeting to order at 7:01PM following the council work session that began at 6:00PM to discuss items on the agenda and other matters.

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 B. Freeman  
Councilor Deborah “Debbie” Mathews  
Mayor Wayman A. Newton

A quorum was determined to be present at the meeting.

The minutes from the July 17, 2023 regularly scheduled council meeting were presented for review and approval. After review, Councilor Threadford moved to approve the minutes from July 17, 2023, meeting as presented. Councilor Anderson seconded the motion. Mayor Newton called for a roll call vote.

Yeas:

Councilor John T. “Tommy” Bryant  
Councilor Tracie B. Threadford  
Councilor Catherine “Cathy” Anderson  
Councilor Veronica B. 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 from the July 17, 2023 as presented were approved.

The Mayor communicated the following items to those in attendance:

The Springdale Road will re-open to traffic on Thursday, August 10, 2023.

An event called “Fourth Friday’s on Ford” will begin on August 25, 2023 from 6:00PM to 9:00PM to celebrate and bring the community together. The even will occur every fourth Friday of the month. There will be music, food trucks, games and more! The location will be at Ford Avenue.

School begins August 8, 2023. There will be a “High 5 Birmingham Back to School Red Carpet Rollout for Tarrant students from 7:00AM to 8:15AM. The Tarrant Mayor and Council will attend. The Mayor invited everyone to attend.

This ended communications from the Mayor’s office.

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

Councilor Freeman provided update on conference attended from July 19 through 21, 2023, in Tacoma, Washington. The conference hosted by the National League of Cities (NLC) theme was “Unlocking Tourism Wealth.” The NLC is an organization comprised of city, town, and village leaders that are focused on improving the quality of life for their current and future constituents formed over ninety years ago with more than 2,000 cities across the nation as members. Councilor Freeman also communicated to those present on concern of Tarrant Facebook access.

The Mayor then called for committee reports.

Councilor Bryant provided sample handout on Animals and Fowl Ordinance. Future recommendation on work session in planning the Animals and Fowl Ordinance was made.

Councilor Threadford provided brief update on electrical committee of the City of Tarrant. Currently, Councilor Threadford is facilitating the audits and will follow this with the budget.

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

Mayor Newton introduced Resolution No. 9030, a Resolution Authorizing the issuance of an invitation to bid for the purchase of playground equipment to be placed at Brummitt Heights Park. After introducing the Resolution No. 9030, Mayor Newton moved to amend the resolution to not only include in receiving a bid for playground equipment Brummitt Heights Park, but to include receiving bids for the park at East Boyles. Councilor Anderson seconded the motion to amend the resolution. Mayor Newton then called for a vote in the amendment.

Yeas:

Councilor John T. “Tommy” Bryant  
Councilor Tracie B. Threadford  
Councilor Catherine “Cathy” Anderson  
Councilor Veronica B. 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 amend Resolution No. 9030 was agreed to and the resolution was amended.

Next, Mayor Newton moved to adopt Resolution No. 9030 as amended. Councilor Anderson seconded the motion. Mayor Newton then called for a vote.

Yeas:

Councilor John T. “Tommy” Bryant  
Councilor Tracie B. Threadford  
Councilor Catherine “Cathy” Anderson  
Councilor Veronica B. 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 (1) member not voting, the motion to adopt Resolution No. 9030 as amended was agreed to, and the Resolution adopted.

Mayor Newton introduced Resolution No. 9031, A Resolution requesting quotes for repair of bathrooms at Brummitt Heights park and directing immediate repair of item at park. Councilor Freeman moved to table Resolution No. 9031. 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 B. 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 (1) member not voting, the motion to table Resolution No. 9031 was agreed to, and the Resolution tabled.

Councilor Freeman introduced and read Resolution No. 9032, A Resolution to approve a compensation increase for non-public safety employees. After reading the resolution, Councilor Freeman moved for its adoption. Mayor Newton seconded the motion. During discussion, Councilor Bryant intervened and moved to table Resolution No. 9032 which was seconded by Councilor Threadford. Following discussion on the matter. Mayor Newton called for a vote.

Yeas:

Councilor John T. "Tommy" Bryant  
Councilor Tracie B. Threadford  
Councilor Catherine "Cathy" Anderson  
Councilor Veronica B. 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. 9032 was agreed to, and the Resolution was tabled.

Mayor Newton introduced Resolution No. 9033, A Resolution Authorizing the issuance of an invitation to bid for the paving and patching of certain roads maintained by the City of Tarrant. Councilor Freeman moved to table Resolution No. 9031. 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 B. 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. 9033 was agreed to, and the resolution was tabled.

Mayor Newton read and introduced Resolution No. 9034, A Resolution Authorizing the Mayor to file on behalf of the City of Tarrant a vehicle loan with Peoples Bank of Alabama. Mayor Newton noted that this was an inherited loan. Mayor Newton motioned to approve Resolution No. 9034. 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 B. Freeman  
Councilor Deborah “Debbie” Mathews

Nays:

None

Not voting:

Mayor Wayman A. Newton

The yeas being five (5) and the nays being zero (0), the motion to approve Resolution No. 9034 was agreed to, and the Resolution was adopted.

Councilor Bryant introduced and read Resolution No. 9035, A Resolution Approving and authorizing ALDOT Project No. STPAA-NR13(909) to replace non-compliant curb ramps along U.S. Hwy 79. Councilor Bryant moved to adopt Resolution No. 9035. Councilor Freeman seconded the motion. Madam Mayor Pro Tempore Threadford called for a vote.

Yeas:

Councilor John T. “Tommy” Bryant  
Councilor Tracie B. Threadford  
Councilor Catherine “Cathy” Anderson  
Councilor Veronica B. Freeman  
Councilor Deborah “Debbie” Mathews

Nays:

None

The yeas being five (5) and the nays being zero (0), the motion to approve Resolution No. 9035 was agreed to, and the resolution was adopted.

Madam Mayor Pro Tempore Threadford entertained Resolution No. 9036. Councilor Bryant introduced and moved to adopt Resolution No. 9036, Approving of and authorizing the repair of

the Tarrant Recreation Center Roof. Councilor Anderson seconded the motion. Madam Mayor Pro Tempore Threadford called for a vote.

Yeas:

Councilor John T. “Tommy” Bryant  
Councilor Tracie B. Threadford  
Councilor Catherine “Cathy” Anderson  
Councilor Veronica B. Freeman  
Councilor Deborah “Debbie” Mathews

Nays:

None

The yeas being five (5) and the nays being zero (0), the motion to approve Resolution No. 9036 was approved, and the Resolution was adopted.

Madam Mayor Pro Tempore Threadford introduced and read Resolution No. 9037, Authorizing the payment to Smitherman Law Office, LLC for services rendered. After introducing Resolution No. 9037, Madam Mayor Pro Tempore Threadford moved to adopt the resolution. Councilor Bryant seconded the motion. Madam Mayor Pro Tempore Threadford called for a vote.

Yeas:

Councilor John T. “Tommy” Bryant  
Councilor Tracie B. Threadford  
Councilor Catherine “Cathy” Anderson  
Councilor Veronica B. Freeman  
Councilor Deborah “Debbie” Mathews

Nays:

None

The yeas being five (5) and the nays being zero (0), the motion to approve Resolution No. 9037 was approved, and the Resolution was adopted

Next, the City Council reviewed the Vouchers and Expenses for the City of Tarrant and Tarrant Electric Department for August 7, 2023. Madam Mayor Tempore Threadford moved to approve the vouchers and expenses for the City of Tarrant and Tarrant Electric Department for August 7, 2023. Councilor Anderson seconded the motion. Madam Mayor Pro Tempore Threadford called for a vote.

Yeas:

Councilor John T. “Tommy” Bryant  
Councilor Tracie B. Threadford  
Councilor Catherine “Cathy” Anderson  
Councilor Veronica B. 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 August 7, 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, Mr. Robby Pridmore, a registered nurse, spoke for an amputee who has problems paying for solid waste. Mr. Pridmore was referred to the City Clerk to discuss arrangements on qualifications for exemption from solid waste collection fees. Second issue is overgrown weeds on/near walkway of Tarrant Street, 2200 Block of old Pinson Hwy. Infrastructure needs improvement in this area.

Second, Karen Gordon and Amber Anderson concerned of an autowreck that happened in Tarrant City in 2022. The three cars involved were the result of an individual who was presumed to be driving under the influence. There are current issues of misplaced and/or lost evidence regarding the car wreck. The concerned individuals would like their specified information. Chief Major approached the Council and provided a detailed account of the 2022 accident.

Third, Jeromeo Jenkins concerned about electrical post in his yard that is having an effect on his electrical bill. Madam Mayor Pro Tempore Threadford will take the initiative of looking into Jenkins. Jenkins provided Mayor Pro Tempore with his personal phone number.

Fourth, Chuck Winborn provided view on 2022 City of Tarrant car accident regarding second public speaker. Mr. Winborn expressed concern regarding floor mats in the dispatch office. Floor needs to be replaced in the dispatch office, and it must be taken as a priority when considering future and/or immediate renovations.

Fifth, Allen Pilkington, formed group and need to know about Halloween funding for 2023. Question also in past parks and recreation initiative. Would like update.

Sixth, Will Smith, expressed concern on demolishing bathrooms at park. Volunteered that he and others will fix the bathrooms and preferred the Mayor and Council not to demolish the bathrooms at the park.

Seventh, individual expressed concern of storm water ditch.

Council discussed work session for storm water ditch and animal ordinance. August 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at 6:00PM set for work session with Storm Water Ditch and Animal Ordinance as items to be discussed.

There being no further business to be brought before the council, Councilor Threadford 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 8:27PM.

Respectfully submitted,

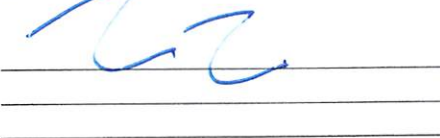


Dr. Laverne Knight  
City Clerk for the August 7, 2023, City Council Meeting

READ AND APPROVED this the 22<sup>nd</sup> day of August 2023.



APPROVED:



ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Laverne Knight  
\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk