

CITY OF TARRANT
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 3, 2024
TARRANT CITY HALL

The City Council of the City of Tarrant, Alabama, met in a regularly scheduled meeting on Wednesday January 3, 2024, at 7:00 PM at City Hall.

Mayor Wayman A. Newton called the regular scheduled meeting to order at 7:00 PM 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. City Clerk, Laverne Knight 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
Mayor Wayman A. Newton
Councilor Veronica Bandy Freeman
Councilor Deborah “Debbie” Matthews

A quorum was determined to be present at the meeting.

The minutes from the December 18, 2023 regularly scheduled council meeting were presented for review and approval. After review, Councilor Threadford moved to approve the minutes with amendments for December 18, 2023 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 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 with amendments was adopted, and the minutes for December 18, 2023, council meeting were approved.

Next, the Mayor extended communications from the City of Tarrant to the Councilors

Councilor Freeman requested to go on record in regard to City of Tarrant Resolutions and their implementation. Councilor Freeman listed and questioned the implementations of Resolutions 8757, 8955, 8919, 8984, 9054, 9055, 8964, 8937, 8919, 9098, 9099 and Ordinance numbers 1142, 1150 and 1155. There was discussion between the Mayor and Councilor Freeman regarding City of Tarrant Resolutions and Ordances. Councilor Freeman questioned and requested other types of City of Tarrant business including grants and City of Tarrant house demolitions, and that for the record she did not say that all the houses will be torn down for free.

Next the Mayor read a brief statement on the court order outcome of January 3, 2024.

This ended communications from the Mayors Office.

The Mayor then called for Committee Reports.

No Committee Reports were made.

The Council next considered old business.

There was no items on the agenda for old business.

The Council next considered items for new business.

Councilor Bryant introduced and read Resolution No. 9104, A Resolution Authorizing the City of Tarrant Police Department to Enter into Contract and Payment of Power DMS. 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 adopt Resolution 9104 was agreed to, and the Resolution was approved.

Next, the Mayor and Council moved to presentations of petitions and other communications.

There were no presentations of petitions and other communications.

Next, the City Council reviewed the vouchers and expenses for the City of Tarrant and Tarrant Electric Department for January 3, 2024. Councilor Threadford moved to approve the vouchers and expenses for the City of Tarrant and Tarrant Electric Department for January 3, 2024. 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 Deborah "Debbie" Mathews

Nays:

Councilor Veronica Bandy Freeman

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 approve the vouchers and expenses for the City of Tarrant and Tarrant Electric Department for January 3, 2024 was agreed to, and the vouchers and expenses were approved.

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

Mayor Newton introduced Suzanne Randall as first for public speaking. There was discussion and conflict in the order of who should speak first for Section XXII Public Comments for Agenda 1.3.2024.

Mayor Newton left the meeting.

First, Chuck Winborn. Chuck Winborn informed all who were present that the Street Department list of equipment items that need to be repaired is lengthy. Mr. Winborn further questioned concern on the release of a City of Tarrant video and EECO complaints. The City of Tarrant Attorney responded by confirming that further investigation needs to be completed on public records criteria before the video can be released and that EECO complaints cannot be released due to investigations that are also in progress. Chuck Winborn also expressed concerns on the hierarchy and chain of command of the Police Department and the employees.

Second, Kelvin Slaughter spoke on discrepancies on retrieving business liquor license. Mr. Slaughter continued public comments by requesting explanations on the procedures of towing within the State of Alabama and City of Tarrant as his camper was previously towed. Mr. Slaughter also asked why there were cameras placed towards his business.

Third, Suzanne Randall requested funding for Kilns for the senior citizens of the City of Tarrant activity get-togethers. After discussion Councilor Bryant requested Ms. Randall to have City Attorney draft up a Resolution.

Fourth, Allen Pilkington provided brief description of his views on the City of Tarrant since 2020.

Fifth, Jackie Beltaine declined public comments.

Sixth, Charlie Williams Jr. summarized past positive initiatives of 2023. Mr. Williams reminded the Council that the citizens of Tarrant voted for services, and further commented on the early departure of the Mayor.

Seventh, Winifred Dill provided past experiences on racism. Encouraged the need to learn and listen to one another.

This concluded public comments.

There being no further business to be brought before the council, Mayor Pro Tempore Threadford adjourned the meeting. A voice vote was taken with all present being in favor.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:59 PM

Respectfully submitted,



Dr. Laverne Knight
City Clerk February 5, 2024
City of Tarrant Council Meeting, Alabama

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



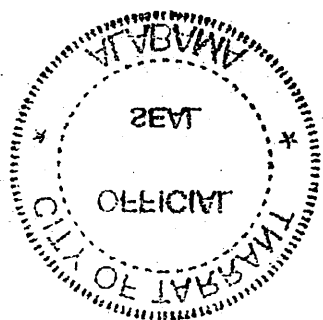
The City of Tarrant, Alabama

APPROVED: 
WAYMAN NEWTON, MAYOR

ATTEST:


Dr. Laverne Knight

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