

**CITY OF TARRANT**  
**COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**  
**OCTOBER 3, 2022**  
**TARRANT CITY HALL**

The City Council of the City of Tarrant, Alabama, met in a regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, October 3, 2022, at 7:00PM at City Hall.

Mayor Wayman A. Newton called the meeting to order at 7:00PM.

Chief Wendell Major lead those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance. Chief Patrick Bennett gave the invocation.

Councilor Anderson moved to appoint Michael Brymer, the city attorney who was present, as the acting city clerk for the meeting. Councilor Threadford seconded the motion. There was no discussion. All present voted in favor. The motion was agreed to.

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

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

No minutes were submitted to approve.

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

The Mayor yielded his time to Police Chief Major who let the audience know of the Tarrant Police Foundation Car Show that was scheduled to raise money for the Tarrant Police Foundation. The date of the show is Saturday, October 8, 2022, from 11:00AM – 5:00PM at the old city hall building on Pinson Valley Parkway. Several vendors had agreed to participate in the event, all of whom had purchased a Tarrant business license. In addition, several corporate partners had agreed to sponsorships. There would be dunking booth along with other activities. All were invited and encouraged to attend.

The Mayor resumed communications and reminded everyone about the upcoming Halloween Festival scheduled for Sunday, October 30, 2022, from 2:00PM – 5:00PM along Ford Avenue.

The Mayor requested volunteers to work the various activities that would be occurring during the event.

The Mayor continued his communications and advised that the Battle Axe Food Truck would be at Kessellers on Thursday, October 7. This was a local food truck. All were encouraged to visit.

The Mayor next yielded his time to Fire Chief Patrick Benett. Chief Bennett informed the council that the city received a \$42,000 grant allowing the fire department to purchase two (2) Stryker automated CPR devices. The devices would be immediately put into service. Chief Bennett had one of the devices present and advised he would perform a demonstration of how the device operated following the council meeting for anyone interested. Chief Bennett and the Mayor expressed gratitude to Deputy Mayor Lisa Baker, Jefferson County Commissioner Joe Knight, and Chief Josephe McKenzie.

This ended the communications from the Mayor's office.

Next, the Mayor called for communications from the council. The following items were communicated from various councilors:

Councilor Matthews thanked the Tarrant Fire Department for its preparing and cooking the steak dinner for the Tarrant High School football team for its homecoming game. Councilor Matthews

also thanked the street department for assisting in set up and clean up of the event. The Mayor and Council joined in their gratitude to both the fire department and street department as well as to Councilors Anderson and Matthews for their coordinating and pushing the event. Councilor Matthews also advised that several students at the high school had expressed interest in shadowing in the fire department as a possible future employment opportunity.

Then, Councilor Freeman thanked Mr. William King from Coca-Cola who donated water for the city-wide clean up. Councilor Freeman stated she had spoken with Mr. Clint Harris regarding his generous donation to fund the city Halloween party. Mr. Harris and Councilor Freeman were arranging for him to get her the check. Mr. Harris requested a copy of the invoices and receipts for anything that had already been purchased or would be purchased by the City for the Halloween party. The Mayor indicated that some candy had already been purchased, but receipts were maintained with Ms. McCall in his office.

This ended the communications from the city council.

The council then considered the Joint Facilities Use Agreement with the Tarrant Board of Education. Councilor Matthews moved to table further action on the agreement pending the October 25, 2022, joint specially called meeting with the Tarrant City Board of Education. Councilor Threadford seconded the motion. Mayor Newton called for a roll call vote:

Yeas:

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

The motion was agreed to, and the matter was tabled.

Councilor Anderson introduced Resolution 8957, A Resolution Authorizing the Mayor to Execute a Tax Revenue Enhancement Agreement Between The City of Tarrant and Avenu Insights & Analytics, LLC for the Renewal of Occupational Tax Revenue Administration Services for one year. After it was read, Councilor Bryant seconded the motion. Mayor Newton called for a vote.

Yeas:

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

The resolution was agreed to and passed.

Councilor Anderson introduced Resolution 8958, A Resolution Authorizing the Mayor to Execute a Tax Revenue Enhancement Agreement Between the City of Tarrant and Avenu Insights & Analytics, LLC for the Renewal of Business License Administration Services for one year. After being read, Councilor Bryant seconded the motion. Mayor Newton called for a vote.

Yeas:

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

The resolution was agreed to and passed.

Councilor Bryant next introduced Resolution 8959, A Resolution Authorizing the Mayor to Execute an Inmate Housing Agreement Between the City of Tarrant and Mark Pettway, In His Official Capacity as Sheriff of Jefferson County, Alabama. After being read, Councilor Anderson seconded the motion. Mayor Newton called for a vote.

Yeas:

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

Then, Councilor Threadford moved to introduce Resolution 8960, A Resolution Authorizing the Reinstatement of the City of Tarrant Chamber of Commerce. Councilor Freeman seconded the motion.

Next, Councilor Threadford moved to amend section 1 of the ordinance to state “Section 1. That the City of Tarrant City Council is hereby authorized to take whatever action may be needed to aid in the reinstatement of the City of Tarrant Chamber of Commerce.” Section 2 would be deleted. Councilor Bryant seconded. After discussion on the matter, Mayor Newton called for a vote on Councilor Threadford’s motion to amend Resolution 8960.

Yeas:

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

Not voting:

Mayor Wayman A. Newton

The Council then considered Resolution 8960 as amended. After being read as amended and additional discussion, Mayor Newton called for a vote.

Yeas:

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

Not voting:

Mayor Wayman A. Newton

Then, Councilor Threadford moved to introduce Resolution 8961, A Resolution Appointing the Honorable Crystal Smitherman as Public Defender for the City of Tarrant Municipal Court. After being read, Councilor Bryant seconded the motion. After discussion, Councilor Threadford moved to withdraw Resolution 8961. Councilor Anderson seconded the motion. Mayor Newton called for a vote on the motion to withdraw Resolution 8961.

Yeas:

Councilor Deborah “Debbie” Matthews  
Councilor Veronica Bandy Freeman  
Mayor Wayman A. Newton  
Councilor Catherine “Cathy” Anderson  
Councilor Tracie B. Threadford

Not voting:

Councilor John T. “Tommy” Bryant

The matter was withdrawn pending a future work session and requests for qualifications from both the Honorable Crystal Smitherman, Esq. and the Legal Aid Society.

Next, a motion to suspend the rules to allow for immediate consideration of Ordinance 1151 was made by Councilor Anderson. Mayor Newton seconded the motion. Mayor Newton called for a vote on the motion to suspend the rules allowing for immediate consideration of Ordinance 1151.

Yeas:

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

The rules were suspended, and Councilor Matthews moved to introduce Ordinance 1151, An Ordinance Amending City of Tarrant Municipal Code § 5.3 License Term: Minimums To Reflect Increase in Business License Issuance Fee from \$12.00 to \$14.00. After being read by Councilor Matthews, Councilor Threadford seconded the motion. Mayor Newton called for a vote.

Yeas:

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

The Council then resumed proceeding with the remainder of the agenda items.

Members of the public who had signed in to speak prior to the meeting were invited to come and address the council.

Ms. Kimberly Myers of Pine Hill Road in Tarrant addressed the council regarding an issue with items being left in her yard by the electric department employees who had to replace a power pole following the pole being damaged as a result of a car running into the pole. The wreck occurring during a law enforcement initiated pursuit of the vehicle. Chief Major interjected and discussed the incident with Ms. Myers and the council. Mayor Newton stated he would advise the electric department of Ms. Myers concerns and address with the department if necessary.

Rev. Gwyn Webb spoke to thank the Mayor for attending the prayer breakfast in the Inglenook neighborhood. Rev. Webb said invitations to all elected officials will be sent out the next time a prayer breakfast is scheduled. She also advised that she had an aunt who lives in Tarrant. The aunt went to pay her power bill with her debit card and was charged a processing fee of \$11.50 on top of the amount owed. Rev. Webb stated that was incredibly high and burdensome for those on fixed income. She requested the council look to see if there is a way to lower the processing fee.

That concluded comments from the public.

Next, Councilor Threadford moved to approve the vouchers and expenses as presented. Councilor Anderson seconded the motion. After discussion on several items related to the vouchers and expenses, Mayor Newton called for a vote.

Yeas:

Mayor Wayman Newton  
Councilor Catherine "Cathy" Anderson  
Councilor Debora "Debbie" Matthews

Nays:

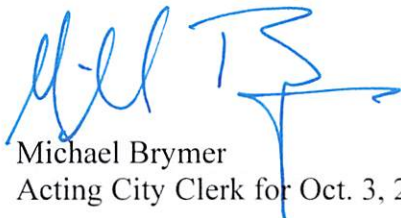
Councilor Veronic Bandy Freeman  
Councilor Tracie B. Threadford  
Councilor John T. "Tommy" Bryant

The motion to approve was not agreed to and the vouchers and expenses were not agreed to.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 8:03PM.

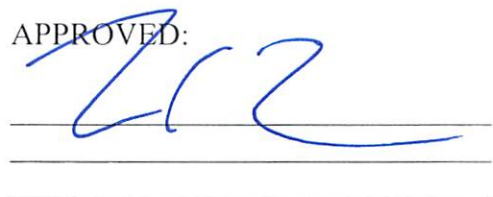
Respectfully submitted,



Michael Brymer  
Acting City Clerk for Oct. 3, 2022, City Council Meeting

READ AND APPROVED this the 7<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2022.

APPROVED:



ATTEST:

  
Acting City Clerk