

CITY OF TARRANT
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
JULY 1, 2024
TARRANT CITY HALL

The City Council of the City of Tarrant, Alabama, met in a regularly scheduled meeting on Monday July 1, 2024, at 7:00 PM at City Hall.

Mayor Wayman A. Newton called the 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.

Pastor Jeremy Davis, a new City of Tarrant resident, lead those in attendance in the invocation. City of Tarrant 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
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 June 17, 2024 regularly scheduled council meeting were presented for review and approval. After review, Councilor Threadford moved to approve the minutes. 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 were adopted, and the minutes for June 17, 2024, council meeting were approved.

The Mayor took the time to wish everyone a happy and safe 4th of July and informed those in attendance that the City of Tarrant does not allow gun-shots or fireworks for the celebration. Councilor Matthews added that the City of Tarrant Police need to be reminded that there is a city-wide ordinance against fire-works and that the ordinance enforces the seizing of all fireworks. Councilor Matthews also encouraged the Police Department to increase security on the 4th of July. Mayor Newton also reminded all those in attendance that there will be popsicles served for the public, more specifically for the children, on July 13th from 11:30 am to 1:30 pm. There was discussion and some debate on the naming and descriptions of past, current, and future events regarding the Mayor and the Council endeavors.

Councilor Matthews expressed concerns on 4 stop signs that are still not erected in various streets, and that it was agreed the signs were to be erected in 2023. Councilor Threadford also expressed concern over speedbumps that were to be installed, and Councilor Freeman brought up another

street sign that was previously approved. Mayor Newton affirmed that he would look into the already approved requests.

Councilor Freeman thanked all on behalf of Lily Baptist Church and District 1 for proclaiming June 30, 2024 as Reverend Dr. James F. Brooks Day in the City of Tarrant.

Councilor Threadford informed all those in attendance that on August 3, 2024 from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm there will be a Wild Cat weekend at the City of Tarrant Rec. Center. A thousand book bags will be given to the City of Tarrant students and there will be free haircuts and hairstyles for the young ladies in attendance. A DJ will be present. Councilor Threadford reminded those in attendance that school starts August 7, 2024.

The Mayor and Council moved on to Old Business.

Mayor Newton introduced and read Resolution No. 9139, A Resolution Terminating Police Chief Wendell Majors from the Office of the Chief of Police for the City of Tarrant, Alabama. Councilor Bryant called the proposed Resolution an out of order in accordance to Roberts Rule of Order. Mayor Newton requested that the out of order rule be shown. Councilor Bryant asked the City Clerk to make a record of Roberts Rule of Order in reference to out of order. Mayor Newton continued to introduce and read Resolution No. 9139. Mayor Newton moved to approve Resolution No. 9139. The Mayor asked each Councilor for a second. There was no seconder. Motion to adopt did not receive a second.

Councilor Bryant introduced and read Ordinance 1162, Second Reading. Councilor Anderson recommended tabling the Ordinance until an Ordinance for the Fire Department is completed. There was much discussion on the Ordinance. Mayor Newton seconded the proposal to table the Resolution. Mayor Newton called for a vote.

Yeas:

Councilor Anderson

Nays:

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

Not voting:

Mayor Wayman Newton

The yeas being (1) one and the nays being four (4), with one (1) member not voting, the motion to approve Ordinance 1162 failed.

Councilor Bryant motioned to approve Ordinance 1162. Councilor Threadford seconded the motion. Mayor Newton called for a vote.

Yeas:

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

Abstain:

Councilor Catherine "Cathy" Anderson

Not voting:

Mayor Wayman A. Newton

The yeas being four (4) and the nays being zero (0), (1) one abstain, with one (1) member not voting, the motion to approve Ordinance 1162 was approved.

There was conflict and accusations between the Mayor and Council members. Councilor Bryant left the meeting.

Next the City Council moved on to New Business.

Councilor Threadford introduced and read Resolution No. 9183, A Resolution Pursuant to Resolution 5731 Authorizing Payment to Tarrant Electric Department Employees for Exceeding Requirements of the Safety Incentive Plan. Councilor Anderson seconded the motion. Mayor Newton called for a vote.

Yeas:

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 four (4) and the nays being zero (0) with one (1) member not voting, the motion to approve Resolution No. 9183 was agreed, and the Resolution was approved.

Councilor Anderson made motion to table Resolution No. 9184, A Resolution Approving the License Agreement By and Between the Tarrant City Board of Education and the City of Tarrant, Alabama, For Use of Tarrant City Board of Education Property for the Purposes of A City Sponsored Recreational Football and Soccer League. Councilor Threadford seconded the motion. Mayor Newton called for a vote.

Yeas:

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 four (4) and the nays being zero (0) with one (1) member not voting, the motion to table Resolution No. 9184 was agreed, and the Resolution was tabled.

Councilor Anderson introduced and read Resolution No. 9185 ³¹ A Resolution Approving and Authorizing the Payment for Services Performed by Birmingham Freightliner (D/8/A Peach State Trucking). Councilor Bryant motioned to approve Resolution No. 9185. Councilor Threadford seconded the motion. Mayor Newton called for a vote.

Yeas:

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 four (4) and the nays being zero (0) with one (1) member not voting, the motion to approve Resolution No. 9185A was agreed, and the Resolution was approved.

The Council moved on to Presentations of Petitions and Other Communications. Mayor Newton informed all those in attendance that by law, an update of the finances needs to be provided to the Council every six months. The Mayor distributed informational sheets on the said finances.

Next, the City Council reviewed the vouchers and expenses for the City of Tarrant for ~~July 1~~, 2024 and Tarrant Electric Department for July 1, 2024. Councilor Threadford moved to approve the vouchers and expenses for the City of Tarrant for July 1, 2024, and the Tarrant Electric Department for ~~July~~, 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 Veronica Bandy Freeman

Not voting:

Mayor Wayman A. Newton

The yeas being three (3) 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 for July 1, 2024 and the Tarrant Electric Department for July 1, 2024 was agreed to, and the vouchers and expenses were approved.

Next, the Council moved to Public Comments.

First, Chuck Winborn reminded all those in attendance of past incidents and occurrences of the Mayor.

Second Waynette Bonham reminded the Council of the trench near her home that needs to be attended. Ms. Bonnet requested for the street light in her neighborhood to be repaired.

Third, Valeri and Tamara McClelland asked for yard maintenances around their home that are creating a series of nuisance. The neighborhood light also needs to be repaired. The Mayor privately retrieved the ladies contact information.

Fourth, Novilee Williams asked to address cars parked on Bell Avenue street that need to be attended as they are violating the City of Tarrant public parking ordinance.

Fifth, Chief of Police Wendell Majors provided the crime statistics of the City of Tarrant.

There being no further comments Mayor Newton entertained a motion to adjourn. Councilor Threadford moved to make motion to adjourn the meeting. Mayor Newton seconded the motion. A verbal vote was conducting with all in favor. Meeting ended at 7:58 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Laverne Knight
City Clerk July 15, 2024

City of Tarrant Council Meeting, Alabama

READ AND APPROVED this the 15th day of July, 2024.




Dr. Laverne Knight

The City of Tarrant, Alabama

APPROVED:


WAYMAN NEWTON, MAYOR