

CITY OF TARRANT
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 7, 2025
TARRANT CITY HALL

The City Council of the City of Tarrant, Alabama, met in a regularly scheduled meeting on Monday April 7, 2025, at 7:00 PM at City Hall.

Mayor Newton called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM immediately 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. Lt. Hill, lead those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Next, 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

Absent:

none

A quorum was determined to be present at the meeting.

The minutes from March 17, 2025 regularly scheduled council meeting were presented for review and approval. After review Councilor Threadford made a motion to approve the minutes for March 17, 2025. 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 for March 17, 2025 council meeting as agreed and the motion was approved.

The Mayor announced all those in attendance that on Saturday, April 19, 2025 from 12:00pm to 2:00pm at the Tarrant Recreation Center there will be fun filled pre-Easter event hosted by Daniel Cason Ministries and the Mayors Office. There will be groceries, clothes, free medical screening for the kids, haircuts, lunch and a series of activities provided.

The Mayor also announced that there is an upcoming and vacant City of Tarrant School Board seat opening. Citizens who are interested in applying may submit their applications to Ashley at City Hall by April 18, 2025. Councilor Anderson asked the Mayor if Ashley could email the applications to the Council. The Mayor agreed that the applications will be emailed to the Council prior to review.

Councilor Freeman announced that there are buildings in Tarrant that are being broken into. Councilor Freeman also asked for an update on City of Tarrant applied for grants. Councilor Freeman also provided an overview of and announced an overpayment of \$670 of funds provided to her for the recent conference attended. Councilor Freeman asked the City Clerk to publicly count the money that Councilor Freeman is returning. The City Clerk counted the \$670 and forwarded it to the accountant.

The Mayor asked Mr. Johnson to provide a review of the funding needed for the repair costs of the bathrooms at the Brumitt Heights Park. An additional and possible resource mentioned for grant funding in this project was T-Mobile, in conjunction with additional costs paid from City of Tarrant for the project funding. Building estimates for the grant were encouraged.

Councilor Threadford publicly thanked all for attending the April 5th, 2025 Saturday event held at the Complex. The children had an Easter Egg hunt, free hotdogs, horse rides and other activities at the well-attended event.

There were no committee reports.

The Mayor and Council moved on to Old Business.

Due to the interest of time, Mayor Newton withdrew Resolution No. 9248 and Resolution No. 9264. Mayor Newton asked the City Clerk to add Resolution No. 9248 and Resolution No. 9264 to the next City Council regular scheduled meeting.

Mayor Newton introduced Resolution No. 9270. A Resolution Approving the Repair Estimate for a 2023 Dodge Charger Police Vehicle. Mayor Newton moved to approve Resolution No. 9270. 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 A. Newton

The yeas being five (5) and the nays being zero (0), with one (1) member not voting, the motion to approve Resolution No. 9270 was agreed and the Resolution was approved.

The Mayor and Council moved on to New Business.

Next, Councilor Anderson introduced Resolution No. 9274, Resolution No. 9275, and Resolution No. 9276. Resolution No. 9274, A Resolution Authorizing the Mayor to Declare Shotguns, Sub-Machi Guide, Rifle and Pistols as Surplus and Authorizing the Mayor to Sell in Accordance with Resolutions and Ordinances Pertaining to Surplus Property. Resolution No. 9275, A Resolution Authorizing the Purchase of a Poly Battery and poly Headset for the Tarrant Police Department. And, Resolution No. 9276, A Resolution Authorizing the Purchase of Replacement Police Vehicle from Enterprise Fleet Management. Councilor Anderson moved to approve Resolution No. 9274, Resolution No. 9275, and Resolution No. 9276. 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 A. Newton

The yeas being five (5) and the nays being zero (0), with one (1) member not voting, the motion to approve Resolution No. 9274, Resolution No. 9275 and Resolution No. 9276 were agreed and the Resolutions were approved.

Mayor Newton introduced and read Resolution No. 9277. A Resolution Authorizing the Purchase of Limb Loaders for the Tarrant Public Works Department. The Mayor suggested to table the Resolution and set a date for a special called meeting. The date set for the City Clerk to put out a notice was April 14, 2025.

Councilor Threadford introduced and read Resolution No. 9278, A Resolution Approving a Local Match to Classtran for Certain Transportation Services Within the City of Tarrant, Alabama. Councilor Threadford moved to approve Resolution No. 9278. Councilor Bryant 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:
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 Resolution No. 9278 was agreed and the Resolution was approved.

Next, Mayor Newton introduced and read Resolution No. 9279, A Resolution Approving the City of Tarrant 2025 Neighborhood Cleanup Initiative. Mayor Newton moved to approve Resolution No. 9279. Councilor Freeman seconded the motion. Councilor Bryant expressed unreadiness by questioning the district 5 dumpster location and asking for a relocation for more visibility. The Mayor responded that it will be on Forrest Drive. 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 Resolution No. 9279 was agreed and the Resolution was approved.

Councilor Bryant introduced Resolution No. 9280, A Resolution Authorizing the Reimbursement of Accommodations for the City Clerk at the Spring 2025 Training. Councilor Bryant moved to

approve Resolution No. 9280. 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 A. Newton

The yeas being five (5) and the nays being zero (0), with one (1) member not voting, the motion to approve Resolution No. 9280 was agreed and the Resolution was approved.

Next, the City Council reviewed the vouchers and expenses for City of Tarrant, City Hall week ending January 6, 2025 and April 7, 2025. There was unreadiness by the Mayor on the payment to the Tarrant Board of Education. There was discussion on statistical comparison and contrasts of the City of Tarrant Board of Education and other schools. Councilor Threadford moved to approve the vouchers for the weeks ending January 6, 2025 and April 7, 2025. 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 Deborah "Debbie" Matthews

Nays:

Councilor Veronica Bandy Freeman

Not voting:

Mayor Wayman Newton

The yeas being four (4), the nays being one (1) with one (1) member not voting, the motion to approve the vouchers and expenses for weeks ending January 6, 2025 and April 7, 2025 were agreed and the vouchers and expenses were approved.

Next, the City Council moved on to Public Comments.

First, Chuck Winborn. Chuck Winborn expressed views on the reasons of Fire Chief Jasons Rickels employment. There was question by the Mayor on Mr. Winborn's comments with Fire Chief Rickels and Attorney Morro's address of 'no comment.'

City of Tarrant citizen Debra White asked about a vehicle in need of prolonged repair and/or abandonment in District 3. Councilor Anderson responded that the issue will be addressed.

After the public comments, Councilor Threadford made a motion to go into Executive Session with an adjournment at 7:57 prior to the session. 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 A. Newton

The yeas being five (5) and the nays being zero (0), with one (1) member not voting, the motion to adjourn the Council meeting at 7:57 followed by an agreement to go into Executive Session was approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Laverne Knight
City Clerk May 5, 2025
City of Tarrant Council Meeting, Alabama

READ AND APPROVED this the 5th day of May, 2025.

The City of Tarrant, Alabama

APPROVED: _____
WAYMAN NEWTON, MAYOR

ATTEST: 
Dr. Laverne Knight

The official seal of the City of Tarrant, Alabama, is a circular stamp. The outer ring contains the text "CITY OF TARRANT" at the top and "ALABAMA" at the bottom, separated by two stars. The inner circle contains the word "OFFICIAL" at the top and "SEAL" at the bottom. A blue ink signature of Dr. Laverne Knight is written over the seal.