

CITY OF TARRANT
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
JUNE 16, 2025
TARRANT CITY HALL

The City Council of the City of Tarrant, Alabama, met in a regularly scheduled meeting on Monday June 16, 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 Bennet lead those in attendance in the invocation. Dereck Williamson, 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 the June 2, 2025 regularly scheduled council meeting were presented for review and approval. After review Councilor Threadford made a motion to approve the minutes for June 2, 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 four (4) and the nays being zero (0), with one (1) member not voting, the motion to approve the minutes for June 2, 2025 council meeting was agreed and the motion was approved.

There were no communications from the Mayors Office. The mayor asked the Council if they had any communications. Councilor Threadford provided a City of Tarrant location around Etowah St. that needs public works attention. Councilor Freeman also provided a private address that requires speedbumps on the main road.

Mayor asked Reverend Hoyrd to the podium to provide some information on an upcoming event. Reverend Hoyrd detailed a picnic and banquet to be held at Franklin Park on September 19, 2025 from 12:00 pm to 4:00 pm. Reverend Hoyrd informed the Council that donations, services and any other forms of assistance are accepted for this event. Reverend Hoyrd also stated that everyone is welcome to attend this event. Mayor Newton informed all those in attendance that he will take \$500 from his travel/education expense that was previously allocated to District 4.

There were no Committee Reports.

The Mayor and Council moved on to Old Business.

Mayor Newton introduced Resolution No. 9248 by announcing that it will be deferred to the next meeting due to the proposed investigation.

Mayor Newton introduced Resolution No. 9264. A Resolution removing Chief Wendell Major from the Office of Chief of Police for the City of Tarrant. After reading the Resolution, Mayor Newton suspended the Resolution due to the interest of time and asked the City Clerk to defer it to the next regular City Council meeting.

Mayor Newton introduced Resolution 9286 as a Resolution requested by Councilor Bryant. A Resolution Approving and Authorizing Janitorial Services for the Tarrant Recreation Center. There was unreadiness by Mayor Newton in the necessity of Janitorial services and the City of Tarrant financial budget. Councilor Bryant defended the need of the Janitorial Services for the Recreation Center due to its public capacity use. After a lengthy discussion, it was recommended that the Resolution be tabled to compare other Janitorial services. Councilor Anderson made a motion to table Resolution No. 9286. Councilor Bryant 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 four (4) and the nays being (0), with one (1) member not voting, the motion to table Resolution No. 9286 was agreed and the Resolution was tabled.

Councilor Bryant introduced and read Ordinance 1165. City Council of the City of Tarrant, Alabama Ordinance No. 1165, second reading. After the reading of the Ordinance there was discussion on the description of the Ordinance and its purpose. Councilor Bryant made a motion to adopt Ordinance 1165. Councilor Matthews 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:

Mayor Wayman A. Newton

Not voting:

None

The yeas being five (5) and the nays being one (1), with zero (0) member not voting, the motion to approve Ordinance 1165 was agreed and the Ordinance was approved.

The Council moved on to New Business.

Councilor Freeman introduced Resolution No. 9306. A Resolution By the City of Tarrant Recognizing June 2025 LGBTQ+PRIDE MONTH. After the reading Councilor Threadford left the meeting room due to an emergency. Councilor Freeman moved to approve Resolution No. 9306. Councilor Matthews seconded the motion. Mayor Newton called for a vote.

Yeas:

Councilor Catherine “Cathy” Anderson
Councilor Veronica Bandy Freeman
Councilor Deborah “Debbie” Matthews

Nays:

Councilor John T. “Tommy” Bryant

Not voting:

Councilor Threadford (due to emergency)
Mayor Wayman Newton

The yeas being three (3) and the nays being one (1), with two (2) members not voting, the motion to approve Resolution No. 9306 was agreed and the Resolution was approved.

Next, Councilor Threadford introduced and read Resolution No. 9307. A Resolution Directing For Year \$2,500.00 Budget for District Two (2) City Councilor/Mayor Pro Tem Education/Travel Funds to Be Used for the Placement of Surveillance Cameras to be Placed at Certain Places Throughout District 2 For Year 2025. Councilor Threadford made a motion to approve Resolution No. 9307. 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:

Mayor Wayman A. Newton

Not voting:

None

The yeas being five (5) and the nays being one (1), with zero (0) member not voting, the motion to approve Resolution No. 9307 was agreed and the Resolution was approved.

Mayor Newton introduced Resolution No. 9308. A Resolution Approving of and Requesting the City of Tarrant “City Council” to Create the Position of Security Guard for the City of Tarrant City Hall. Mayor Newton asked who requested the Resolution. There was discussion on the availability of funds and suggestion that a finance work session be set before a decision is made. Councilor Freeman temporarily left the room. Councilor Anderson moved to table Resolution No. 9308. Mayor Newton 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:

None

Not voting:

Mayor Wayman Newton

Absent:

Councilor Veronica Bandy Freeman

The yeas being four (4) and the nays being zero (0), one (1) member not voting, and one (1) member absent, the motion to table Resolution No. 9308 was agreed and the Resolution was tabled.

Mayor Newton introduced Resolution No. 9309. A Resolution Directing the Appropriate Municipal Building Official to Temporarily Suspend Unilateral Emergency Abatements Under Section 4-119 (A) of the City of Tarrant Code of Ordinances. Mayor Newton informed Councilor Bryant that he had concerns on the Resolution. There was discussion on the validity notices and procedures of the emergency abatements. Councilor Freeman entered the Council Chambers. There was more discussion. Councilor Bryant made a motion to approve Resolution No. 9309. 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

Nays:

Mayor Wayman A. Newton
Councilor Deborah “Debbie” Matthews

Not voting:

None

The yeas being four (4) and the nays being two (2), with zero (0) member not voting, the motion to approve Resolution 9309 was agreed and the Resolution was approved. Councilor Freeman left the Council Chambers.

Mayor Newton introduced Resolution No. 9310. A Resolution of the City of Tarrant Pursuant to Ordinance No. 1017 of the City of Tarrant Declaring Certain Properties a Public Nuisance At Specified Address in the City of Tarrant. 2052 East Lake Blvd, 728 Fulton Ave., 1811 McCaskill St., 1719 Mountain Dr., 1904 Woodrow Dr., and 2033 Woodrow Dr. Mayor Newton opened a public hearing. After reading each address Mayor Newton asked if there was anyone present to speak on behalf of each said property. Mayor Newton moved on to previously resolved addresses that included 1858 McDavid St., 1220 Geneva St., and 1783 Tarrant Huffman Rd. Mayor Newton made a motion to amend and approve Resolution No. 9310 by removing the previously resolved

said addresses from the original Resolution No. 9310. 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 Deborah “Debbie” Matthews

Nays:

None

Not voting:

Mayor Wayman Newton

Absent:

Councilor Veronica Bandy Freeman

The yeas being four (4) and the nays being zero (0), one (1) member not voting, and one (1) member absent, the motion to amend and approve the removal of the previously resolved addresses to be left out of the public hearing was amended and approved.

Mayor Newton re- introduced Resolution No. 9310. A Resolution of the City of Tarrant Pursuant to Ordinance No. 1017 of the City of Tarrant Declaring Certain Properties a Public Nuisance At Specified Address in the City of Tarrant. 2052 East Lake Blvd, 728 Fulton Ave., 1811 McCaskill St., 1719 Mountain Dr., 1904 Woodrow Dr., and 2033 Woodrow Dr. Mayor Newton moved to approve Resolution No. 9310. 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 Deborah “Debbie” Matthews

Nays:

None

Not voting:

Mayor Wayman Newton

Absent:

Councilor Veronica Bandy Freeman

The yeas being four (4) and the nays being zero (0), one (1) member not voting, and one (1) member absent, the motion to approve the Resolution No. 9310 was agreed and the Resolution was approved.

Next, Councilor Matthews introduced Resolution No. 9311. A Resolution Authorizing and Approving the City of Tarrant to Rent essential Election Electronic Voting Equipment for the City of Tarrant 2025 Municipal Elections. Councilor Matthews moved to approve Resolution No. 9311. 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 Deborah “Debbie” Matthews

Nays:

None

Not voting:

Mayor Wayman Newton

Absent:

Councilor Veronica Bandy Freeman

The yeas being four (4) and the nays being zero (0), one (1) member not voting, and one (1) member absent, the motion to approve the Resolution No. 9311 was agreed and the Resolution was approved.

Mayor Newton introduced Resolution No. 9312. A Resolution Authorizing the Statement of Work with Civic Plus for the Purpose of Providing Archiving and Video Storage of Tarrant’s Social Media Accounts. There was discussion on the availability of funds and it was recommended that a finance work session be completed before a decision is made. Mayor Newton moved to table Resolution No. 9312. 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:

None

Not voting:

Mayor Wayman Newton

Absent:

Councilor Veronica Bandy Freeman

The yeas being four (4) and the nays being zero (0), one (1) member not voting, and one (1) member absent, the motion to table Resolution No. 9312 was agreed and the Resolution was tabled.

Next, Mayor Newton moved to suspend the rules to add Resolution No. 9313. A Resolution Directing \$500.00 Budgeted for District Four (4) City of Tarrant Mayor Education/Travel Funds Mayor Education/Travel Funds to Be used by Jeffry Hoyrd. Mayor Newton moved to approve the suspension of the rules. 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 Deborah “Debbie” Matthews

Nays:

None

Not voting:

Mayor Wayman Newton

Absent:

Councilor Veronica Bandy Freeman

The yeas being four (4) and the nays being zero (0), one (1) member not voting, and one (1) member absent, the motion to suspend the rules to add Resolution No. 9313 was approved and the rules were temporarily suspended.

Mayor Newton introduced Resolution No. 9313. A Resolution Directing \$500.00 Budgeted for District Four (4) City of Tarrant Mayor Education/Travel Funds Mayor Education/Travel Funds to Be used by Jeffry Hoyrd. Mayor Newton moved to approve Resolution No. 9313. 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 Deborah "Debbie" Matthews

Nays:

None

Not voting:

Mayor Wayman Newton

Absent:

Councilor Veronica Bandy Freeman

The yeas being four (4) and the nays being zero (0), one (1) member not voting, and one (1) member absent, the motion to approve Resolution No. 9313 was agreed and the Resolution was approved.

Next, the City Council reviewed the vouchers and expenses for City of Tarrant, City Hall week ending June 16, 2025. Councilor Threadford moved to approve the vouchers for the week ending June 16, 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:

None

Not voting:

Mayor Wayman Newton

Absent:

Councilor Veronica Bandy Freeman

The yeas being four (4) and the nays being zero (0), one (1) member not voting, and one (1) member absent, the motion to approve the vouchers and expenses for week ending June 16, 2025 was agreed and the vouchers and expenses were approved.

Next, the City Council moved on to Public Comments.

First, Chris Patterson. Chris Patterson expressed concerns on convicted felons, an incident regarding a missing individual and the verbal remarks of the City Clerk towards the Mayor.

Second. Herietta Sweeney provided suggestions on developing a code of conduct for the City of Tarrant officials and employees. Ms. Sweeney also reminded all those in attendance that there will be a meet the candidate event on July 12, 2025.


Third. Mr. & Mars Rosemary Parker provided verbal detail on the need for asphalt near the residence at Tarrant. The Council affirmed that their concern will be acknowledged and addressed in the near future.

Fourth. Jack Evans. Mr. Evans provided a correct address of a home that was planned to be demolished.

Fifth, Chief Majors. Chief Majors provided a detailed account of a missing young man.

After the public comments, Councilor Threadford made a motion to adjourn. Mayor Newton seconded the motion. A verbal vote was taken. Meeting adjourned at 9:13 pm.

Respectfully submitted,


Dr. Laverne Knight
City Clerk July 7, 2025
City of Tarrant Council Meeting, Alabama



READ AND APPROVED this the 7th day of July, 2025.

The City of Tarrant, Alabama

APPROVED: _____
WAYMAN NEWTON, MAYOR


Dr. Laverne Knight

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