

**TARRANT CITY COUNCIL MEETING
CITY HALL, COUNCIL CHAMBERS
REGULAR MEETING
JANUARY 17, 2024**

AGENDA

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. PRAYER

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

IV. ROLL CALL

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

January 3, 2024- Regular Meeting

VI. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR

VII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

- A. **Resolution No. 9100** – A Resolution Authorizing the Purchase of Neighborhood Watch Signs for the Neighborhood Watch Program Established within Tarrant.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

- B. **Resolution No. 9105** – A Resolution Authorizing the Speaking Order of the City of Tarrant Regularly Scheduled Meetings.
- C. **Resolution No. 9106** – A Resolution Authorizing Repairs to Public Works Equipment.
- D. **Resolution No. 9107** – A Resolution Authorizing the Mayor to Engage Vendors Associated with Hosting the City of Tarrant 2024 Easter Egg Hunt.
- E. **Resolution No. 9108** – A Resolution To Establish an Annual Subscription to Products Offered by Flock Safety to Institute Cameras with Audio Detection.

X. PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

XI. VOUCHERS AND EXPENSES

Vouchers for January 17, 2024

XII. PUBLIC COMMENTS

XIII. ADJOURN

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, 2023, 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 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 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 January 17, 2024
City of Tarrant Council Meeting, Alabama

READ AND APPROVED this the 17th day of January, 2024.

The City of Tarrant, Alabama

APPROVED: _____
WAYMAN NEWTON, MAYOR

ATTEST:

Dr. Laverne Knight

Cancelled. No quorum.

RESOLUTION NO. 9100

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH SIGNS FOR THE NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH PROGRAM ESTABLISHED WITHIN TARRANT.

WHEREAS, since 1972 the National Neighborhood Watch Program, housed within the National Sheriffs' Association, has worked to unite law enforcement agencies, private organizations, and individual citizens in a nation-wide effort to reduce crime and improve local communities; and

WHEREAS, the City of Tarrant, Alabama, ("City") finds it in the best interest of the health, safety, and welfare of its citizens to purchase neighborhood watch signs in order to provide those signs for those neighborhoods who have joined or are in the process of joining the Neighborhood Watch program and to encourage other neighborhoods throughout the city to consider joining the program; and

WHEREAS, in order to assist and encourage these neighborhoods within the City to establish the program and to provide the necessary signage for same with an eye to reduce or fight crime within these neighborhoods, the City Council of the City of Tarrant, Alabama ("City") find it in the best interest of the City and its citizens to purchase Neighborhood Watch signs at a total expense of \$3,995.00 as provided in the quote attached as Exhibit "A."

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Tarrant, Alabama, while in regular session on Wednesday, January 17, 2024, at 7:00PM the following:

Section 1. The above stated preamble is hereby approved, ratified, and incorporated as if fully set out herein.

Section 2. The City Council of the City of Tarrant, Alabama ("City Council") hereby authorizes the expenditure of \$3,995.00 as stated in the quote from National Neighborhood Watch Corp. in Exhibit "A" to go toward the purchase of neighborhood watch signs to be used within the neighborhoods around the City who have established and continually operate a neighborhood watch program.

Section 3. This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon its adoption.

APPROVED and ADOPTED this the 17th day of January, 2024.

APPROVED: _____
WAYMAN NEWTON, MAYOR

ATTEST: _____
LAVERNE KNIGHT, CITY CLERK

CERTIFICATION OF CITY CLERK

**STATE OF ALABAMA)
JEFFERSON COUNTY)**

I, Dr. Laverne Knight, City Clerk of the City of Tarrant, Alabama, do hereby certify that the above and foregoing is a true and correct copy of a resolution duly and legally adopted by the City Council of the City of Tarrant, Alabama on the 17th day of January, 2024, while in regular session on Wednesday, January 17, 2024, and the same appears of record in the minute book of said date of said City.

Witness my hand and seal of office this the _____ day of _____, 2024.

Laverne Knight, City Clerk

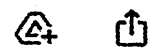
Cancelled. No quorum.

EXHIBIT A

Quote from National Neighborhood Watch Corporation



X Est_10833 from NNWI - T...



National Neighborhood Watch Inst
 Interprint Corporation
 DBA National Neighborhood Watch Inst
 Post Office Box 4208
 Santa Fe Springs, CA 90670-1208

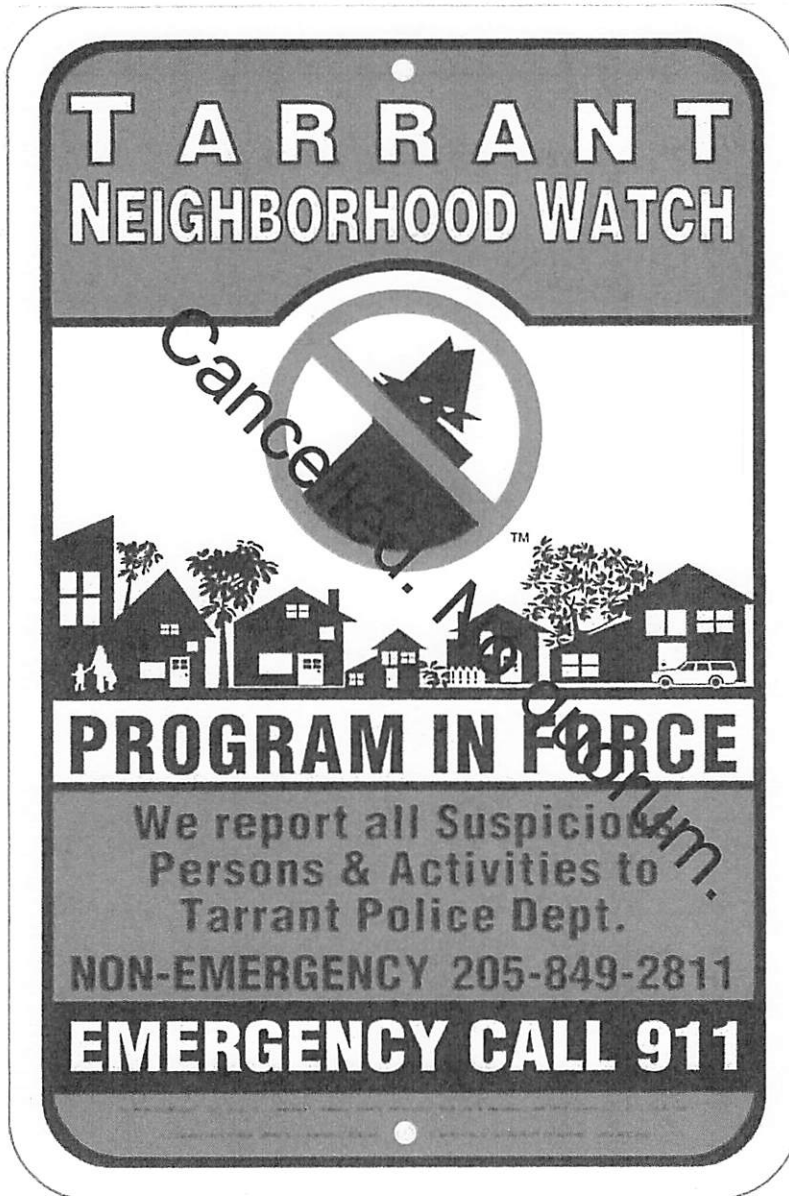
Quote

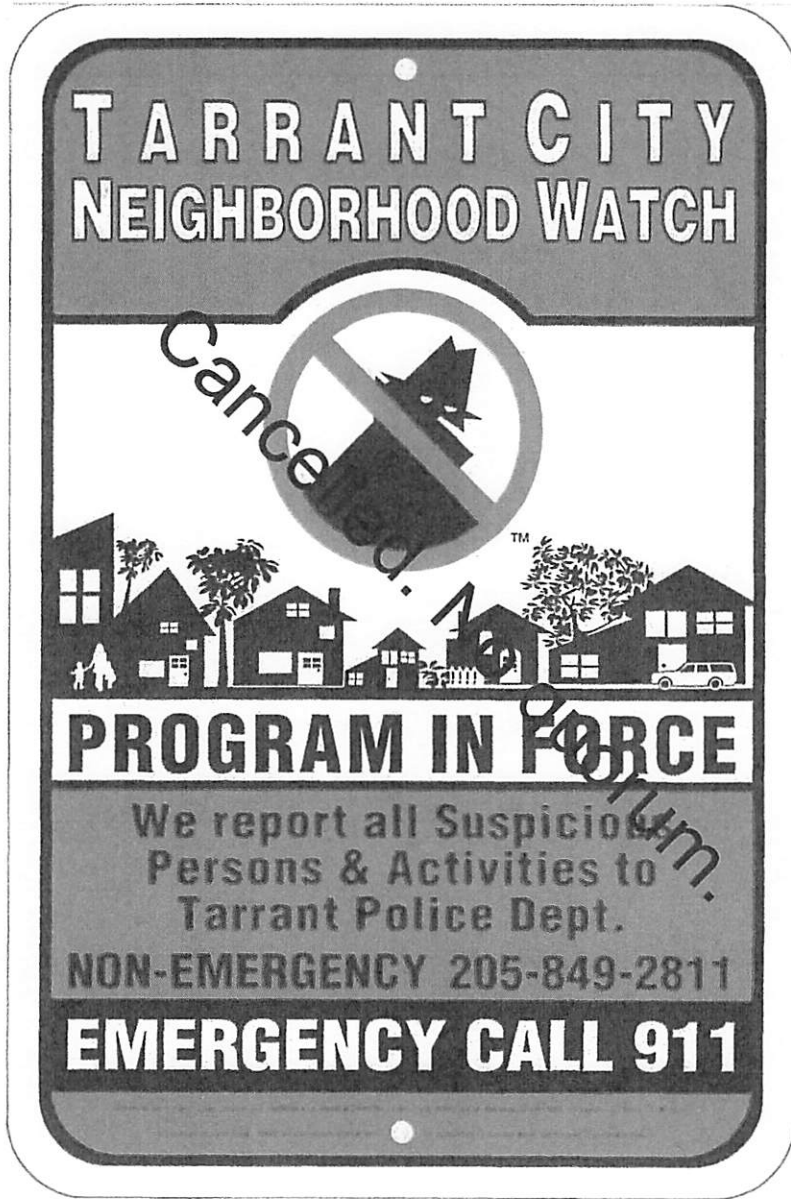
Date	Quote #
12/27/21	10833

Name / Address
Council Women's Police Academy District 1 Tarrant, AL 36177

Description	Qty	Project	
		Rep	Total
18" x 24" Large Reflective Aluminum NW WARNING SIGN - 1/2" Thick Len. Enforcement Version, ea	50		1,947.50T
18" x 24" Large Reflective Aluminum NW WARNING SIGN - 1/2" Thick Len. Enforcement Version, each	50		1,947.50T
How to Start a Neighborhood Watch Program Three Color Color Version School	100		0.00T
UPS Ground Shipping Charge			0.00T
Thank you for payment in advance THIS SERVICE IS PAID IN FULL! Thank you		Sales Tax (0.0%)	0.00
		Total	\$3,895.00

Cancelled - No quorum.





6:44



From: NNWI customer service
<customer_service@nnwi.org>
Date: Wed, Dec 27, 2023 at 12:40 PM
Subject: Re: Tarrant AL NW sign
proposed design with Boris the BurglarR
To: veronica b white
<choson2@gmail.com>

Hi Veronica

The top line is the only difference, one shows Tarrant and the other shows Tarrant City.

I hope this was what you wanted, but let me know if you want to see a different variation of the sign design.

Thanks

Geoff Grossman
National Neighborhood Watch Institute
PO Box 4208
Santa Fe Springs CA 90670-1208
888-669-4872 VOICE

----- Original message -----

From: veronica b white
<choson2@gmail.com>
Date: 12/27/23 10:23 AM (GMT-08:00)
To: customer_service@nnwi.org

RESOLUTION NO. 9105

WHEREAS, the City Council includes on its agenda for regularly scheduled meetings a time for public comments; and

WHEREAS, those persons who choose to speak are required to sign a list for that purpose prior to the time the meeting is called to order; and

WHEREAS, the Council desires to clarify the order in which the citizens are called upon to address the Council and Mayor during the public comments;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:

That the speakers during the public comments will be called upon to address the Council and Mayor in the chronological order in which they sign up on the list of speakers provided for that purpose.

Wayman
Newton Mayor

Laverne
Knight City
Clerk

Cancelled. No quorum.

CERTIFICATION OF CITY CLERK

**STATE OF ALABAMA)
JEFFERSON COUNTY)**

I, Dr. Laverne Knight, City Clerk of the City of Tarrant, Alabama, do hereby certify that the above and foregoing is a true and correct copy of a resolution duly and legally adopted by the City Council of the City of Tarrant, Alabama on the 17th day of January, 2024, while in regular session on Wednesday, January 17, 2024, and the same appears of record in the minute book of said date of said City.

Witness my hand and seal of office this the _____ day of _____, 2024.

CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TARRANT, ALABAMA

RESOLUTION NO. 9106

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING REPAIRS TO PUBLIC WORKS
EQUIPMENT – 2018 LIMB LOADER TRUCK**

WHEREAS, The 2018 LIMB Loader Truck utilized by the Public Works Department of the City of Tarrant is currently out of service and in need of extensive repairs.; and

WHEREAS said loader truck is one of three trucks owned by the City of Tarrant Public Works Department and is critical to the daily public works operations; and

WHEREAS, an estimate for known repairs in the amount of \$8,431.08 is attached hereto as Exhibit A;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Tarrant, Alabama while in regular session on Wednesday, January 17, 2024 as follows:

1. That the Mayor is hereby authorized to pay for required and necessary repairs to the 2018 LIMB Loader Truck as shown on Exhibit A attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference.
2. Said funds shall be paid from the City of Tarrant General Fund.

ADOPTED THIS 17TH DAY OF JANUARY, 2024

APPROVED: _____
Wayman Newton, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Laverne Knight
City Clerk, Tarrant, Alabama

CERTIFICATION OF CITY CLERK

STATE OF ALABAMA)

JEFFERSON COUNTY)

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Witness my hand and seal of office this the 17th day of January, 2024.

[SEAL]

Dr. Laverne Knight, City Clerk

Cancelled. No quorum.

EXHIBIT A

Public Works



2800 Powell Avenue South
Birmingham, AL 35220
(205) 991-0787

2025 West 1-65 Service Road North
Mable, AL 36053
(205) 425-0044

3100 US Highway 231 North
Shelbyville, TN 37169
(615) 652-7368

2901 South Stone Mountain Lithonia Road
Lithonia, GA 30058
(770) 693-0600

Ship To: THE SERVICE DEPT

Invoice To: CITY OF TARRANT
P.O. BOX 170220
TARRANT AL 35217

Branch 01 - BIRMINGHAM		
Date 01/08/2024	Time 15:15:25 (O)	Page 1
Account No TARRA001	Phone No 3058492802	Est No 01 001413
Ship Via	Purchase Order NEED PO	
The ID No		
	Salesperson NIP	
ESTIMATE EXPIRY DATE: 02/07/2024		

SERVICE ESTIMATE - NOT AN INVOICE

FREIGHT IS ONLY AN ESTIMATE ACTUAL FREIGHT WILL BE DETERMINED AT TIME OF INVOICE.

Stock #: B000065 BANNER 4500 SCOWBODY LOADS MS #: 12-11
Make: EM Model: KB LOADER
Is to have the following work done

PARTS TO FIX FURTHER ISSUES UPON INSPECTION
COMPLAINT.
PARTS TO FIX FURTHER ISSUES UPON INSPECTION

Part#	Description	Qty	Price	Amount
RPE-328	RACK BRASS BUSH	2	78.50	157.00
R1709	RACK SEAL KIT	2	33.45	66.90
323-RP	RACK AND PINION	1	3895.93	3895.93
	RACK AND PINION RACK GEAR			
321	WASHER NUT	2	6.50	13.00
302-1	SEAL TUBE	1	732.50	732.50
322	2.500 INCH GEAR	1	1135.73	1135.73
PRT	FREIGHT	1	500.00	500.00

MISCELLANEOUS CHARGES:	Description	Price	Amount
	SHOP SUPPLIES	130.02	130.02

Parts: 6501.06
Labor: 1800.00
Miscellaneous: 130.02
TOTAL: 8431.08

Authorization: _____

Check us out online at: www.secequip.com

© © Samsom Equipment Company | © © @secequipment

Thank You For Your Business!

Cancelled. No quorum.

CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TARRANT, ALABAMA

RESOLUTION NO. 9107

**AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENGAGE VENDORS
ASSOCIATED WITH HOSTING THE CITY OF TARRANT'S 2025
EASTER EGG HUNT.**

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Tarrant,
Alabama while in regular session on Wednesday, January 17, 2024 at 7:00 pm as follows:

Section 1. That the Mayor is hereby authorized to engage vendors for purposes related to hosting the City of Tarrant's 2024 Easter Egg Hunt. The hunt is scheduled for Saturday, March 23, 2024 to be held at William C. Hewitt Part at 11am until 1pm; and

Section 2. That the City of Tarrant will spend an amount not to exceed \$4,000 for the event with all expenses being paid from 01 General Fund.

APPROVED and ADOPTED this the 17th day of January, 2024.

APPROVED: _____
WAYMAN NEWTON, MAYOR

ATTEST: _____
LAVERNE KNIGHT, CITY CLERK

Cancelled. No quorum.

CERTIFICATION OF CITY CLERK

**STATE OF ALABAMA)
JEFFERSON COUNTY)**

I, Dr. Laverne Knight, City Clerk of the City of Tarrant, Alabama, do hereby certify that the above and foregoing is a true and correct copy of a resolution duly and legally adopted by the City Council of the City of Tarrant, Alabama on the 17th day of January, 2024, while in regular session on Wednesday, January 17, 2024, and the same appears of record in the minute book of said date of said City.

Witness my hand and seal of office this the ____ day of _____, 2024.

Laverne Knight, City Clerk

Cancelled. No quorum.

CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TARRANT, ALABAMA

RESOLUTION NO. 9108

**A RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH AN ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION
TO PRODUCTS OFFERED BY FLOCK SAFETY TO INSTITUTE
CAMERAS WITH AUDIO DETECTION**

WHEREAS, the need for additional resources to deter and record crime within the City of Tarrant has been mentioned by the citizens of the City of Tarrant; and

WHEREAS, the corporate limits of the City of Tarrant has been plagued with reports of the unlawful discharge of firearms, shootings resulting in the absence of injury, and shootings involving various forms of injury; and

WHEREAS, the corporate limits of the City of Tarrant has been subjected to various crimes involving the use of motor vehicles which flee our corporate limits with depicted tags; and

WHEREAS, Pinson Valley Parkway, *i.e.*, Highway 79, within the corporate limits of the City of Tarrant has been subjected to traffic accidents of varying degrees including accidents recently with involved fatalities and several accidents where subjects flee the scene; and

WHEREAS, Pinson Valley Parkway, *i.e.*, Highway 79, had 127 traffic accidents of a total 340 traffic accidents between January 16, 2023 to January 16, 2024; and the City of Tarrant had 59 traffic accidents where vehicles left the scene between the same time frame; and

WHEREAS, Tarrant Municipal Code § 2-200, Ordinance 992, § 1, 10-20-2008, specifies that "[t]he only exceptions are products or services that due to their uniqueness are incapable of competitive bid (an addition to existing equipment or repair of existing equipment), or items which are considered a single source (products or services only available from the manufacturer with no dealers or distributors marketing the product or service)."; and

WHEREAS, Flock Safety's states on their website: "we exist to eliminate crime and keep your community safe. Our holistic public safety platform is comprehensive and intelligent – that means you have the actionable evidence you need to solve, deter, and reduce crime across neighborhoods, schools, businesses and entire cities."; and

WHEREAS, Flock Safety provides the following products which are unique to their brand with access to camera footage also uploaded by neighboring agencies:

1. The **Flock Safety Falcon** to "get clear footage of vehicles traveling OVER 100mph across multiple lanes and long distances." This camera includes license plate reading capabilities.
2. The **Flock Safety Sparrow** which "works 24/7 to capture images of the backs of vehicles that enter residential community, providing the crucial pieces of evidence that law enforcement needs to investigate a crime." This camera includes license plate reading capabilities.
3. The **Flock Safety Raven** which will "pair audio detection with LPR and video cameras to transform your response to 'shots fired' calls and improve your ability to solve and prevent gun-related crimes."

WHEREAS, Birmingham Police Department, Jefferson County Sheriff's Office, Fultondale Police Department, Irondale Police Department, Gardendale Police Department, and alternate non-surrounding agencies within Alabama, have already implemented use of Flock Safety cameras and products; and

WHEREAS, the Tarrant Police Department would be then capable of producing leads to solving crimes involving the use of discharged firearms along with the tracking of vehicles engaged in unlawful activities within our corporate limits; and

BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Tarrant, Alabama while in regular session on Wednesday, January 17, 2024 at 7:00 pm as follows:

That the Mayor is hereby authorized the annual spending of \$40,000 for products offered by Flock Safety to assist in the reduction of motor vehicle accidents, assist with crime reduction involving vehicles, reduce time and accuracy of response to discharged firearms, and to assist in the reduction of crime of varying degrees.

ADOPTED AND APPROVED THIS 17TH DAY OF JANUARY 2024

APPROVED: _____
Wayman A. Newton, *Mayor*

ATTEST: _____
Dr. Laverne Knight, *City Clerk*

Cancelled. No quorum.

CERTIFICATION OF CITY CLERK

STATE OF ALABAMA)

JEFFERSON COUNTY)

I, Laverne Knight, City Clerk of the City of Tarrant, Alabama, do hereby certify that the above and foregoing is a true and correct copy of a Resolution duly and legally adopted by the City Council of the City of Tarrant, Alabama, on the 17th day of January, 2024, while in regular session on Wednesday, January 17th, 2024, and the same appears of record in the minute book of said date of said City.

Witness my hand and seal of office this the 17th day of January, 2024.

[SEAL]

Dr. Laverne Knight, City Clerk