

Brenham City Council Minutes

A regular meeting of the Brenham City Council was held on August 2, 2012 beginning at 1:00 p.m. in the Brenham City Hall, City Council Chambers, at 200 W. Vulcan Street, Brenham, Texas.

Members present:

Mayor Milton Y. Tate, Jr.
Mayor Pro Tem Gloria Nix
Councilmember Mary E. Barnes-Tilley
Councilmember Andrew Ebel
Councilmember Danny Goss
Councilmember Weldon Williams, Jr.

Members absent:

Councilmember Keith Herring

Others present:

City Manager Terry K. Roberts, City Attorney Cary Bovey, Deputy City Secretary Jennifer Salsgiver, Assistant City Manager Kyle Dannhaus, Fire Chief Ricky Boeker, Police Chief Rex Phelps, David Doelitsch, Chief Financial Officer Carolyn Miller, Development Services Director Julie Fulgham, Public Works Director Doug Baker, Leslie Kelm, Public Utilities Director Lowell Ogle, Kevin Boggus, Angela Hahn, Shelley Schluens, Wanda Kramer, Christopher Bugaj, Denise Pappas, William Herrin, Roger Kmiec, Michael Bee, David Herzog, Justin Bennett, and Ryan Pollard

Citizens present:

Clint Kolby, Wesley Brinkmeyer, Lu Hollander, Page Michel, Barbara Ross, and Danny Ross

Media Present:

Arthur Hahn, Brenham Banner Press; Frank Wagner, KWHI

- 1. Call Meeting to Order**
- 2. Invocation and Pledges to the US and Texas Flags – Councilmember Danny Goss**

3. 3-a. Service Recognitions

Christopher Bugaj – Gas Department	5 years
Denise Pappas – Utility Customer Service	5 years
William Herrin – Street Department	10 years
Lloyd Powell, Jr. – Police Department	15 years
Roger Kmiec – Wastewater Treatment	30 years

3-b. New Employees

Michael Bee – Sanitation Department
David Herzog – Street Department
Justin Bennett – Water Department
Ryan Pollard – Water Department

Public Utilities Director Lowell Ogle expressed his appreciation for Roger Kmiec.

4. Citizens Comments

Barbara Ross voiced her concerns to Council regarding traffic and eighteen (18) wheeler trucks on Chappell Hill Street. She expressed appreciation for Police Chief Rex Phelps for his assistance with adding speed limit signage to Chappell Hill Street and requested that Council consider making Chappell Hill Street a “No Thru Trucks” road since it is a residential neighborhood.

Mayor Tate thanked Ross for her comments and explained that the City will consider her “No Thru Trucks” request.

CONSENT AGENDA

5. Statutory Consent Agenda

5-a. Discuss and Possibly Act Upon Ordinance O-12-017 Amending the Code of Ordinances of the City of Brenham, Chapter 2, Administration, Article VII, Library Advisory Board, to Provide for the Powers, Duties, Organization, Operation, Board Membership and Additional Matters Related to the Library Advisory Board

A motion was made by Councilmember Barnes-Tilley and seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Nix to approve the Statutory Consent Agenda Item 5-a. Ordinance O-12-017.

Mayor Tate called for a vote. The motion passed with Council voting as follows:

Mayor Milton Y. Tate, Jr.	Yes
Mayor Pro Tem Gloria Nix	Yes
Councilmember Mary E. Barnes-Tilley	Yes
Councilmember Andrew Ebel	Yes
Councilmember Danny Goss	Yes
Councilmember Keith Herring	Absent
Councilmember Weldon Williams	Yes

WORK SESSION

6. **Presentation of the Quarterly Report by the Washington County Convention and Visitors Bureau**

Washington County Convention and Visitors Bureau (WCCVB) Advertising & Public Relations Manager Lu Hollander presented the WCCVB's third quarter report. Hollander pointed out regional meetings including: the TTIA Travel Fair in April; the AAA Glidden Car Tour event run-through in May; and the Washington County Rotary presentation in June. Hollander explained that the WCCVB directly assisted with ten (10) weddings and April statistics showed 1,075 walk-in visitors and 27,457 webpage hits. Hollander also highlighted April's *Texas Highways Magazine* advertisement, May's *Organic Gardening* feature and June's *Travel & Leisure* magazine interview with Heritage Museum Director Doug Price.

REGULAR AGENDA

7. **Discuss and Possibly Act Upon an Ordinance on Its First Reading Amending Chapter 16, Occupational Licenses and Business Regulations, of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Brenham, to Provide for the Regulation of Boarding Homes Located Inside the City Limits**

Police Chief Rex Phelps presented an Ordinance designed to regulate boarding homes, not regulated by the State that house disabled or elderly persons, to ensure health, safety, and cleanliness. Phelps requested Council's direction and stated that two previous work sessions provided Council the opportunity to review boarding home information.

A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Nix and seconded by Councilmember Williams to approve an Ordinance on its first reading amending Chapter 16, Occupational Licenses and Business Regulations, of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Brenham, to provide for the regulation of boarding homes located inside the city limits.

Mayor Tate called for a vote. The motion passed with Council voting as follows:

Mayor Milton Y. Tate, Jr.	Yes
Mayor Pro Tem Gloria Nix	Yes
Councilmember Mary E. Barnes-Tilley	Yes
Councilmember Andrew Ebel	Yes
Councilmember Danny Goss	Yes
Councilmember Keith Herring	Absent
Councilmember Weldon Williams	Yes

8. Discuss and Possibly Act Upon a Proposal to Adopt a Tax Rate of \$0.5432 per \$100 Valuation for the 2012 Tax Year, Take Record Vote and Set the Public Hearings on the Proposed Tax Rate in Accordance with State Law

Mayor Tate stated that Council will pass on agenda item number eight (8) due to new 2012 Truth-In-Taxation publication requirement dates.

Chief Financial Officer Carolyn Miller explained that the proposed tax rate publication appeared in the Brenham Press on Wednesday, August 01, 2012 and requested that Council pass this item in order to provide citizens adequate amount of time to consider the proposed tax rate. Miller added that this item will be brought before Council again at the August 16, 2012 meeting.

9. Discuss and Possibly Act Upon a Request from the Main Street Board Approving the Renewal of a Reserved Parking Space for Hospice Boutique

Main Street Manager Jennifer Eckermann presented a reserved parking space renewal request from Hospice Boutique for donation drop-offs. Eckermann explained that the Main Street Board recommends that Council renew this request for a free reserved parking space, located on Park Street, for the hours between 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. through May 2013.

A motion was made by Councilmember Barnes-Tilley and seconded by Councilmember Ebel to approve a request from the Main Street Board approving the renewal of a reserved parking space for Hospice Boutique.

Mayor Tate called for a vote. The motion passed with Council voting as follows:

Mayor Milton Y. Tate, Jr.	Yes
Mayor Pro Tem Gloria Nix	Yes
Councilmember Mary E. Barnes-Tilley	Yes
Councilmember Andrew Ebel	Yes
Councilmember Danny Goss	Yes
Councilmember Keith Herring	Absent
Councilmember Weldon Williams	Yes

10. Discuss and Possibly Act Upon a Contract with J. Stowe & Co. LLC for a Utility Rate and Cost of Service Study for City of Brenham Utilities and Authorize the Mayor to Execute Any Necessary Documentation

Public Utilities Director Lowell Ogle presented a need, as discussed during the Budget Workshop meeting, for a cost of service study on the City’s electric and gas distribution systems, explaining that the systems have not been reviewed for several years despite changes that effect costs. Ogle stated that the electric study costs \$45,000 and the gas study costs \$27,500. Ogle encouraged Council to also approve a study on the City’s water and wastewater models, which would cost \$5,000. Ogle explained that these studies will verify the allocation of cost and equity between rate classes and fully recover wholesale cost.

Ogle explained that the cost to provide these four (4) studies is \$77,500, but if the electric and gas studies are done concurrently, the City will receive the water and wastewater updates at no charge, reducing the total cost to \$72,500, which includes out of pocket expenses. Ogle recommended that Council approve the agreement with J. Stowe & Co. for \$72,500.

A motion was made by Councilmember Goss and seconded by Councilmember Barnes-Tilley to approve a contract with J. Stowe & Co. LLC for a utility rate and cost of service study for City of Brenham utilities not to exceed \$72,500 and authorize the Mayor to execute any necessary documentation.

Mayor Tate called for a vote. The motion passed with Council voting as follows:

Mayor Milton Y. Tate, Jr.	Yes
Mayor Pro Tem Gloria Nix	Yes
Councilmember Mary E. Barnes-Tilley	Yes
Councilmember Andrew Ebel	Yes
Councilmember Danny Goss	Yes
Councilmember Keith Herring	Absent
Councilmember Weldon Williams	Yes

11. Administrative/Elected Officials Report

Fire Chief Ricky Boeker reported on the following:

- Fireman's Fiesta & live auction to benefit the fire department is scheduled for next weekend.

Police Chief Rex Phelps reported on the following:

- Jeana Bellinger is working on boarding home inspection and license fees, which will be presented to Council during the second reading.

City Manager Terry Roberts reported on the following:

- Thanked Council for the work they put into the Budget Workshop.
- Reminded Council of the two (2) special council meetings to fulfill Truth-In-Taxation requirements, which will be held on August 30, 2012 and September 17, 2012 at 1:00 p.m.
- TML Region 10 Meeting will be held August 23, 2012 with the social hour at 6:00 p.m., dinner at 7:00 p.m., and the business meeting at 7:30 p.m.
- TML Annual Conference will be held November 13-16, 2012. If any members of the council are planning to go, please let Paula Shields as soon as possible.
- Westwood Drive improvements will begin within thirty (30) days; delays have been caused by AT&T needing to move lines.
- Bid information for Stringer Street realignment at the HWY 290 overpass will be emailed to Council for the August 16, 2012 meeting due to the bid opening date.
- HWY 290 now has east bound traffic.
- Construction will soon begin at the intersection of HWY 290 and HWY 36 so expect delays.

The meeting was adjourned.

Milton Y. Tate, Jr.
Mayor

Jennifer Salsgiver
Deputy City Secretary