

Brenham City Council Minutes

A special meeting of the Brenham City Council was held on September 17, 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 Pro Tem Gloria Nix
Councilmember Mary E. Barnes-Tilley
Councilmember Andrew Ebel
Councilmember Danny Goss
Councilmember Keith Herring
Councilmember Weldon Williams, Jr.

Members absent:

Mayor Milton Y. Tate, Jr.

Others present:

City Manager Terry Roberts, City Secretary Jeana Bellinger, Fire Chief Ricky Boeker, Chief Financial Officer Carolyn Miller, Debbie Gaffey, Assistant Public Utilities Director Dane Rau, Public Works Director Doug Baker, and Development Services Director Julie Fulgham

Citizens present:

None

Media Present:

Arthur Hahn, Brenham Banner Press

- 1. Call Meeting to Order**
- 2. Invocation and Pledges to the US and Texas Flags – City Manager Terry Roberts**
- 3. Citizens Comments**

There were no citizen comments.

PUBLIC HEARING

4. Proposed Budget for Fiscal Year Beginning October 1, 2012 and Ending September 30, 2013

This budget will raise more total property taxes than last year's budget by an estimated \$191,934 (3.55%), and of that amount, \$115,353 is tax revenue to be raised from estimated new property added to the tax roll this year.

Mayor Pro Tem Nix opened the Public Hearing.

Chief Financial Officer Carolyn Miller explained that the FY2012-13 proposed budget is the result of numerous staff hours as well as several Council Budget Workshops. She stated that the City complied with the Local Government Code, filed the proposed budget with the City Secretary and published all required notices. Miller explained that the City must hold a public hearing to receive citizen comments.

There were no citizen comments.

The public hearing was closed.

REGULAR AGENDA

6. Discuss and Possibly Act Upon Ratification of the Property Tax Increase Reflected in the Proposed Budget for Fiscal Year Beginning October 1, 2012 and Ending September 30, 2013, which Raises More Revenue from Property Taxes than the Previous Year's Budget

Chief Financial Officer Carolyn Miller explained that in accordance with the Tax Code, if a municipal budget raises more property taxes than in the previous year's budget, the City Council must formally ratify the property tax increase. Miller stated that the FY2012-13 budget will raise more total property taxes than last year's budget by 3.55%, which is about \$191,000, and of that amount about \$115,000 is tax revenue to be raised from new property added to the tax roll. Miller specified that a roll-call vote must be taken to ratify the property tax increase reflected in the budget.

A motion was made by Councilmember Barnes-Tilley and seconded by Councilmember Herring to ratify the property tax increase reflected in the proposed budget for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2012 and ending September 30, 2013, which raises more revenue from property taxes than the previous year's budget.

Mayor Pro Tem Nix called for a vote. The motion passed with Council voting as follows:

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

5. Discuss and Possibly Act Upon an Ordinance on Its First Reading Adopting the Budget for Fiscal Year Beginning October 1, 2012 and Ending September 30, 2013

Chief Financial Officer Carolyn Miller presented an Ordinance to adopt the FY2012-13 Budget. Miller explained that the FY2012-13 Budget is \$63,000,000 in total expenditures, which is down from the \$68,500,000 last year due to the \$5,000,000 payment on the Highway 290 Project. Miller explained that the Combined Fund Summary, which is included in the Ordinance as Exhibit A, shows all the funds adopted in the FY2012-13 Budget. Miller noted that this item is for the first reading of the Ordinance and the second reading is scheduled for Thursday's regular Council meeting.

City Manager Terry Roberts clarified that Council acted on Item 6 already and now Item 5 is on the table, explaining that the property tax increase was ratified during the previous item and the budget adoption should be acted on at this time.

A motion was made by Councilmember Herring and seconded by Councilmember Ebel to approve an Ordinance on its first reading adopting the Budget for fiscal year beginning October 1, 2012 and ending September 30, 2013.

Mayor Pro Tem Nix called for a vote. The motion passed with Council voting as follows:

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

7. Discuss and Possibly Act Upon an Ordinance on Its First Reading Levying Taxes for the Tax Year 2012 for the City of Brenham at \$0.5432 per \$100 Valuation

Chief Financial Officer Carolyn Miller explained that the proposed FY2012-13 Budget includes a tax rate of \$0.5432 per \$100 valuation with \$0.3420 allocated to the General Fund for maintenance and operations (M&O) and the balance of \$0.2012 allocated to the Debt Service Fund for interest. Miller added that the proposed tax rates are the same as the tax rates adopted for the current year. Miller stated that the City complied with all of the notices, publications, and public hearings as required by the Tax Code. Miller presented the motion language required by the Tax Code to adopt the tax rate and specified that Council must take a record vote on this item. Miller noted that this item is for the first reading of the Ordinance and the second reading is scheduled for Thursday's regular Council meeting.

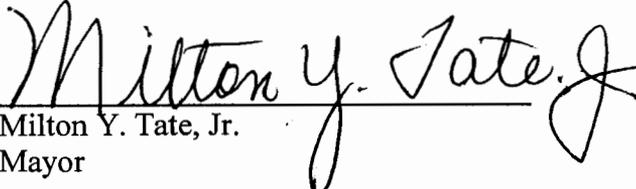
A motion was made by Councilmember Williams and seconded by Councilmember Herring that property taxes be increased by the adoption of a tax rate of \$0.5432 per \$100 valuation, which is effectively a 1.31% increase in the tax rate.

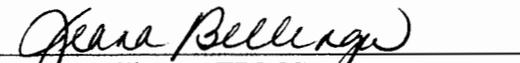
Mayor Pro Tem Nix called for a record vote. The motion passed with Council voting as follows:

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

City Manager Terry Roberts explained that staff removed the Administrative Reports Item from the agenda due to the September 20th meeting. He stated that Council received Thursday's executive session packets, noting that in addition to his contract renewal item, two other items were added dealing with real estate near the old municipal building and the recycling center. Roberts added that Council's regular agenda packet will be distributed later today.

The meeting was adjourned.


Milton Y. Tate, Jr.
Mayor


Jeana Bellinger, TRMC
City Secretary

