

Brenham City Council Minutes

A regular meeting of the Brenham City Council was held on November 29, 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 Keith Herring
Councilmember Weldon Williams, Jr.

Others present:

City Manager Terry Roberts, Assistant City Manager Kyle Dannhaus, City Attorney Cary Bovey, City Secretary Jeana Bellinger, Paula Shields, Chief Financial Officer Carolyn Miller, Debbie Gaffey, Jamie Maurer, Susan Nienstedt, Fire Chief Ricky Boeker, Police Chief Rex Phelps, Development Services Director Julie Fulgham, Public Works Director Dane Rau, Bobby Branham, Public Utilities Director Lowell Ogle, Janie Mehrens, Doug Baker, and Grant Lischka

Citizens present:

Casey Acker, Mike Baker, Clint Kolby and Page Michel

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. Citizens Comments**

There were no citizen comments.

CONSENT AGENDA

4. Statutory Consent Agenda

4-a. Minutes from the November 1, 2012 Council Meeting

4-b. Ordinance O-12-026 on its Second Reading for the Creation of Reinvestment Zone Number 35 Requested by MIC Group, LLC for Commercial-Industrial Tax Phase-In Incentive on a Certain Tract of Land Containing 7.170 Acres, More or Less, Being Located at 1801 Industrial Boulevard, Brenham, Texas, with Boundaries Further Described in Exhibit "A" of Said Ordinance, and Designating This Property as Qualifying for Tax Phase-In

A motion was made by Councilmember Herring and seconded by Councilmember Ebel to approve the Statutory Consent Agenda Item 4-a. and 4-b. as presented.

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	Yes
Councilmember Weldon Williams	Yes

REGULAR AGENDA

5. Discuss and Possibly Act Upon Resolution R-12-020 Authorizing the Execution of a Tax Phase-In Agreement between the City of Brenham and MIC Group, LLC

Clint Kolby presented this item. MIC Group, LLC is requesting a Tax Phase In to assist with the planning of their MIC-West facility off of Industrial Blvd. in the Southwest Industrial Park. The proposed expansion will help MIC Group, LLC meet the increased demand from their customers.

MIC Group, LLC is proposing a total of 15 new jobs within the first year of this project and a capital investment of \$2,100,000 to purchase the new equipment.

City Attorney Cary Bovey advised Council that on first page of the Agreement (Exhibit A) the November 15, 2012 date is incorrect. Bovey stated that the date should be changed to November 29, 2012.

A motion was made by Councilmember Goss and seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Nix to approve Resolution R-12-020 authorizing the execution of a tax phase-in agreement between the City of Brenham and MIC Group LLC with Exhibit A being amended to reflect the correct date of November 29, 2012.

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	Yes
Councilmember Weldon Williams	Yes

6. Discuss and Possibly Act Upon an Engagement Letter from Ray Associates, Inc. to Perform an Update of the Classification and Compensation System for the City of Brenham and Authorize the Mayor to Execute any Necessary Documentation

Human Resource Manager Susan Nienstedt and Risk Manager Janie Mehrens presented this item. Nienstedt requested that the Council approve an engagement letter with Ray Associates, Inc. to perform an update of the employee classification and compensation system. Nienstedt stated that the last study was conducted in 2007 by Ray Associates, Inc. and they recommend an update be performed every three to five years. Nienstedt explained that fourteen cities will be surveyed and forty jobs benchmarked by Ray Associates and should be completed in March.

Councilmember Goss asked if other companies were looked at in addition to Ray Associates. Mehrens explained that in 2007 before Ray Associates was selected, the City received quotes from several professional services companies and Ray Associates was chosen. Mehrens explained that the advantage of continuing with Ray Associates is our long working relationship with the company and that the company uses original data with each survey.

Councilmember Barnes-Tilley asked if the price is for an update or is it priced as a new survey. Mehrens explained that each time Ray Associates does a survey it is considered a new survey with new data used.

A motion was made by Councilmember Barnes-Tilley and seconded by Councilmember Herring to approve an Engagement Letter from Ray Associates, Inc. to perform an update of the Classification and Compensation System for the City of Brenham 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	Yes
Councilmember Weldon Williams	Yes

7. Discuss and Possibly Act Upon the 2013 Holiday Schedule

Human Resource Manager Susan Nienstedt presented the proposed Holiday Schedule for 2013. Nienstedt advised Council that the proposed schedule provides for the same number of holidays that were approved in 2012. The proposed holidays presented to Council were as follows:

New Years Day	January 1, 2013
Martin Luther King Day	January 21, 2013
Good Friday	March 29, 2013
Memorial Day	May 27, 2013
Independence Day	July 4, 2013
Labor Day	September 2, 2013
Veterans Day	November 11, 2013
Thanksgiving	November 28-29, 2013
Christmas	December 24-25, 2013
Employee Birthday	Floating Holiday

Mayor Pro Tem Nix informed Council about a citizen that recently complained about having so many Monday holidays due to the City's trash pickup schedule. Public Works Director Dane Rau reminded Council that citizens can bring their trash to the recycling center the day after the holiday without charge.

A motion was made by Councilmember Williams and seconded by Councilmember Barnes-Tilley to approve the 2013 Holiday Schedule as presented.

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	Yes
Councilmember Weldon Williams	Yes

8. Discuss and Possibly Act Upon an Ordinance on its First Reading Providing for Updated Service Credit and an Increase in Retirement Annuities in the Texas Municipal Retirement System.

Risk Manager Janie Mehrens presented this item to Council. Mehrens explained that for the past several years, City Council has approved, annually, an ordinance providing for updated service credit and an increase in retirement annuities as provided through the Texas Municipal Retirement System.

Mehrens stated that in order to make any changes in any provision of the City's plan in TMRS, an ordinance must be approved. She advised that the funding rate for the City of Brenham will increase from 6.46% to 6.798% effective January 1, 2013.

A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Nix and seconded by Councilmember Williams to approve an Ordinance on its first reading for updated service credit and an increase in retirement annuities in the Texas Municipal Retirement System.

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	Yes
Councilmember Weldon Williams	Yes

9. Discuss and Possibly Act Upon an Ordinance on Its First Reading Establishing a No-Parking Zone on the East Side of Seward Street between the North Right of Way Line of W. Main Street and the South Right of Way Line of W. Vulcan Street

Special Projects Engineer Doug Baker presented this item to Council. Baker explained that a portion of Seward Street is thirty-one feet wide and, in his opinion, that is not enough room for vehicle parking on both sides of the street with moving lanes of traffic in both direction.

Baker further explained that the problem is compounded by the fact that the street is in a reverse curve between W. Vulcan Street and W. Main Street. The elimination of parking on one side of the street would improve vehicle mobility and safety between W. Vulcan Street and W. Main Street. Baker said he has discussed this with property owners adjacent to that side of the street and they support the establishment of the no-parking zone.

Councilmember Barnes-Tilley asked if the business owner of Manual's Mexican Restaurant knows about the proposed no-parking zone. Baker stated that he did not talk to the owner about this proposed ordinance.

A motion was made by Councilmember Goss and seconded by Councilmember Ebel to approve an Ordinance on its first reading establishing a No-Parking Zone on the east side of Seward Street between the north right of way line of W. Main Street and the south right of way line of W. Vulcan Street.

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	Yes
Councilmember Weldon Williams	Yes

10. Discuss and Possibly Act Upon an Ordinance on Its First Reading Authorizing the Placement of Stop Signs on Hickory Hollow Lane at Its Intersection with Twisted Oak Drive

Special Projects Engineer Doug Baker presented this item to Council. Baker advised Council that there is currently no stop signs at the intersection of Hickory Hollow Lane and Twisted Oak Drive. Baker stated that a dip in the road on each side of Hickory Hollow Lane slows down the northbound and southbound traffic on Twisted Oak Drive to some extent; therefore, the best place to put the stop sign is on Hickory Hollow Lane, regulating the eastbound and westbound traffic.

A motion was made by Councilmember Barnes-Tilley and seconded by Councilmember Herring to approve an Ordinance on its first reading authorizing the placement of stop signs on Hickory Hollow Lane at its intersection with Twisted Oak Drive.

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	Yes
Councilmember Weldon Williams	Yes

11. Discuss and Possibly Act Upon Resolution No. R-12-021 Reauthorizing an Investment Policy for the City of Brenham

Chief Financial Officer Carolyn Miller presented this item to Council. Miller explained that every year, in accordance with Texas Public Funds Investment Act (PFIA), the City must act to reauthorize a Investment Policy. She advised Council that this Policy is the same one that was approved by Council in November, 2011.

A motion was made by Councilmember Williams and seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Nix to approve Resolution No R-12-021 reauthorizing an Investment Policy for the City of Brenham effective November 29, 2012.

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	Yes
Councilmember Weldon Williams	Yes

Council adjourned into Executive Session at 1:29 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

12. Section §551.074 – Personnel Matters – Discuss and Consider Re-Appointment and Compensation for Municipal Court Judges Julian Weisler and Robert Wright and City Prosecutor Bill Kendall

Executive Session adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

RE-OPEN REGULAR SESSION

13. Discuss and Possibly Take Action as a Result of Executive Session Regarding Re-Appointment and Compensation for Municipal Court Judges Julian Weisler and Robert Wright and City Prosecutor Bill Kendall

A motion was made by Councilmember Herring and seconded by Councilmember Ebel to Table Item 13.

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	Yes
Councilmember Weldon Williams	Yes

14. Administrative/Elected Officials Report

- City Manager Terry Roberts reported on the following:
 - New employees and police officer promotions will be presented at the next meeting.
 - Stringer Street and Westwood Lane improvements will be completed within the next couple of weeks.
- Sanitation Superintendent Bobby Branham gave an update on activities at the Recycling Center on November 17th in observance of Texas Recycling Day.
- Public Works Director Dane Rau highlighted some upcoming changes to baseball and softball fields at Hohlt and Linda Anderson parks due to new Little League rules and to try and bring larger tournaments to Brenham.
- Recreation Superintendent Jamie Maurer reported on the following:
 - Christmas Stroll is on Friday, November 30th. The Girl Scouts will be lighting the Christmas tree at 5:30 and the lighted parade will begin at 6:30.
 - Jingle Bell Stroll is on Saturday, December 1st at 8:30 a.m.
- Police Chief Rex Phelps updated Council on the Animal Shelter Task Force.
- Fire Chief Ricky Boeker advised that the Fire Department's Christmas Party would be on Saturday, December 1st.

- Assistant City Manager Kyle Dannhaus advised Council that the old Municipal Building is down and that staff has prepared the ground to be used for parking for the Stroll.

The meeting was adjourned.

Milton Y. Tate, Jr.
Mayor

Jeana Bellinger, TRMC
City Secretary

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