

## **Brenham City Council Minutes**

A special meeting of the Brenham City Council was held on August 29, 2013 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 Andrew Ebel  
Councilmember Danny Goss  
Councilmember Keith Herring  
Councilmember Mary E. Barnes-Tilley  
Councilmember Weldon Williams, Jr.

### Members absent:

None

### Others present:

City Manager Terry Roberts, Assistant City Manager Kyle Dannhaus, City Secretary Jeana Bellinger, Deputy City Secretary Amanda Klehm, Chief Financial Officer Carolyn Miller, Stacy Hardy, Kaci Konieczny, Deputy Fire Chief Alan Finke, Police Chief Rex Phelps, Public Works Director Dane Rau, Public Utilities Director Lowell Ogle, and Grant Lischka

### Citizens present:

None

### 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 Barnes-Tilley**

## **PUBLIC HEARING**

### **3. Proposed Tax Rate of \$0.5632 per \$100 Valuation for Fiscal Year Beginning October 1, 2013 and Ending September 30, 2014**

Chief Financial Officer Carolyn Miller presented this item. Miller handed out the corrected pages to the budget. Miller stated Council Budget Workshops were held during the week of July 17, 2013 to present the proposed FY2013-14 Budget. Miller explained last week, Staff inserted a few corrected pages due to the recent Recreation/Aquatics Superintendent vacancy and the reallocation of the IT Web Master.

Miller stated a property tax rate of \$0.5632 per \$100 valuation is proposed to fund the FY2013-14 Budget. Miller explained of this rate, \$0.3579 will be for maintenance and operations (M&O). Miller stated the balance of \$0.2053 is for debt service (interest and sinking or I&S). Miller explained based on the certified taxable values of \$1,080,568,292 the effective tax rate is \$0.5250 and the rollback rate is \$0.5665 per \$100 valuation for the 2013 Tax Year.

Miller explained in compliance with the Property Tax Code, a governing body must hold two public hearings to receive citizen comments on a proposed property tax rate. Miller stated the governing body may not adopt the tax rate at either of these hearings. Miller stated at each hearing, the governing body must announce the date, time, and place of the meeting at which it will vote on the tax rate.

There were no citizen comments.

Councilmember Herring read the following announcement as directed by Miller: The first reading of the Ordinance to adopt the tax rate will be during a Special Council meeting on Monday, September 16, 2013 at 1:00 p.m. The second reading of the Ordinance and adoption of the tax rate is scheduled for a Regular Council meeting on Thursday, September 19, 2013 at 1:00 p.m.

## **REGULAR AGENDA**

### **4. Discuss and Possibly Act Upon an Ordinance on Its First Reading Amending Chapter 24, Taxation, of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Brenham to Provide for the Appointment of an Interim Member to the Brenham-Washington County Hotel Occupancy Tax Board**

City Secretary Jeana Bellinger presented this item. Bellinger stated in the event of unexpected medical or personal emergency that could cause a member to be in violation of the Board's attendance requirements, the Ordinance will allow the Mayor to appoint an interim member to serve until such time as the incumbent can return to their position on the Board. Bellinger explained due to the responsibilities of the HOT Board, it makes it difficult for the Board to operate without all of its members present. Bellinger stated an interim member would have all the rights and responsibilities of an incumbent member.

Councilmember Herring questioned if the interim member would serve a full term. Bellinger explained no, they would serve until the member was able to notify the Board of their intentions in regards to their position on the Board.

Councilmember Barnes-Tilley suggested a time frame be considered in order to reappoint Board members. Barnes-Tilley suggested 3-6 month period and questioned the Board terms. Bellinger stated one member's term is up in December 2013 and she has replacements in mind for this position, while the other member is not up under December 2014. Bellinger stated the Board terms are two years. Bellinger is hoping to have one member's intentions for his position by March or April. Bellinger stated the Board currently has attendance requirements, but, in this case, the circumstances would have to extenuating and not just that the member does not want to serve anymore or is going on an extended vacation.

Councilmember Goss questioned at what point will the Board bring in an interim for medical leave. Bellinger stated the situation would need to be discussed and evaluated with the Board liaison to determine the circumstances of the leave. Bellinger stated the HOT Board meets every other month and one special meeting in June for funding. Bellinger explained this Ordinance is to cover in instances of extenuating circumstances, not for those who just don't want to show up to meetings. Bellinger stated she is currently left with two vacancies, which makes it difficult to ensure a quorum to continue conducting the Board's business.

A motion was made by Councilmember Barnes-Tilley and seconded by Councilmember Herring to approve an Ordinance on its first reading amending Chapter 24, Taxation, of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Brenham to provide for the appointment of an interim member to the Brenham-Washington County Hotel Occupancy Tax Board and including a six (6) month maximum interim appointment.

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 Andrew Ebel	Yes
Councilmember Danny Goss	Yes
Councilmember Keith Herring	Yes
Councilmember Mary E. Barnes-Tilley	Yes
Councilmember Weldon Williams	Yes

The meeting was adjourned.

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Milton Y. Tate, Jr.  
Mayor

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Jeanne Bellinger, TRMC  
City Secretary