

Brenham City Council Minutes

A regular meeting of the Brenham City Council was held on September 21, 2017 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 Andrew Ebel
Councilmember Susan Cantey
Councilmember Danny Goss
Councilmember Keith Herring
Councilmember Charlie Pyle
Councilmember Weldon Williams, Jr.

Members absent:

None

Others present:

City Manager Terry Roberts, Assistant City Manager of General Government Ryan Rapelye, City Attorney Cary Bovey, City Secretary Jeana Bellinger, Deputy City Secretary Kacey Weiss, Assistant City Manager – Chief Financial Officer Carolyn Miller, Comptroller Stacy Hardy, Human Resources Director Susan Nienstedt, Kaci Konieczny, Cynthia Longhofer, Fire Chief Ricky Boeker, Police Chief Craig Goodman, Public Works Director Dane Rau, Casey Redman, Assistant City Manager of Public Utilities Lowell Ogle, Development Services Director Erik Smith, City Engineer Lori Lakatos, Pam Ruemke and Todd Ashorn

Citizens present:

Perry Thomas, Brad Stufflebeam, Robbie Gail Charette, Helen Charette, Steven Drake and Brad Combs

Media Present:

Arthur Hahn, Brenham Banner Press; and Mark Whitehead, KWHI

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

3. Citizens Comments

There were no citizen comments.

WORK SESSION

4. Discussion and Presentation on Emergency Road Work for Burleson Street at Higgins Branch, Jefferson Street at Higgins Branch, and Barbee Street at Unnamed Tributary to Hog Branch

City Engineer Lori Lakatos presented this item. Lakatos explained that several streets were undermined in the May 2016 flooding event, DR-4272. Lakatos stated that three of the streets have progressively gotten worse over the last 16 months and with Hurricane Harvey have been come completely impassable or partially shut down. Lakatos noted that those streets are Burleson Street at Higgins Branch, Jefferson Street at Higgins Branch and Barbee Street at Unnamed Tributary to Hog Branch. Lakatos advised that the damages to the City's infrastructure increases the threat for injury to the roadways and utilities, limits accessibility to the neighborhoods, and potentially increases emergency response time due to detours. Lakatos stated these threats to the public health and safety need to be addressed immediately. Lakatos explained that staff currently have engineering contracts to finalize the design and have consulted with the City Attorney to determine if these emergency repairs/reconstruction are exempt from the competitive bidding requirements of state law.

Mayor Tate questioned if there will be a problem getting the materials in a timely manner. Lakatos stated that according to feedback that she has received from the contractors, getting the materials should not be a problem.

REGULAR SESSION

5. Discuss and Possibly Act Upon Ordinance No. O-17-012 on Its Second Reading Adopting the Budget for Fiscal Year Beginning October 1, 2017 and Ending September 30, 2018

Assistant City Manager – Chief Financial Officer Carolyn Miller presented this item. Miller explained that the Fiscal Year 2017-18 Proposed Budget has been developed in compliance with the Property Tax Code, Local Government Code and the City Charter.

A motion was made by Councilmember Herring and seconded by Councilmember Cantey to approve Ordinance No. O-17-012 on its second reading adopting the budget for fiscal year beginning October 1, 2017 and ending September 30, 2018.

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

Mayor Milton Y. Tate, Jr.	Yes
Mayor Pro Tem Andrew Ebel	Yes
Councilmember Susan Cantey	Yes
Councilmember Danny Goss	No
Councilmember Keith Herring	Yes
Councilmember Charlie Pyle	Yes
Councilmember Weldon Williams	Yes

6. Discuss and Possibly Act Upon Ordinance No. O-17-013 on Its Second Reading Levying Taxes for the Tax Year 2017 for the City of Brenham at \$0.5170 per \$100 Valuation

Assistant City Manager – Chief Financial Officer Carolyn Miller presented this item. Miller advised The FY2017-18 Proposed Budget includes a tax rate of \$0.5170 per \$100 valuation which has two components: maintenance and operations (M&O) and interest and sinking (I&S). Miller explained that the proposed tax rate of \$0.5170 will allocate \$0.3200 to the General Fund for M&O expenditures and the balance of \$0.1970 will be allocated to the Debt Service Fund for principal and interest obligations. The proposed tax rate of \$0.5170 is above the effective rate of \$0.4829, but below the rollback rate of \$0.5248.

A motion was made by Councilmember Cantey and seconded by Councilmember Pyle that the property tax rate be increased by the adoption of a tax rate of \$0.5170 per \$100 valuation, which is effectively a 7.06% increase in the tax rate.

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

Mayor Milton Y. Tate, Jr.	Yes
Mayor Pro Tem Andrew Ebel	Yes
Councilmember Susan Cantey	Yes
Councilmember Danny Goss	No
Councilmember Keith Herring	Yes
Councilmember Charlie Pyle	Yes
Councilmember Weldon Williams	Yes

7. Discuss and Possibly Act Upon Renewal with Texas Municipal League Intergovernmental Risk Pool for General Liability, Law Enforcement Liability, Public Officials Liability, Mobile Equipment, Airport Liability, Property, Auto Liability and Physical Damage, Crime, Animal Mortality and Theft and Workers' Compensation Coverage for the City of Brenham for Fiscal Year 2017-18 and Authorize the Mayor to Execute Any Necessary Documentation

Assistant City Manager – Chief Financial Officer Carolyn Miller presented this item. Miller explained the renewal of property and liability coverages with TML Intergovernmental Risk Pool for FY2017-18.

Miller stated that based on our renewal, the City will experience the following changes in premium:

- General Liability – decrease of \$33 dollars, or 0.02%
- Property – increase of \$10,893 or 11.79%
- Workers' Compensation – increase of \$26,634 or 19.59%

A motion was made by Councilmember Herring and seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Ebel to Approve the renewal with Texas Municipal League Intergovernmental Risk Pool for General Liability, Law Enforcement Liability, Public Officials Liability, Mobile Equipment, Airport Liability, Property, Auto Liability and Physical Damage, Crime, Animal Mortality and Theft and Workers' Compensation coverage for the City of Brenham for Fiscal Year 2017-18 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 Andrew Ebel	Yes
Councilmember Susan Cantey	Yes
Councilmember Danny Goss	Yes
Councilmember Keith Herring	Yes
Councilmember Charlie Pyle	Yes
Councilmember Weldon Williams	Yes

8. Discuss and Possibly Act Upon the Renewal of City of Brenham Group Health Plan with TML Multistate Intergovernmental Employee Benefits Pool and Establishment of Funding Rates for the Plan Year Beginning January 1, 2018 through September 30, 2018 and Authorize the Mayor to Execute Any Necessary Documentation

Assistant City Manager – Chief Financial Officer Carolyn Miller presented this item. Miller explained the following changes and funding rates in the group medical plan with TML MultiState Intergovernmental Employee Benefits Pool:

- Change Plan Year from Calendar Year to Fiscal Year: In order to better align the rerate process with the budget cycle, the City is electing to change our plan year from a calendar to fiscal beginning January 1, 2018. The renewal that Council is approving is for 9 months (January 1, 2018 through September 30, 2018).
- Group Health Coverage Renewal Rate: The FY17-18 renewal rate is 8% which is lower than the budgeted amount of 10%.
- Medical Premiums Funding Schedule: An 8% increase will be shared equally by the employee and the City with all tiers being increased by 8% for the new plan year beginning in January 2018. The premium changes proposed are as follows:

Tier	Monthly Employee Increase	Monthly City Increase	Annual Employee Increase	Annual City Increase
EMP ONLY	\$ 2.00	\$ 47.86	\$ 24.00	\$ 574.27
SPOUSE	24.00	95.66	288.00	1,147.92
CHILD	14.00	74.36	168.00	892.30
FAMILY	32.00	115.32	384.00	1,383.84

Miller stated that staff is recommending the adoption of the proposed group medical plan rates as presented for the period of January 1, 2018 through September 30, 2018.

A motion was made by Councilmember Pyle and seconded by Councilmember Cantey to approve renewal of City of Brenham Group Health Plan with TML Multistate Intergovernmental Employee Benefits Pool, establish funding rates for plan year beginning January 1, 2018 through September 30, 2018 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 Andrew Ebel	Yes
Councilmember Susan Cantey	Yes
Councilmember Danny Goss	Yes
Councilmember Keith Herring	Yes
Councilmember Charlie Pyle	Yes
Councilmember Weldon Williams	Yes

9. Discuss and Possibly Act Upon An Amendment to the 2013 Income Generating Vocational Work Contract Between the City of Brenham and the Department of Aging and Disability Services through the Brenham State Supported Living Center for Janitorial Services and Authorize the Mayor to Execute Any Necessary Documentation

Public Works Director Dane Rau presented this item. Rau explained that during the 2017-18 budget workshops staff discussed a plan to utilize the Brenham State Supported Living Center staff in other areas of the Parks System. Rau stated that currently there is a contract that allows for the BSSLC to provide litter control throughout our Parks System Monday through Friday. Rau advised that staff presented Council with a plan that would allow the Parks Department to become more efficient with its operations by contracting another service through the Vocational Work Program of the State School.

A motion was made by Councilmember Cantey and seconded by Councilmember Herring to approve an amendment to the 2013 Income Generating Vocational Work Contract between the City of Brenham and the Department of Aging and Disability Services through the Brenham State Supported Living Center for janitorial services 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 Andrew Ebel	Yes
Councilmember Susan Cantey	Yes
Councilmember Danny Goss	Yes
Councilmember Keith Herring	Yes
Councilmember Charlie Pyle	Yes
Councilmember Weldon Williams	Yes

10. Discuss and Possibly Act Upon a Request for a Noise Variance from the Texas Arts and Music Festival Organization for a Festival to be Held October 21, 2017 from 11:00 a.m. to 10:30 p.m. in Downtown Brenham and Authorize the Mayor to Execute Any Necessary Documentation

A motion was made by Councilmember Pyle and seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Ebel to approve a request for a noise variance from the Texas Arts and Music Festival Organization for a festival to be held October 21, 2017 from 11:00 a.m. to 10:30 p.m. in Downtown 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 Andrew Ebel	Yes
Councilmember Susan Cantey	Yes
Councilmember Danny Goss	Yes
Councilmember Keith Herring	Yes
Councilmember Charlie Pyle	Yes
Councilmember Weldon Williams	Yes

11. Discuss and Possibly Act Upon a Request for a Noise Variance from Elisette Mariscal for a Wedding Ceremony and Reception to be Held on October 28, 2017 from 6:00 p.m. – 12:00 a.m. at 600 E. Tom Green Street and Authorize the Mayor to Execute Any Necessary Documentation

Deputy City Secretary Kacey Weiss presented this item. Weiss stated they will be using sound amplification equipment during both the ceremony and the reception.

A motion was made by Councilmember Cantey and seconded by Councilmember Herring to approve a request for a noise variance from Elisette Mariscal for a wedding ceremony and reception to be held on October 28, 2017 from 6:00 p.m. – 12:00 a.m. at 600 E. Tom Green Street 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 Andrew Ebel	Yes
Councilmember Susan Cantey	Yes
Councilmember Danny Goss	Yes
Councilmember Keith Herring	Yes
Councilmember Charlie Pyle	Yes
Councilmember Weldon Williams	Yes

12. Discuss and Possibly Act Upon the Non-Renewal and Termination of the Standard Software License and Services Agreement with New World Systems Corporation for the Public Safety Computer Software System and Authorize the Mayor to Execute Any Necessary Documentation

Assistant City Manager of General Government Ryan Rapelye presented this item. Rapelye explained that the City of Brenham has had New World for 10 years and the original contract was approved for five years. Rapelye stated in 2012, the City Council approved a contract to enter into a second five-year maintenance agreement which will expire on December 31, 2017. Rapelye explained that earlier this year, the Washington County 911 Advisory Board provided a letter of intent to the ILA Communications Task Force with an explanation and rationale for moving forward to a new Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) system which includes a capable Record Management System (RMS). Rapelye advised that Washington County Commissioners Court approved the execution of a software license and service agreement contract with Zuercher Technologies on July 3, 2017. Rapelye noted a timeline has been established for implementation and a projected timeline is set for a go-live in March of 2018. Rapelye explained that in order for the non-renewal and termination of the New World agreement to be effective in a timely manner, notice of such non-renewal and termination must be sent to New World by September 30, 2017.

Councilmember Goss stated he is concerned that the City will not have support from the vendor at all, including any critical situations, when the contract expires and until Zuercher is ready to go-live in March.

Public Safety Systems Administrator Pam Ruemke addressed Council and stated that prior to December 1st, the County IT staff will do updates on all servers and make sure that everything works.

A motion was made by Councilmember Herring and seconded by Councilmember Cantey to approve the non-renewal and termination of the Standard Software License and Services Agreement with New World Systems Corporation for the Public Safety Computer Software System 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 Andrew Ebel	Yes
Councilmember Susan Cantey	Yes
Councilmember Danny Goss	Yes
Councilmember Keith Herring	Yes
Councilmember Charlie Pyle	Yes
Councilmember Weldon Williams	Yes

13. Discussion and Presentation Regarding Project Chatt Retail Development Project

City Manager Terry Roberts presented this item and introduced Brad Combs with Hutton. Combs stated the retail development center would be named Woodridge Crossing and would include approximately 112,000 square feet of inline retail. Combs explained the businesses will range from between 3,000 up to 55,000 square feet and will include some well-known retail names. Combs advised the development would have a grand opening planned in the Fall of 2018. Combs stated he would like to request that Council will consider approving a 380 Agreement between the City of Brenham and Hutton to ensure the success of Woodridge Crossing.

14. Administrative/Elected Officials Report

City Manager Terry Roberts reported on the following:

- Council meetings will be October 12th and 19th
- National Night Out is October 3rd
- BISD Football Hall of Honor luncheon is October 13th
- Blinn College Hall of Honor luncheon is October 27th
- At the February 18, 2016 meeting, Council approved obtaining a military aircraft to be placed at Henderson Park. The aircraft will be delivered in pieces in the next few days and should be refurbished and in place around Memorial Day. The Washington County Veterans are sponsoring this project.

Police Chief Craig Goodman reported on the following:

- The police department will be receiving 24 vests, not 10 as previously stated, through a grant and every officer will have one.

City Secretary Jeana Bellinger reported on the following:

- It is time for board and committee member appointments and reappointments and information will be sent to the media

Council adjourned into Executive Session at 1:58 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

15. Section 551.087 – Texas Government Code – Economic Development Negotiation – Discuss and Deliberate Project Chatt Regarding Commercial or Financial Information that the City Has Received from a Business Prospect and the Offer of Financial or Other Incentives to a Business Prospect that the City Seeks to Have Locate In or Near the City of Brenham and With Which the City is Conducting Economic Development Negotiations

16. Section 551.074 – Texas Government Code – Personnel Matters– Discussion Regarding the Evaluation of Candidates for the Position of City Manager

Executive Session adjourned at 4:53 p.m.

RE-OPEN REGULAR SESSION

The meeting was adjourned.

Milton Y. Tate, Jr.
Mayor

Jeana Bellinger, TRMC, CMC
City Secretary

