

Brenham City Council Minutes

A special joint meeting of the Brenham City Council and Washington County Commissioners was held on Thursday December 2, 2013, beginning at 10:00 a.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.

Members absent:

None.

Washington County Commissioners Court Members present:

Judge John Breiden
Commissioner Joy Fuchs
Commissioner Kirk Hanath
Commissioner Zeb Heckmann
Commissioner Luther Hueske

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, Susan Nienstedt, Fire Chief Ricky Boeker, Police Chief Rex Phelps, Development Services Director Julie Fulgham, Public Utilities Director Lowell Ogle, Stephen Draehn, Kevin Boggus, Julie Nevel and Grant Lischka

Citizens present:

Dorothy Morgan, Otto Hanak, Robert Smith, Jay Petrash, Karen McGill, Peggy Kramer, Beth Rothermel, and Sharon Stolz.

Media Present:

Kyle Cunningham, Brenham Banner Press; Frank Wagner, KWHI

1. **Call Meeting to Order**
2. **Invocation and Pledges to the US and Texas Flags – Mayor Tate**

REGULAR AGENDA

3. **a. Discuss and Possibly Act Upon the Approval of the Comprehensive Exchange of Services Interlocal Agreement, With Transition Period, Between the City of Brenham and Washington County and Authorize the Mayor to Execute Any Necessary Documentation (City Action Item Only)**

City Manager Terry Roberts presented this item. Roberts provided an overview of the Comprehensive Exchange of Services Interlocal Agreement.

Councilmember Barnes-Tilley stated, from her perspective, she is committed to no service disruptions and safety is the biggest concern. Councilmember Barnes-Tilley stated their number 1 priority is the citizens and first responders. Mayor Tate stated he stands behind the Interlocal Agreement.

Councilmember Herring expressed that he is opposed to the Interlocal Agreement. Councilmember Herring does not agree with paying tax payers' money into the County. Councilmember Herring stated the Task Force has worked hard to monitor and they are committed to making this work; however, it is a no vote for him, but he understands that Council must move forward.

A motion was made by Councilmember Goss and seconded by Councilmember Barnes-Tilley to approve the Comprehensive Exchange of Services Interlocal Agreement, with transition period, between the City of Brenham and Washington County and authorize the Mayor to execute any necessary documentation.

Mayor Tate called for a vote. The motion passed with 6-1 vote 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	No
Councilmember Mary E. Barnes-Tilley	Yes
Councilmember Weldon Williams	Yes

b. Discuss and Possibly Act Upon the Approval of the Comprehensive Exchange of Services Interlocal Agreement, With Transition Period, Between the City of Brenham and Washington County and Authorize the County Judge to Execute Any Necessary Documentation (County Action Item Only)

Judge Brieden presented this item.

A motion was made by Commissioner Fuchs and seconded by Commissioner Hannath to approve the Comprehensive Exchange of Services Interlocal Agreement, with transition period, between the City of Brenham and Washington County and authorize the County Judge to execute any necessary documentation.

Judge Brieden called for a vote. The motion passed with Commissioners voting as follows:

Judge John Breiden	Yes
Commissioner Joy Fuchs	Yes
Commissioner Kirk Hanath	Yes
Commissioner Zeb Heckmann	Yes
Commissioner Luther Hueske	Yes

Commissioner Fuchs stated she is committed to making it work and they will work to make it safe for everyone. Commissioner Fuchs stated she believes this will be a good working relationship. Commissioner Hueske wanted to thank everyone for their hard work on the agreement. Commissioner Heckmann thanked the Task Force for their work on the agreement and looks forward to a great working relationship. Commissioner Hannath stated the two entities are better together than they are separate. Commissioner Hannath stated it is very important issue regarding public safety officers and they are looking at this as a positive move for all.

Mayor Tate stated there is no reason why this should not go seamlessly. Mayor Tate stated that the City and County need to keep open communication on both ends.

Judge Brieden expressed his appreciation for the Mayor and his optimism, which helped a great deal as this agreement unfolded. Judge Brieden stated this is an excellent agreement because the City and County worked together and are willing to do what is necessary to make it work. Judge Brieden stated this is a good example of good government and this is a day of celebration.

Mayor Tate stated every 5 years, the parties will get back together to discuss if things are getting out of whack in order to adjust as necessary.

The meeting was adjourned.

Milton Y. Tate, Jr.
Mayor

Jeanne Bellinger, TRMC
City Secretary