

## **Brenham City Council Minutes**

A regular meeting of the Brenham City Council was held on November 2, 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, Human Resources Director Susan Nienstedt, Sara Parker, Director of Community Services Wende Ragonis, Crystal Locke, Jennifer Eckermann, Tammy Jaster, Fire Chief Ricky Boeker, Police Chief Craig Goodman, Public Works Director Dane Rau, Casey Redman, Bobby Branham, Assistant City Manager of Public Utilities Lowell Ogle, City Engineer Lori Lakatos, Kevin Boggus, Stephen Draehn and Todd Ashorn

### Citizens present:

Perry Thomas, Tim Sanders, Lynnette Sheffield, Sally Clinton, Carol Jensen, Linda Aldama, Georgia Sowers and Alex Aldama

### 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 Herring**

**3. Citizens Comments**

There were no citizen comments.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**4. Statutory Consent Agenda**

**4-a. Minutes from the September 18, 2017 Special City Council Meeting and September 21, 2017 Regular City Council Meeting**

A motion was made by Councilmember Herring and seconded by Councilmember Cantey to approve the Statutory Consent Agenda Item 4-a. 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 Andrew Ebel	Yes
Councilmember Susan Cantey	Yes
Councilmember Danny Goss	Yes
Councilmember Keith Herring	Yes
Councilmember Charlie Pyle`	Yes
Councilmember Weldon Williams	Yes

**WORK SESSION**

**5. Presentation and Discussion on the Brenham Pet Adoption and Care Center**

Director of Community Services Wende Ragonis presented this item. Ragonis thanked the Mayor and Council, stakeholders and City staff for everything they have done to help address the concerns with the animal shelter and pet adoption operation.

Ragonis explained that the City Hall leadership team is in the process of engaging an outside animal shelter consultant to conduct a full assessment which will identify strengths, weaknesses, and opportunities for improvements and potential risks or threats and help staff gain a better understanding of industry best practices. Tim Crum, with Animal Shelter Services in Arizona, will be the animal shelter consultant.

Citizen Carol Jensen addressed Council. Jensen verified the state report and also discussed the records that she received through her open records requests. Jensen stated her concerns about the shelter versus information that she obtained thru the records requests. Jensen explained that two sections of the Comprehensive Report completed by City staff contradicts what she discovered in her records requests. Jensen also discussed the hiring practices of the City and believes the hiring of a new animal shelter supervisor should be handled by the City Hall leadership team.

Mayor Tate thanked Mrs. Jensen for her comments and input.

## **REGULAR SESSION**

### **6. Discuss and Possibly Act Upon the 2018 Holiday Schedule**

Human Resources Director Susan Nienstedt presented this item. Nienstedt stated that the schedule includes 11 observed holidays, and 1 floating (birthday holiday) for a total of 12 paid holidays for city staff.

A motion was made by Councilmember Cantey and seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Ebel to approve the 2018 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 Andrew Ebel	Yes
Councilmember Susan Cantey	Yes
Councilmember Danny Goss	Yes
Councilmember Keith Herring	Yes
Councilmember Charlie Pyle	Yes
Councilmember Weldon Williams	Yes

### **7. Discuss and Possibly Act Upon an Ordinance on Its First Reading Providing for an Increase in Retirement Annuities in the Texas Municipal Retirement System Effective January 1, 2018**

Assistant City Manager – Chief Financial Officer Carolyn Miller presented this item. Miller explained that for many years, City Council has approved, on an annual basis, an ordinance providing for an increase in retirement annuities of 70% of the CPI as provided through the Texas Municipal Retirement System. Miller stated that in order to make any changes in the City’s plan provisions, an Ordinance must be approved by Council. Miller advised that the funding rate for the City of Brenham will increase from 9.88% to 10.12%.

A motion was made by Councilmember Herring and seconded by Councilmember Pyle to approve an Ordinance on its first reading providing for an increase in Retirement Annuities in the Texas Municipal Retirement System effective January 1, 2018.

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 Resolution No. R-17-022 Approving a Railroad Quiet Zone at the BNSF Railway Crossing at FM 109 and Authorizing the Mayor to Submit a Joint Notice of Establishment to the Federal Railroad Administration for the Establishment of a Railroad Quiet Zone at the BNSF Railway Crossing at FM 109**

Public Works Director Dane Rau presented this item. Rau explained that City staff has been working with BEFCO Engineering, TXDOT, BNSF, Washington County and the Federal Railroad Administration to establish a quiet zone at the FM 109 crossing. Rau stated that staff has been working through the formalities regarding the quiet zone process and on July 6<sup>th</sup> Council, along with Washington County, passed a Notice of Intent resolution that was submitted to BNSF, TX DOT, and the FRA. Rau noted that if Council passes this Resolution the delineators will be ordered around November 10<sup>th</sup> at a total cost of \$7,980.65, in which the county will pay half of those costs. Rau explained that installation will occur around December 15<sup>th</sup> and the quiet zone will commence on or around January 15, 2018.

A motion was made by Councilmember Goss and seconded by Councilmember Cantey to Approve Resolution No. R-17-022 approving a Railroad Quiet Zone at the BNSF Railway Crossing at FM 109 and authorizing the Mayor to submit a Joint Notice of Establishment to the Federal Railroad Administration for the Establishment of a Railroad Quiet Zone at BNSF Railway Crossing at FM 109 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 the Purchase and Installation of Playground Equipment for Henderson Park Using BuyBoard Contract No. 512-16 and Authorize the Mayor to Execute Any Necessary Documentation**

Public Works Director presented this item. Rau explained that during the 2017-18 BCDC funding process a total of \$294,500 was dedicated to fund Phase I Improvements to Henderson Park. Rau advised that staff has worked with Gametime to develop a unique playscape that will challenge the park users and also give everyone the ability to have fun while attending park functions. Rau stated the playscape chosen is called the “Adventure Unit” and is designed for ages 5-12. Rau noted it has multiple slides, a Tri-Net octagon climbing structure attached to the main deck and multiple other climbing features.

A motion was made by Councilmember Cantey and seconded by Councilmember Williams to approve the purchase and installation of playground equipment, using BuyBoard Contract No. 512-16, from Gametime in the amount of \$69,972.41 for Henderson Park 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 the Purchase of a Dump Truck for the City of Brenham’s Central Fleet Department Using BuyBoard Contract No. 521-16 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 process, Central Fleet requested a replacement tandem dump truck that was part of the 5 year capital replacement plan. Rau advised this truck will replace two older dump trucks that are in the Central Fleet Department.

A motion was made by Councilmember Pyle and seconded by Councilmember Herring to approve the purchase of a 2018 Tandem dump truck, through BuyBoard Contract No. 521-16, for the City of Brenham’s Central Fleet Department from Lonestar Truck Group-Waco, in the amount of \$99,999.00 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 the Purchase of a Residential Garbage Truck for the City of Brenham’s Sanitation Department Using BuyBoard Contract No. 521-16 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 process, the Sanitation Department requested a replacement residential refuse truck. Rau stated this replacement was part of the 10 year capital replacement plan. Rau advised that this truck will replace a 2008 International that is approaching 10 years old. Rau noted that staff has outlined in the 10 year plan that these trucks be replaced around the 10 year mark due to the daily use of these units and the maintenance costs that staff has seen in keeping these units past the 10 year mark. Rau explained that currently there are 3 units in the fleet (2008, 2008, 2016), in which two serve as primary trucks and one serves as a backup unit.

A motion was made by Councilmember Herring and seconded by Councilmember Cantey to approve the purchase of a 2018 Western Star Refuse Truck, through BuyBoard Contract No. 521-16, for the City of Brenham’s Sanitation Department from Lonestar Truck Group-Waco, in the amount of \$167,500 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 a Request for a Noise Variance from St. Mary's Immaculate Conception Catholic Church for a Fundraiser to be Held on November 12, 2017 from 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. at 701 Church Street and Authorize the Mayor to Execute Any Necessary Documentation**

This item was passed.

**13. Administrative/Elected Officials Report**

City Manager Terry Roberts reported on the following:

- Interviews for the five finalist for City Manager will be held on November 8th
- Legislative Forum will be November 7<sup>th</sup> at the Brenham Country Club
- City Hall will be closed on November 10<sup>th</sup> to observe Veteran's Day

Director of Community Services Wende Ragonis reported on the following:

- Wayfinding Signage and the Scarecrow Extravaganza that was held in Downtown

Public Works Director Dane Rau reported on the following:

- Renovation of the restrooms at Fireman's Park are moving along and should be completed the end of December

Assistant City Manager of General Government Ryan Rapelye reported on the following:

- Several staff members along with two Councilmembers will be attending the International Council of Shopping Centers Retail Conference in Dallas next week

Human Resources Director Susan Nienstedt reported on the following:

- Health Fair is November 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> at the Fireman's Training Center

The meeting was adjourned.

*Milton Y. Tate, Jr.*

Mayor

*Jeana Bellinger, TRMC, CMC*

City Secretary



**THIS PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK**