

Brenham City Council Minutes

A regular meeting of the Brenham City Council was held on November 16, 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

Members absent:

Councilmember Weldon Williams, Jr.

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, Director of Community Services Wende Ragonis, Andria Heiges, Jennifer Eckermann, Assistant Fire Chief Brian Scheffer, Police Chief Craig Goodman, Public Works Director Dane Rau, Assistant City Manager of Public Utilities Lowell Ogle, Debbie Gaffey, Kim Hodde, City Engineer Lori Lakatos and Todd Ashorn

Citizens present:

Joyce Ruley, Karla Elms, Jenifer Elms, Kendall Prinz, Lynn Prinz, Elizabeth Prinz, Amy Lagona, Emma Lagona, Page Michel, Bircher Family, Kaylee Gibson, Jennifer VanWoert, Hal Moorman, David Bockhorn, Tiffany Morisak, Melody Reynolds, Rachel Carroll, Lisa Wix and Jenny Mills

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 Pyle**
3. **Proclamation**
 - **National American Indian Month**
4. **Special Recognition**
 - **Nancy Carol Roberts Memorial Library Teen Writing Contest Winners**
 - **Texas Downtown Association’s President Awards**
5. **Citizens Comments**

There were no citizen comments.

CONSENT AGENDA

6. Statutory Consent Agenda

6-a. Minutes from the October 12, 2017 City Council Meeting

6-b. Ordinance No. O-17-018 on Its Second Reading Providing for an Increase in Retirement Annuities in the Texas Municipal Retirement System Effective January 1, 2018

A motion was made by Councilmember Herring and seconded by Councilmember Pyle to approve the Statutory Consent Agenda Items 6-a. and 6-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 Andrew Ebel	Yes
Councilmember Susan Cantey	Yes
Councilmember Danny Goss	Yes
Councilmember Keith Herring	Yes
Councilmember Charlie Pyle	Yes
Councilmember Weldon Williams	Absent

WORK SESSION

7. Presentation of the Fourth Quarter Report by the Washington County Convention and Visitors Bureau

Jenny Mills with the Washington County Convention and Visitors Bureau presented this item. Mills focused on the highlights featured in the Awareness Reports for July – September 2017, pointing out the visitor statistics, major tourism events, advertising placements and editorial coverage.

8. Discussion and Update on the Tax Phase-In Compliance Review Committee

Page Michel, President of the Brenham Economic Development Foundation presented this item. Michel explained that the Tax Phase-In Compliance Review Committee meets every year to review all of the current tax phase-in recipients who were granted the incentive to ensure that value creation and employment & payroll criteria are being met.

Michel stated that this year, the Committee reviewed the following companies for compliance: Advanced Data Storage, Stanpac, Blue Bell Creameries, QuestSpecialty, Valmont Industries, Longwood Elastomers, MIC Group, Brazos Valley Brewing Company, PPE/GSL and Tempur Sealy. She noted that the Committee has verified that all ten companies are in compliance with the criteria set forth in the Tax Phase-In Policy.

9. Discussion and Update on the Annual Spring Clean Up Event Held at the City of Brenham's Citizens Collection Station

Public Works Director Dane Rau presented this item. Rau explained that over the last few years, Staff has evaluated the impact that the annual spring cleanups have on the sanitation facilities and operations. Rau stated the City of Brenham has been offering both the City and County residents “free” cleanup days in late March and April. Rau noted that these cleanups, although ideal for the residents of both the City and County, are putting a large burden on sanitation staff and the operations of the Collection and Transfer Stations. Rau advised the biggest issue that staff sees is the sheer amount of waste that is coming in and how much of a burden it puts on the facility, while also trying to manage daily duties.

Rau explained that he has thought of two options. The first would still be consistent with hosting the 3-day event but instead of being completely “Free” it would allow each resident the first 500 pounds free and then anything over 500 pounds would be charged at the normal rate. Rau advised the second option could be to offer discount days to cut the rates in half, going from the normal rate of \$90/ton to \$45/ton for all residents during those 3 day events. Rau stated this would give residents an opportunity to dispose of unwanted waste at half the rate.

After further discussion, Mayor Tate advised staff to meet with the utilities sub-committee of Council to discuss all the options. It was the consensus of the Council that the sub-committee would have the final decision about how best to handle spring clean-up in the future.

REGULAR SESSION

10. Discuss and Possibly Act Upon the Purchase of a Discharge Spreader Truck for the City of Brenham's Water Treatment Plant Through the National Joint Powers Alliance Cooperative and Authorize the Mayor to Execute Any Necessary Documentation

Assistant City Manager of Public Utilities Lowell Ogle presented this item. Ogle explained that during the budget process, Council approved the purchase of a new discharge spreader truck for the Water Treatment Plant. Ogle stated this truck will be used to deliver and spread sludge to the city's landfill on Old Navasota Road. Ogle advised this will replace Unit 229, a 1999 model which will be sold on GovDeals.

A motion was made by Councilmember Cantey and seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Ebel to approve the purchase of a 2018 International 7400 Discharge Spreader Truck for the City of Brenham's Water Treatment Plant from Herrmann International, in the amount of \$171,000.00 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	Absent

11. Discuss and Possibly Act Upon an Equipment Financing Proposal with Bank of Brenham and Authorize the Mayor to Execute Any Necessary Documentation

Assistant City Manager – Chief Financial Officer Carolyn Miller presented this item. Miller explained that this is a companion item for the financing of capital equipment as presented by Lowell Ogle, Assistant City Manager-Public Utilities. Miller advised the FY17-18 adopted budget included the lease purchase of a Sludge Spreader Truck by the Water Department. Miller stated equipment financing proposals regarding the procurement of this equipment were received from Bancorp South, Bank of Brenham and JPMorgan Chase.

A motion was made by Councilmember Pyle and seconded by Councilmember Herring to approve the equipment financing proposal from Bank of Brenham for 5 years at an interest rate of 2.50% with annual payments of principal and interest, each in arrears, equal to \$36,808.66 beginning one year from the date of funding.

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

Mayor Milton Y. Tate, Jr.	Abstain
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	Absent

12. Discuss and Possibly Act Upon an Amendment to the Lease Agreement Between the City of Brenham and Roy Burger (dba RB Film Productions) for the Lease of Approximately 108.9 Acres of the Old Landfill Property and Authorize the Mayor to Execute Any Necessary Documentation

Director of Community Services Wende Ragonis presented this item. Ragonis explained that in an effort to support the efforts of many in the community to produce a feature film of "The Burning of Brenham", in 2016 the City of Brenham agreed to allow set building and filming on City owned property previously utilized as a landfill site. Ragonis explained that Mr. Burger is now requesting an amendment to the original lease to allow him more time to complete the movie. The amendment will be for a 10 year lease with the condition that site work and/or filming start within two years and continue throughout the term of the lease. The Council also asked that language be added to the amendment that will require Mr. Burger to provide the City with periodic updates on the various activities taking place on the property.

A motion was made by Councilmember Cantey and seconded by Councilmember Pyle to approve an Amendment to the Lease Agreement between the City of Brenham and Roy Burger (d/b/a RB Film Productions) for the lease of approximately 108.9 acres of the Old Landfill Property 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	Absent

13. Discuss and Possibly Act Upon a Ground Space Lease Agreement with John B. Schaer, III for Hangar Space at the Brenham Municipal Airport and Authorize the Mayor to Execute Any Necessary Documentation

Planning Technician Kim Hodde presented this item. Hodde explained that John B. Schaer, III would like to construct a new 60x60 hangar on the south side of the new nested T-hangars. Hodde advised Mr. Schaer's total lease space will be 7,200 square feet. Hodde stated this lease agreement is the standard ground space lease for .08 cents per square foot.

A motion was made by Councilmember Cantey and seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Ebel to approve a Ground Space Lease Agreement with John B. Schaer, III for hangar space at the Brenham Municipal Airport 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	Absent

14. 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 19, 2017 from 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. at 701 Church Street and Authorize the Mayor to Execute Any Necessary Documentation

Deputy City Secretary Kacey Weiss presented this item. Weiss explained that they will be using a sound amplification system for the D.J.

A motion was made by Councilmember Herring and seconded by Councilmember Pyle to approve a noise variance from St. Mary's Immaculate Conception Catholic Church for a fundraiser to be held on November 19, 2017 from 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. at 701 Church 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	Absent

15. Discuss and Possibly Act Upon Resolution No. R-17-023 Nominating Candidates for Election to the Washington County Appraisal District Board of Directors

City Manager Terry Roberts presented this item. Roberts explained that the governing body of the Washington County Appraisal District is nominated and appointed by the governing bodies that levy and collect a property tax. Roberts advised that Chief Appraiser Willy Dilworth has provided information on the process and reported on the status of the five current board members. The current five members are: John Schaer, Charles Gaskamp, Johanna Fatheree, Leslie Boehnemann, Jr., and Delton Koerth. Roberts stated each of these board members except Mr. Koerth has indicated a willingness to serve an additional two-year term.

A motion was made by Councilmember Herring and seconded by Councilmember Cantey to approve Resolution No. R-17-023 nominating John Schaer, Charles Gaskamp, Johanna Fatheree, and Leslie Boehnemann, Jr. to serve on the Washington County Appraisal District Board of Directors.

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	Absent

16. Administrative/Elected Officials Report

City Manager Terry Roberts reported on the following:

- Steam cleaning of City Hall is being done to seal the exterior walls
- As scheduled, there will be a Council meeting on January 4th

Council adjourned into Executive Session at 2:10 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

Executive Session adjourned at 3:24 p.m.

RE-OPEN REGULAR SESSION

The meeting was adjourned.

Milton Y. Tate, Jr.

Mayor

Jeana Bellinger, TRMC, CMC

City Secretary

