

Brenham City Council Minutes

A regular meeting of the Brenham City Council was held on May 3, 2018 beginning at 1:00 p.m. in the Brenham City Hall, City Council Chambers, at 200 W. Vulcan Street, Brenham, Texas.

Members present:

Mayor Pro Tem Andrew Ebel
Councilmember Susan Cantey
Councilmember Danny Goss
Councilmember Keith Herring

Members absent:

Mayor Milton Y. Tate, Jr.
Councilmember Charlie Pyle
Councilmember Weldon Williams, Jr.

Others present:

City Manager James Fisher, City Attorney Cary Bovey, Deputy City Secretary Kacey Weiss, Assistant City Manager – Chief Financial Officer Carolyn Miller, Comptroller Stacy Hardy, Sara Parker, Kaci Konieczny, Cynthia Longhofer, Rhonda Kuehn, Crystal Locke, Fire Chief Ricky Boeker, Interim Police Chief Rusty Pancoast, Jared Campbell, Marley Mayo, Public Works Director Dane Rau, Assistant City Manager of Public Utilities Lowell Ogle, City Engineer Lori Lakatos, Kenneth McGehee, Tiwana Brown, Norma Rodriguez, JoAnne Hynes, Kristi Jackson, Tara Wellmann, Angeline Howard, Paula Shields, Christi Korth and Erin O'Malley

Citizens present:

Perry Thomas, Page Michel, Candi Eaton, Linda Thomas and Barbara Ross

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 – City Attorney Cary Bovey**

3. **Service Recognitions**
 - **Cynthia Longhofer, Finance** **5 Years**
 - **Norma Rodriguez, Municipal Court** **10 Years**
4. **Proclamations**
 - **City Secretary's Week**
 - **National Police Week**
5. **Citizens Comments**

There were no citizen comments.

CONSENT AGENDA

6. Statutory Consent Agenda

6-a. Minutes from the April 19, 2018 Regular City Council Meeting

A motion was made by Councilmember Cantey and seconded by Councilmember Herring to approve the Statutory Consent Agenda Item 6-a. as presented.

Mayor Pro Tem Ebel called for a vote. The motion passed with Council voting as follows:

Mayor Milton Y. Tate, Jr.	Absent
Mayor Pro Tem Andrew Ebel	Yes
Councilmember Susan Cantey	Yes
Councilmember Danny Goss	Yes
Councilmember Keith Herring	Yes
Councilmember Charlie Pyle	Absent
Councilmember Weldon Williams	Absent

REGULAR SESSION

7. Discuss and Possibly Act Upon Bid No. 2017-20 Related to Parking Lot Improvements at the All Sports Building in Hohlt Park and Authorize the Mayor to Execute Any Necessary Documentation

City Manager James Fisher presented this item. Fisher explained that staff was proceeding forward with this project using some savings from a current project at the Blue Bell Aquatic Center. Fisher stated that there has been some issues with the current project and additional funds will need to be spent. Fisher stated the bid is good for about 90 days and asked that Council table this item until the next meeting.

Citizen Linda Thomas addressed Council and asked that they table any action on this item. Thomas explained that before any action is taken she would like Council to gather information and responses to repeated requests for a handicap accessible parking lot at the Blue Bell Aquatic Center. Thomas stated that on many occasions, the need has been requested and the responses have been negative. Thomas advised there needs to be more information shared and more discussions held regarding the needs and priorities of parking lots that are being considered.

A motion was made by Councilmember Herring and seconded by Councilmember Goss to table Item 7.

Mayor Pro Tem Ebel called for a vote. The motion passed with Council voting as follows:

Mayor Milton Y. Tate, Jr.	Absent
Mayor Pro Tem Andrew Ebel	Yes
Councilmember Susan Cantey	Yes
Councilmember Danny Goss	Yes
Councilmember Keith Herring	Yes
Councilmember Charlie Pyle	Absent
Councilmember Weldon Williams	Absent

8. Discuss and Possibly Act Upon an Ordinance on Its First Reading Prohibiting U-Turns at Certain Crossings On U. S. Highway 290 at the Highway 36 North Crossover in the City of Brenham

City Manager James Fisher presented this item. Fisher explained that there have been concerns expressed regarding the possible U-turns. Fisher stated that he and Public Works Director Dane Rau would be meeting with TxDOT to see if additional signage can be added farther west to guide drivers better. Fisher advised more discussions are needed with TxDOT regarding how drivers are to turn around or get where they are going. Fisher asked that Council table this item until the next meeting.

Public Works Director Dane Rau explained that staff had been approached by the public about placing “No U-Turn” signs on the bridge crossing along Highway 290 East/West. Rau advised that TxDOT agreed with staff on placing the signs at the two crossings, but did want all drivers to make U-turns at the light. Rau stated that TxDOT was allowing staff to place the signs to enforce this if the City did not want U-turns to occur at those two crossings.

Councilmember Goss stated that this needs to be discussed with TxDOT since it is their right-of-way.

A motion was made by Councilmember Herring and seconded by Councilmember Cantey to table Item 8.

Mayor Pro Tem Ebel called for a vote. The motion passed with Council voting as follows:

Mayor Milton Y. Tate, Jr.	Absent
Mayor Pro Tem Andrew Ebel	Yes
Councilmember Susan Cantey	Yes
Councilmember Danny Goss	Yes
Councilmember Keith Herring	Yes
Councilmember Charlie Pyle	Absent
Councilmember Weldon Williams	Absent

9. Discuss and Possibly Act Upon Bid No. E2017-01 Related to Storm Damage Repairs, Package 1, at Henderson Park and Authorize the Mayor to Execute Any Necessary Documentation

City Engineer Lori Lakatos presented this item. Lakatos explained that several streets and drainage structures were undermined or damaged in the May 2016 flood event, DR-4272. Lakatos stated that one of these was Higgins Branch within Henderson Park next to North Park Street. Lakatos advised that this project was submitted to FEMA as part of the damage inventory and is considered an eligible project under the disaster declaration DR-4272. Lakatos noted that this project is funded at a 75/25 cost share. Lakatos stated that six contractors submitted bids.

A motion was made by Councilmember Herring and seconded by Councilmember Cantey to award Bid No. E2017-01 related to storm damage repairs, package 1, at Henderson Park to VML Construction Services in the amount of \$104,772.41 and authorize the Mayor or Mayor Pro Tem to execute any necessary documentation.

Mayor Pro Tem Ebel called for a vote. The motion passed with Council voting as follows:

Mayor Milton Y. Tate, Jr.	Absent
Mayor Pro Tem Andrew Ebel	Yes
Councilmember Susan Cantey	Yes
Councilmember Danny Goss	Yes
Councilmember Keith Herring	Yes
Councilmember Charlie Pyle	Absent
Councilmember Weldon Williams	Absent

10. Discuss and Possibly Act Upon Authorization of Final Payment to Hassell Construction Co., Inc. for the Emergency Road Work and Storm Damage Repairs, Package 2B, for Jefferson Street at Higgins Branch and Authorize the Mayor to Execute Any Necessary Documentation

City Engineer Lori Lakatos presented this item. Lakatos explained that Hassell Construction Co., Inc. has completed the Jefferson Street at Higgins Branch crossing repairs that resulted from the May 2016 storm events and Hurricane Harvey, August 2018. Lakatos stated this project has been submitted to FEMA as part of DR-4272, May 2016 Storm and DR-4332, Hurricane Harvey. Lakatos advised that no funding has been obligated at this time, but staff will continue to work through the process in hopes that FEMA will consider the project eligible for reimbursement.

A motion was made by Councilmember Cantey and seconded by Councilmember Goss to approve final payment to Hassell Construction Co., Inc. for the Emergency Road Repairs Storm Damage Repairs, Package 2A, to Jefferson Street at Higgins Branch in the amount of \$131,566.80 and authorize the Mayor or Mayor Pro Tem to execute any necessary documentation.

Mayor Pro Tem Ebel called for a vote. The motion passed with Council voting as follows:

Mayor Milton Y. Tate, Jr.	Absent
Mayor Pro Tem Andrew Ebel	Yes
Councilmember Susan Cantey	Yes
Councilmember Danny Goss	Yes
Councilmember Keith Herring	Yes
Councilmember Charlie Pyle	Absent
Councilmember Weldon Williams	Absent

11. Discuss and Possibly Act Upon Authorization of Final Payment to Site Work Contractors LLC for the Emergency Road Work and Storm Damage Repairs, Package 3, for Barbee Street at an Unnamed Tributary to Hog Branch and Authorize the Mayor to Execute Any Necessary Documentation

City Engineer Lori Lakatos presented this item. Lakatos explained that Site Work Contractors LLC. has completed the Barbee Street crossing repairs that resulted from the May 2016 storm events and Hurricane Harvey, August 2018. Lakatos stated that this project is eligible for FEMA funding at 75/25 cost share as part of DR-4272, May 2016 Storms. Lakatos noted that the City would have to submit the modified scope of work to FEMA for approval. Lakatos advised that the hope is that FEMA will consider the entire cost of the project eligible for reimbursement.

A motion was made by Councilmember Cantey and seconded by Councilmember Herring to approve final payment to Site Work Contractors LLC for the Emergency Road Work and Storm Damage Repairs, Package 3, Barbee Street at Unnamed Tributary to Hog Branch in the amount of \$27,370.10 and authorize the Mayor or Mayor Pro Tem to execute any necessary documentation.

Mayor Pro Tem Ebel called for a vote. The motion passed with Council voting as follows:

Mayor Milton Y. Tate, Jr.	Absent
Mayor Pro Tem Andrew Ebel	Yes
Councilmember Susan Cantey	Yes
Councilmember Danny Goss	Yes
Councilmember Keith Herring	Yes
Councilmember Charlie Pyle	Absent
Councilmember Weldon Williams	Absent

12. Discuss and Possibly Act Upon Resolution No. R-18-006 in Opposition of the Bluebonnet Haven Residential Facility

Mayor Pro Tem Ebel explained that as stated in the City Charter, there has to be a quorum of Council members in order to vote on Resolutions. Ebel stated that one of the Council members would have to abstain from voting today because he is a contractor involved in the construction of the facility. Ebel advised that there would be a discussion, but no formal action would be taken.

City Manager James Fisher stated that the Resolution is regarding the proposed facility that is to be constructed on Highway 36 South. Fisher explained that the City of Brenham is supporting the Brenham Independent School District (BISD) in their opposition to the opening of Bluebonnet Haven Residential Facility, which is to be located in the BISD jurisdiction. Fisher advised that this facility would have a negative economic effect on BISD, as it will substantially increase the student special education population and the services required for students in this program.

Citizen Barbara Ross addressed Council. Ross explained that the cost of educating these students would be passed on to the taxpayers. Ross also stated that she has heard the facility has petitioned the city about being annexed and she is worried about what that will do to the police services. Ross suggested that everyone contact his or her state representative to try to get this stopped.

No action was taken on this item.

13. Administrative/Elected Officials Report

➤ **May 31st Pre-Budget Retreat and Council Meeting Start Time**

City Manager James Fisher stated the Pre-Budget Retreat on May 31st will begin at 9:00 a.m. and the regular Council meeting will begin at 1:00 p.m. The Retreat will resume after the Council meeting.

City Manager James Fisher reported on the following:

- The Maifest parade is May 5th at 10:30 a.m.
- Budget meetings will be July 18th – 20th.
- Farmer and Artisan Market is May 4th from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
- Reception for Interim Police Chief Pancoast will be May 10th at 3:30 p.m.
- Swearing in ceremony for Police Chief Barrow is May 14th at 4:30 p.m.
- Thanked Council for closing City Hall for a few hours on April 27th so staff could attend the city picnic
- Thanked Dane and his crew for re-stripping the cross walks in downtown

The meeting was adjourned.

Andrew Ebel

Mayor Pro Tem

Kacey A. Weiss, TRMC

Deputy City Secretary



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