Brenham City Council Minutes

A regular meeting of the Brenham City Council was held on May 18, 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, Sara Parker, Cynthia Longhofer, Director of Community Services Wende Ragonis, Fire Chief Ricky Boeker, Police Chief Craig Goodman, Public Works Director Dane Rau, Assistant City Manager of Utilities Lowell Ogle, Development Services Director Erik Smith, City Engineer Lori Lakatos, Stephen Draehn, Todd Ashorn, Leslie Kelm and Associate Judge Robert Wright

Citizens present:

Sallie Bryan, Lu Hollander, Jenny Mills, Courtney Powell, Page Michel, Paula Moerbe, Kenneth Moerbe, Shirley Herring, Gloria Nix and Clint Kolby

Media Present:

Arthur Hahn, Brenham Banner Press; and Noelle Buffam, KWHI

1. Call Meeting to Order
2. Invocation and Pledges to the US and Texas Flags – City Attorney Cary Bovey

3. Administer Oaths of Office to Elected Officials and Issue Certificates of Election for Council Positions:

   **Place 1, Keith Herring**
   Robert G. Wright, Municipal Court Associate Judge, administered the Oath of Office to Keith Herring for the position of Place 1 Councilmember for the City of Brenham for a four (4) year term.

   **Place 3, Andrew Ebel**
   Robert G. Wright, Municipal Court Associate Judge, administered the Oath of Office to Andrew Ebel for the position of Place 3 Councilmember for the City of Brenham for a four (4) year term.

   **Place 5 – At Large, Charlie Pyle**
   Robert G. Wright, Municipal Court Associate Judge, administered the Oath of Office to Charlie Pyle for the position of Place 5 Councilmember for the City of Brenham for a four (4) year term.

   **Place 6 – At Large, Susan Cantey**
   Citizen Kenneth Moerbe administered the Oath of Office to Susan Cantey for the position of Place 6 Councilmember for the City of Brenham for a four (4) year term.

4. Citizens Comments

   There were no citizen comments.

CONSENT AGENDA

5. Statutory Consent Agenda

   **5-a. Minutes from the April 6, 2017 and April 20, 2017 Regular City Council Meetings**

   A motion was made by Councilmember Herring and seconded by Councilmember Cantey to approve the Statutory Consent Agenda Item 5-a. as presented.
Mayor Tate called for a vote. The motion passed with Council voting as follows:

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REGULAR SESSION

6. Discuss and Possibly Act Upon the Election by Council of Mayor Pro Tem

City Secretary Jeana Bellinger presented this item. Bellinger explained Article III, Section 12 of the City Charter sets forth the powers and duties of the Mayor Pro Tem. Bellinger noted the appointment of the Mayor Pro Tem typically takes place at the first Council meeting following the May election cycle.

Mayor Tate asked for nominations and Councilmember Pyle nominated Councilmember Ebel. There were no other nominations made.

A motion was made by Councilmember Pyle and seconded by Councilmember Herring to appoint Andrew Ebel to serve as Mayor Pro Tem.

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

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7. Discuss and Possibly Act Upon the Rebid of Bid No. IFB 17-004 for the Fabrication and Installation of Wayfinding Signage and Authorize the Mayor to Execute Any Necessary Documentation

Director of Community Services Wende Ragonis presented this item. Ragonis explained that the wayfinding project was last discussed with Council at the May 7, 2015 Council meeting. Ragonis stated at that meeting, fd2s, the vendor selected to develop the wayfinding program, presented the program for Council’s consideration and review.
Ragonis advised that Purchasing Services issued Bid No 17-004 which was opened February 14, 2017; however, due to severe weather in the area which impacted the bidder’s ability to deliver bids to City Hall, a Rebid was issued. Ragonis noted that Rebid No 17-004 was opened March 21, 2017 with seven (7) responsive bidders. Ragonis stated that the low bidder was Triturn Enterprises, dba Austin Architectural Graphics.

Councilmember Williams asked if the signs will include QR codes. Ragonis stated the design team will add those.

Councilmember Herring asked how many phases there will be. Ragonis stated this is phase one and an additional phase could include monument signs and other things.

A motion was made by Councilmember Cantey and seconded by Councilmember Herring to award the Rebid of Bid No. IFB 17-004 to Triturn Enterprises, dba Austin Architectural Graphics in the amount of $208,697.28 for the fabrication and installation of Wayfinding Signage 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 a Request for a Noise Variance from Washington County Historical Juneteenth Association for a Juneteenth Celebration at Fireman’s Park to be Held on June 16, 2017 from 5:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m. and June 17, 2017 from 12:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. and Authorize the Mayor to Execute Any Necessary Documentation

Deputy City Secretary Kacey Weiss presented this item. Weiss stated that the Washington County Historical Juneteenth Association will have a band Friday night and Saturday afternoon and therefore they are requesting a noise variance.

A motion was made by Councilmember Williams and seconded by Councilmember Pyle to approve a request for a noise variance from Washington County Historical Juneteenth Association for a Juneteenth Celebration at Fireman’s Park to be held on June 16, 2017 from 5:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m. and June 17, 2017 from 12:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. 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. **Administrative/Elected Officials Report**

City Manager Terry Roberts reported on the following:
- Budget Workshops are July 5th through 7th
- Juneteenth Parade is June 17th
- The Washington County Veterans Association will have a Memorial Day program on May 29th at 11:00 a.m.
- Retirement celebration for Wanda Kramer is May 26th at Fireman’s Park kitchen from 11:30 a.m. until 1:30 p.m.

Director of Community Services Wende Ragonis reported on the following:
- Walk with a Doc is May 20th
- Local History Day was held in downtown on May 16th and also today

Fire Chief Ricky Boeker reported on the following:
- The 150th Birthday Celebration for the Fire Department is May 27th

**WORK SESSION**

10. **Presentation of the Second Quarter Tourism Report and Geiger Activity Report by Washington County Convention and Visitors Bureau**

Lu Hollander with the Washington County Convention and Visitors Bureau presented this report. Hollander focused on the highlights featured in the Awareness Reports for January – March 2017, pointing out the visitor statistics, major tourism events, advertising placements and editorial coverage. Hollander also discussed the Washington County Convention and Visitors Bureau Agency Activity Report for April 2017 with Geiger & Associates.
11. Presentation and Update of Street Improvement Program and New Equipment

Public Works Director Dane Rau presented this item. Rau explained that last year the City Council dedicated $225,000 toward the re-construction of City roadways. Rau advised that with this amount and the $135,000 in the normal operating budget, the Street Department has a total of $360,000 for street rehabilitation.

Rau explained that based on this funding staff will be able to rehabilitate the “poor” and “fair” streets, which accounts for 55% of the 81 miles of streets that the City maintains. Rau noted that staff is ahead of schedule based on the overall plan for 2017 with 7 streets reconstructed and 7 streets remaining. Rau advised that it will be tight on remaining on budget due to circumstances in the field that caused additional expenses that were unforeseen. Rau stated staff will monitor closely to decide if other savings can be used to complete all the identified streets or if staff will need to push some streets to 2018. Rau stated that with the new equipment purchases that were approved by Council through capital leases, staff has been able to more efficiently re-construct these roadways.

Council adjourned into Executive Session at 1:47 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION


Executive Session adjourned at 2:33 p.m.

RE-OPEN REGULAR SESSION

The meeting was adjourned.

Milton Y. Tate, Jr.
Mayor

Jeana Bellinger, TRMC, CMC
City Secretary