NOTICE OF A REGULAR MEETING
THE BRENHAM CITY COUNCIL
THURSDAY, MAY 18, 2017 AT 1:00 P.M.
SECOND FLOOR CITY HALL
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
200 W. VULCAN
BRENHAM, TEXAS

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 (4 Year Term)    Keith Herring
   - Place 3 (4 Year Term)    Andrew Ebel
   - Place 5 – At Large (4 Year Term)   Charlie Pyle
   - Place 6 – At Large (4 Year Term)   Susan Cantey

4. Citizens Comments

CONSENT AGENDA

5. Statutory Consent Agenda
   The Statutory Consent Agenda includes non-controversial and routine items that Council may act on with one single vote. A councilmember may pull any item from the Consent Agenda in order that the Council discuss and act upon it individually as part of the Regular Agenda.

5-a. Minutes from the April 6, 2017 and April 20, 2017 Regular City Council Meetings
   Pages 1-17
REGULAR SESSION

6. Discuss and Possibly Act Upon the Election by Council of Mayor Pro Tem  Page 18

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  Pages 19-22

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  Pages 23-24

9. Administrative/Elected Officials Report

Administrative/Elected Officials Reports:  Reports from City Officials or City staff regarding items of community interest, including expression of thanks, congratulations or condolences; information regarding holiday schedules; honorary or salutary recognitions of public officials, public employees or other citizens; reminders about upcoming events organized or sponsored by the City; information regarding social, ceremonial, or community events organized or sponsored by a non-City entity that is scheduled to be attended by City officials or employees; and announcements involving imminent threats to the public health and safety of people in the City that have arisen after the posting of the agenda.

WORK SESSION


11. Presentation and Update of Street Improvement Program and New Equipment  Pages 55-56

EXECUTIVE SESSION


RE-OPEN REGULAR AGENDA

Adjourn
**Executive Sessions:** The City Council for the City of Brenham reserves the right to convene into executive session at any time during the course of this meeting to discuss any of the matters listed, as authorized by Texas Government Code, Chapter 551, including but not limited to §551.071 – Consultation with Attorney, §551.072 – Real Property, §551.073 – Prospective Gifts, §551.074 - Personnel Matters, §551.076 – Security Devices, §551.086 - Utility Competitive Matters, and §551.087 – Economic Development Negotiation

**CERTIFICATION**

I certify that a copy of the May 18, 2017 agenda of items to be considered by the City of Brenham City Council was posted to the City Hall bulletin board at 200 W. Vulcan, Brenham, Texas on May 15, 2017 at 12:35 PM.

**Kacey A. Weiss**
Deputy City Secretary

**Disability Access Statement:** This meeting is wheelchair accessible. The accessible entrance is located at the Vulcan Street entrance to the City Administration Building. Accessible parking spaces are located adjoining the entrance. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request (interpreters for the deaf must be requested twenty-four (24) hours before the meeting) by calling (979) 337-7567 for assistance.

I certify that the attached notice and agenda of items to be considered by the City Council was removed by me from the City Hall bulletin board on the ______ day of ___________________, 2017 at __________ AM PM.

___________________________________
Signature

___________________________________
Title
Brenham City Council Minutes

A regular meeting of the Brenham City Council was held on April 6, 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 Gloria Nix
Councilmember Andrew Ebel
Councilmember Danny Goss
Councilmember Keith Herring
Councilmember Mary E. Barnes-Tilley
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, Kaei Konieczny, Cynthia Longhofer, Director of Community Services Wende Ragonis, Crystal Locke, Fire Chief Ricky Boeker, Assistant Fire Chief Brian Scheffer, Fire Marshal Brent Sauble, Police Chief Craig Goodman, Dant Lange, Chris Jackson, Trey Gully, Public Works Director Dane Rau, Assistant City Manager of Public Utilities Lowell Ogle, Debbie Gaffey, Development Services Director Erik Smith, City Engineer Lori Lakatos, Steven Eilert, Darlene Konieczny, JoAnne Hynes, Kristin Jackson, Judy Wagner, Christi Korth, Ande Bostain, Kelvin Raven, Paula Shields, Andrew Joswiak, Brett Schroeder, Brent Folsom, Josh Sebastian and Tommy Kurie

Citizens present:

Virginia Hamilton, Doc Hamilton, Jann Whaley, Frank Wagner, Doug French, Matt Childers, Sally Clinton, Alicia Cargile, Billy Sutherland, Peter Blatchley, Lynn Garris, Margaret Broadbent, Peter Broadbent, Irma Eilert, Kenneth Moerbe, Suzanne Longley, Charlie Pyle, Danny Ross, Barbara Ross, David Siefert, Russell Honerkamp, Jonathan Mitchell, Jean Shoup, Larry Doherty, Susan Cantey and Charlie Pyle
1. Call Meeting to Order

2. Invocation and Pledges to the US and Texas Flags – City Manager Terry Roberts

3. Special Recognitions
   3-a. Police Department Promotions & Badge Pinning
       • Chris Jackson, Sergeant
       • Steven Eilert, Sergeant
   3-b. Service Recognitions
       • Kristin Jackson, Finance Department 5 Years
       • Kacey Weiss, Administration 5 Years
       • Andrew Jozwiak, Fire Department 10 Years

4. Proclamations
   • Adult & Teen Challenge of Texas Day
   • Brenham Safe Digging Month

5. Citizens Comments
   Citizen Russell Honerkamp addressed Council regarding the need for a No U-Turn sign to be placed on Hwy. 290 just past the cloverleaf. Honerkamp stated it is very dangerous for drivers to do U-Turns in that area and that U-Turns should only be done at the traffic light at Westwood.

CONSENT AGENDA

6. Statutory Consent Agenda
   6-a. Ordinance No. O-17-003 on Its Second Reading Annexing the Hereinafter Described Territory into the City of Brenham and Adopting a Service Plan:

   Section 2017-1: Approximately 86.664 Acres of Land Situated in Washington County, Texas, out of the Phillip Coe Survey, Abstract No. A0031 Generally Consisting of Tracts with Frontage Along State Highway 36 North; Land Located West of and Adjacent to Dixie Street that is not Currently within the City Limits and Approximately 1,500 Feet from the “Cloverleaf” Intersection of Highway 290 West and State Highway 36 North, said property being more particularly described in Exhibit “A” attached to the Ordinance annexing the 86.664 acres
A motion was made by Councilmember Barnes-Tilley and seconded by Councilmember Herring to approve the Statutory Consent Agenda Item 6-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 Gloria Nix Yes
- Councilmember Andrew Ebel Yes
- Councilmember Danny Goss Yes
- Councilmember Keith Herring Yes
- Councilmember Mary E. Barnes-Tilley Yes
- Councilmember Weldon Williams Yes

REGULAR SESSION

14. **Discuss and Possibly Act Upon Resolution No. R-17-006 In Opposition to the United States Bureau of Land Management’s (BLM’s) Decision to Allow Possible Oil and Gas Production in Washington County, At and Around Lake Somerville**

Assistant City Manager of Public Utilities Lowell Ogle presented this item. Ogle explained that it has come to the City and State’s attention that the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) plans to auction off tracts of land around Lake Somerville for oil and gas drilling and production. Ogle advised that the City of Brenham, State Senator Lois Kolkhorst for Brenham’s district, and concerned citizens oppose the auctioning of the parcels of land at the lake. Ogle stated that Lake Somerville is the sole source of drinking water for the city of Brenham and any loss or contamination of this fresh water supply would be catastrophic for the Citizens of Brenham.

There were numerous citizens present that expressed concern about this issue and asked that Council pass the Resolution.

Sally Clinton, a representative of Texas Rural Voices, stated that their group is strongly opposed to the drilling in fear that it will contaminate the water.

Councilmember Goss explained that the drillers use highly toxic chemicals for drilling and these chemicals could cause major issues at some point. Goss stated that the areas being looked at for drilling are closer to the lake and drilling could create problems with the City’s only source of water.

A motion was made by Councilmember Goss and seconded by Councilmember Ebel to approve Resolution No. R-17-006 in opposition to the United States Bureau of Land Management’s (BLM’s) decision to allow possible oil and gas production in Washington County, at and around Lake Somerville.
Mayor Tate called for a vote. The motion passed 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   Yes
Councilmember Mary E. Barnes-Tilley \ Yes
Councilmember Weldon Williams Yes

PUBLIC HEARING


Mayor Tate opened the Public Hearing.

Development Services Director Erik Smith presented this item. Smith explained that Calvary Baptist Church has requested a special use permit (SUP) for 1100 Niebuhr Street to allow for a church and auxiliary use including philanthropic and educational facility. Smith noted that the building is operating as a church today but no SUP has ever been granted for this site. Smith advised that the church can continue with no interference from the City of Brenham, but they cannot expand the nonconforming uses footprint on the site unless they get a SUP. Smith stated the applicant has informed Staff they would like to expand the garage to the rear of the property. Smith stated that Staff would not be able to issue a building permit for this unless a SUP is approved by City Council.

Smith also advised that the Planning and Zoning Commission recommended unanimous approval of this request and there has been one resident who voiced support for this request.

Mayor Tate closed the Public Hearing.
WORK SESSION

8. Presentation, Discussion and Update on New Permitting Software for Development Services Department

Development Services Director Erik Smith presented this item. Smith explained that Staff has been working with Tyler Technologies (Incode) to implement the EnerGov product line. Smith advised that this program will help Staff improve the overall customer service to their main clientele, contractors, by providing an online portal for them to register with the City of Brenham. Smith noted that once they are registered, Staff will be able to issue permits for the type of project they are licensed for. Smith stated this program will improve the internal and external operations for the department.

Councilmember Herring asked what the anticipated cost will be. Smith stated that it will be around $40,800 for the software and up to $8,500 for the training. Smith advised that Tyler Technologies will provide the training for Staff.

9. Presentation, Discussion and Update on Sign Ordinance

Development Services Director Erik Smith presented this item. Smith explained that Staff last brought the sign ordinance to City Council on September 19, 2013. Smith advised that Staff did meet with the Board of Adjustments, as directed by Council, on December 8, 2014. Smith stated the purpose of this workshop is to update Council on some issues and possible solutions that Staff has identified from that time to date.

Smith stated a possible solution is to create a “donut hole” around the B-3 Historical Central Business District. Smith advised that another possible solution is that there would be a sign ordinance that controls signage throughout the City Limits and Extra Territorial Jurisdiction, but there would be a separate set of rules or no rules for the B-3 District.

Councilmember Goss stated that he believes the existing ordinance should be left in place for Main and Alamo Streets and a new ordinance can be addressed for the rest of the City.

Director of Community Services Wende Ragonis advised that if Council does decide to do a “donut hole” solution that it is not just for Main and Alamo Streets but for the whole B-3 District. Ragonis stated that could put Main and Alamo Street business owners at an advantage or disadvantage. Ragonis also noted that members of the Main Street Economic Restructuring Committee have been working with state representatives to do an addendum to the current Mutual Maintenance Agreement with TxDOT that will hopefully help with the sign situation in downtown.
Council advised Staff to move forward in the “donut hole” direction for the whole B-3 District.

Citizen Susan Cantey stated that Staff look into being removed from the Bryan TxDOT district and try to be placed back into the La Grange district. Ms. Cantey stated that in her opinion the TxDOT office in La Grange was easier to work with that the office in Bryan.

REGULAR SESSION

11. Discuss and Possibly Act Upon a Two Percent (2%) Mid-Year Employee Pay Scale Adjustment

Assistant City Manager – Chief Financial Officer Carolyn Miller presented this item. Miller explained that a 2% mid-year Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) was included in the FY16-17 adopted budget. Miller stated the COLA is conditional upon a mid-year assessment of economic conditions and must be approved by Council before initiated. Miller advised that the General Fund impact is $64,654 and the Utility Funds combined is $30,345. Miller noted that at the March 2, 2017 Audit Committee meeting, Staff discussed this matter in greater detail and the Audit Committee gave their full support to move ahead and present this item to City Council for consideration. Miller explained that when the City Council included the 2.0% mid-year pay scale adjustment for all City employees in the FY16-17 adopted budget, they recognized the importance of keeping our salaries competitive to recruit and retain the best qualified workforce. Miller stated that in support of this initiative, and based on the economic conditions and outlook for the City, the budget team is confident in certifying that economic conditions support the approval of this action.

A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Nix and seconded by Councilmember Goss to approve a two percent (2%) mid-year employee pay scale adjustment as included in the City of Brenham FY2016-17 Adopted Budget.

Mayor Tate called for a vote. The motion passed 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 Yes
- Councilmember Mary E. Barnes-Tilley Yes
- Councilmember Weldon Williams Yes
12. Discuss and Possibly Act Upon An Ordinance on Its First Reading Granting a Specific Use Permit to Calvary Baptist Church to Allow for a Church and Related Auxiliary Uses on Property Located at 1100 Niebuhr Street in an R-1, Single Family Residential Zoning District, Said Property Being Described as 2.5443 Acres Out of the Arrabella Harrington Survey, A-55 (WCAD Tract 241), in Brenham, Washington County, Texas

A motion was made by Councilmember Barnes-Tilley and seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Nix to approve an Ordinance on its first reading granting a Specific Use Permit to Calvary Baptist Church to allow for a Church and Related Auxiliary Uses on property located at 1100 Niebuhr Street in an R-1, Single Family Residential Zoning District, said property being described as 2.5443 acres out of the Arrabella Harrington Survey, A-55 (WCAD Tract 241), in Brenham, Washington County, Texas

Mayor Tate called for a vote. The motion passed 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   Yes
Councilmember Mary E. Barnes-Tilley Yes
Councilmember Weldon Williams Yes

13. Discuss and Possibly Act Upon an Ordinance on Its First Reading Amending Appendix A – “Zoning” of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Brenham to Change the Residential Single Family (R-1) Zoning District Classification to a Planned Development (PD) Zoning District Regarding the Property Being Annexed into the City of Brenham and More Specifically Described Below:

Section 2017-1: Approximately 86.664 Acres of Land Situated in Washington County, Texas, out of the Phillip Coe Survey, Abstract No. A0031 Generally Consisting of Tracts with Frontage Along State Highway 36 North; Land Located West of and Adjacent to Dixie Street that is not Currently within the City Limits and Approximately 1,500 Feet from the “Cloverleaf” Intersection of Highway 290 West and State Highway 36 North, said property being more particularly described in Exhibit “A” attached to the Ordinance annexing the 86.664 acres.

Development Services Director Erik Smith presented this item. Smith explained that this is a request for a zone change from an R-1 District to a Planned Development District for development of a mix of R-1 Single-Family Residential, R-2 Mixed Residential and B-1 Business/Residential Mixed Use District to establish a neighborhood commercial tract to serve the surrounding area.
Smith stated that the Planning and Zoning Commission recommended approval of this request with the recommendation that the developer only be required to install one tree in each front yard as opposed to two with additional emphasis for trees around the perimeter facing State Highway 36.

Councilmember Barnes-Tilley stated that she would like to see sidewalks added to the subdivision.

A motion was made by Councilmember Goss and seconded by Councilmember Ebel to recommend approval of an Ordinance, with the recommended amendment from the developer, on its first reading amending Appendix A – “Zoning” of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Brenham to Change the Residential Single Family (R-1) Zoning District Classification to a Planned Development (PD) Zoning District Regarding the Property Being Annexed into the City of Brenham and more specifically described below: Section 2017-1: Approximately 86.664 Acres of Land Situated in Washington County, Texas, out of the Phillip Coe Survey, Abstract No. A0031 Generally Consisting of Tracts with Frontage Along State Highway 36 North; Land Located West of and Adjacent to Dixie Street that is not Currently within the City Limits and Approximately 1,500 Feet from the “Cloverleaf” Intersection of Highway 290 West and State Highway 36 North, said property being more particularly described in Exhibit “A” attached to the Ordinance annexing the 86.664 acres

Mayor Tate called for a vote. The motion passed 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   Yes
 Councilmember Mary E. Barnes-Tilley ` Yes
 Councilmember Weldon Williams Yes

15. Discuss and Possibly Act Upon a Request for a Noise Variance from the Brenham Maifest Association for the 2017 Maifest Events to be Held on April 29, 2017, May 5, 2017 and May 6, 2017 and Authorize the Mayor to Execute Any Necessary Documentation

Deputy City Secretary Kacey Weiss presented this item. Weiss explained that the Maifest Color Fun Run will be held on April 29, 2017 and will begin at 9:00 a.m. Weiss noted they will be using a microphone. Weiss advised that the Maifest Celebration will be held May 5th and 6th and activities include a carnival, bands and the coronations.

A motion was made by Councilmember Barnes-Tilley and seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Nix to approve a request for a noise variance from the Brenham Maifest Association for the 2017 Maifest Events to be held on April 29, 2017, May 5, 2017 and May 6, 2017 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 Gloria Nix     Yes
- Councilmember Andrew Ebel    Yes
- Councilmember Danny Goss     Yes
- Councilmember Keith Herring   Yes
- Councilmember Mary E. Barnes-Tilley ` Yes
- Councilmember Weldon Williams Yes

16. Discuss and Possibly Act Upon a Request for a Noise Variance from Calvary Baptist Church for a National Day of Prayer Event to be Held on May 4, 2017 from 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. at the Courthouse Gazebo and Authorize the Mayor to Execute Any Necessary Documentation

Deputy City Secretary Kacey Weiss presented this item. Weiss explained that the event will be held on May 4th and they will be using sound amplification equipment to sing songs and pray.

A motion was made by Councilmember Herring and seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Nix to approve a request for a noise variance from Calvary Baptist Church for a National Day of Prayer event to be held on May 4, 2017 from 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. at the courthouse gazebo 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 Gloria Nix     Yes
- Councilmember Andrew Ebel    Yes
- Councilmember Danny Goss     Yes
- Councilmember Keith Herring   Yes
- Councilmember Mary E. Barnes-Tilley ` Yes
- Councilmember Weldon Williams Yes

17. Discuss and Possibly Act Upon the First Amendment to the Lease Agreement Between the City of Brenham and Wells Fargo Bank Texas to Provide for a Month-to-Month Lease of the ATM and ATM Lane Located at 110 W. Vulcan Street, Brenham, Texas and Authorize the Mayor to Execute Any Necessary Documentation

Assistant City Manager of General Government Ryan Rapelye presented this item. Rapelye explained that the City acquired the motorbank property utilized by Wells Fargo as a Motorbank/ATM in 2001 and Wells Fargo has continued to maintain a lease agreement with the City.
Rapelye stated in December 2016, Wells Fargo notified City Manager Terry Roberts of their intent to opt out of their lease and vacate the motor bank operations at this facility on the City hall campus as of April 2, 2017. Rapelye advised that in January, Staff brought an item for Council’s review and discussion on the motor bank facility moving forward. Rapelye noted that as a next step, Staff will be assessing the facility and developing proposals for considerations of other financial institutions from the community for potential use which would include the ATM at City hall. Rapelye explained that in the meantime, Wells Fargo has now requested an amendment to the original lease to reduce the leased premise specifically related to operations and management of the ATM on a month to month basis during this time period while staff is developing proposals.

A motion was made by Councilmember Herring and seconded by Councilmember Goss to approve the first amendment to the lease agreement between the City of Brenham and Wells Fargo Bank Texas to provide for a month-to-month lease of the ATM and ATM Lane located at 110 W. Vulcan Street, Brenham, Texas, as approved in final form by the City Attorney, 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 Gloria Nix Yes
- Councilmember Andrew Ebel Yes
- Councilmember Danny Goss Yes
- Councilmember Keith Herring Yes
- Councilmember Mary E. Barnes-Tilley Yes
- Councilmember Weldon Williams Yes

WORK SESSION

10. Presentation, Discussion and Review of the FY2016-17 First Quarter Financial Report

Assistant City Manager – Chief Financial Officer Carolyn Miller presented this item. Miller advised the status of the General Fund and the five major utility funds in the report. Miller reported the actual to budget variance was favorable in all funds. Miller explained that the City of Brenham’s financial performance continues to be positive and no unusual or unanticipated trends are noted.
REGULAR SESSION

18. Administrative/Elected Officials Report
   - Department Relocations at City Hall
     City Manager Terry Roberts updated the Council on office relocations within
     City Hall.

     Assistant City Manager of General Government Ryan Rapelye reported on the following:
     - Lightning detection equipment will be added to the radio communications tower
       and the County will pay for half of the cost as outlined in the ILA with the City.

     Fire Chief Ricky Boeker reported on the following:
     - Fire Department Fish Fry will be April 7th from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
     - The 150th Birthday Celebration will be May 27th

     Director of Community Services Wende Ragonis reported on the following:
     - Town Hall meeting will be held at Henderson Park on April 12th at 5:30 p.m. to
       discuss the future needs of the park

The meeting was adjourned.

_________________________________
Milton Y. Tate, Jr.
Mayor

_________________________________
Jeana Bellinger, TRMC, CMC
City Secretary
Brenham City Council Minutes

A regular meeting of the Brenham City Council was held on April 20, 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 Gloria Nix
Councilmember Andrew Ebel
Councilmember Danny Goss
Councilmember Keith Herring
Councilmember Mary E. Barnes-Tilley
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, 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, Stephen Draehn, Todd Ashorn and Rebecca Ruffino

Citizens present:

Charlie Pyle and Susan Cantey

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 – Mayor Milton Y. Tate, Jr.
3. Citizens Comments

There were no citizen comments.

CONSENT AGENDA

4. Statutory Consent Agenda

4-a. Minutes from the March 2, 2017 Regular City Council Meeting and March 13, 2017 Special Meeting

4-b. Ordinance No. O-17-004 on Its Second Reading Granting a Specific Use Permit to Calvary Baptist Church to Allow for a Church and Related Auxiliary Uses on Property Located at 1100 Niebuhr Street in an R-1, Single Family Residential Zoning District, Said Property Being Described as 2.5443 Acres Out of the Arrabella Harrington Survey, A-55 (WCAD Tract 241), in Brenham, Washington County, Texas

4-c. Ordinance No. O-17-005 on Its Second Reading Amending Appendix A – “Zoning” of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Brenham to Change the Residential Single Family (R-1) Zoning District Classification to a Planned Development (PD) Zoning District Regarding the Property Being Annexed into the City of Brenham and More Specifically Described Below:

Section 2017-1: Approximately 86.664 Acres of Land Situated in Washington County, Texas, out of the Phillip Coe Survey, Abstract No. A0031 Generally Consisting of Tracts with Frontage Along State Highway 36 North; Land Located West of and Adjacent to Dixie Street that is not Currently within the City Limits and Approximately 1,500 Feet from the “Cloverleaf” Intersection of Highway 290 West and State Highway 36 North, said property being more particularly described in Exhibit “A” attached to the Ordinance annexing the 86.664 acres.

A motion was made by Councilmember Barnes-Tilley and seconded by Councilmember Herring to approve the Statutory Consent Agenda Items 4-a., 4-b. and 4-c. 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 Gloria Nix  Yes
Councilmember Andrew Ebel  Yes
Councilmember Danny Goss  Yes
Councilmember Keith Herring  Yes
Councilmember Mary E. Barnes-Tilley  '  Yes
Councilmember Weldon Williams  Yes

REGULAR SESSION

5. Discuss and Possibly Act Upon Final Payment to Collier Construction Co. for the Nancy Carol Roberts Memorial Library Expansion, Modernization and Renovation Project and Authorize the Mayor to Execute Any Necessary Documentation

Director of Community Services Wende Ragonis presented this item. Ragonis explained that Collier Construction was awarded Bid #15-006 for the Construction and Rehabilitation of the Nancy Carol Roberts Memorial Library at the April 2, 2015 Council meeting. Ragonis stated the total bid amount awarded to Collier Construction was $3,108,000 which included the base bid of $3,083,000 and Alternate Number One (1) in the amount of $25,000 for the Outdoor Reading Room. Ragonis advised that the total payment to Collier Construction, including three change orders, is $3,228,915. Ragonis noted that approval of the final payment of $851.76 will bring the “Balance to Finish, Including Retainage” to $0 (zero).

A motion was made by Councilmember Herring and seconded by Councilmember Goss to approve final payment to Collier Construction Co. in the amount of $851.76 for the Nancy Carol Robert Memorial Library Expansion, Modernization and Renovation Project 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 Gloria Nix  Yes
Councilmember Andrew Ebel  Yes
Councilmember Danny Goss  Yes
Councilmember Keith Herring  Yes
Councilmember Mary E. Barnes-Tilley  '  Yes
Councilmember Weldon Williams  Yes
6. Discuss and Possibly Act Upon an Interlocal Contract Between the City of Brenham and the Harris County Department of Education (Choice Partners) for Cooperative Purchasing Services and Authorize the Mayor to Execute Any Necessary Documentation

Purchasing Manager Sara Parker presented this item. Parker explained that Chapter 271 of the Texas Local Government Code allows municipalities to enter into interlocal agreements with cooperative purchasing associations such as Choice Partners. Parker stated the advantages of a cooperative contact are lower administrative costs, improved response from vendors, and the potential for lower costs through increased volume. Parker advised there is no cost to the City to join Choice Partners or utilize their contracts.

A motion was made by Councilmember Barnes-Tilley and seconded by Councilmember Herring to approve an Interlocal Contract between the City of Brenham and the Harris County Department of Education (Choice Partners) for Cooperative Purchasing Services 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 Gloria Nix     Yes
- Councilmember Andrew Ebel    Yes
- Councilmember Danny Goss     Yes
- Councilmember Keith Herring   Yes
- Councilmember Mary E. Barnes-Tilley Yes
- Councilmember Weldon Williams Yes

7. Discuss and Possibly Act Upon a Contract with Xerox Financial Services LLC for Leased Office Automation Equipment and Authorize the Mayor to Execute Any Necessary Documentation

Purchasing Manager Sara Parker presented this item. Parker explained that earlier this year, a survey of the City’s photocopier fleet was conducted to determine needs for upgrades, additions, or replacements. Parker advised it was determined that two machines, one at the Fire Department and one in the Accounting Department need to be replaced with new and upgraded units. Parker stated there is also a need for an additional unit for Community Services due to recent office moves in City Hall.

A motion was made by Councilmember Barnes-Tilley and seconded by Councilmember Williams to approve a 3 year lease contract with Xerox Financial Services LLC for leased automation equipment in the amount of $10,559 per year 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 Gloria Nix     Yes
- Councilmember Andrew Ebel    Yes
- Councilmember Danny Goss     Yes
- Councilmember Keith Herring   Yes
- Councilmember Mary E. Barnes-Tilley   Yes
- Councilmember Weldon Williams Yes

8. Discuss and Possibly Act Upon a Request for a Noise Variance from Marrisa Amador for a Graduation Party to be Held on May 12, 2017 from 6:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m. at the Fireman’s Park Kitchen and Authorize the Mayor to Execute Any Necessary Documentation

Deputy City Secretary Kacey Weiss presented this item. Weiss stated that they will be using speakers and a microphone for dancing and karaoke.

A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Nix and seconded by Councilmember Williams to approve a request for a noise variance from Marrisa Amador for a graduation party to be held on May 12, 2017 from 6:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m. at the Fireman’s Park kitchen 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 Gloria Nix     Yes
- Councilmember Andrew Ebel    Yes
- Councilmember Danny Goss     Yes
- Councilmember Keith Herring   Yes
- Councilmember Mary E. Barnes-Tilley   Yes
- Councilmember Weldon Williams Yes

9. Administrative/Elected Officials Report

City Manager Terry Roberts reported on the following:

- Maifest Picnic is May 3rd
- Council Budget Retreat is May 11th
- Council pictures will be June 1st at 12:45 p.m.
- The collection station will be closed to the public on April 24th
- New Council members will be sworn in at the council meeting on May 18th
Mayor Milton Y. Tate, Jr. reported on the following:
- Discussed Mayor Pro Tem seating arrangement
- Will be assigning new Council members to the various Council sub-committees

The meeting was adjourned.

______________________________
Milton Y. Tate, Jr.
Mayor

______________________________
Jeana Bellinger, TRMC, CMC
City Secretary
**AGENDA ITEM 6**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE OF MEETING: May 18, 2017</th>
<th>DATE SUBMITTED: May 15, 2017</th>
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<tr>
<td>DEPT. OF ORIGIN: Administration</td>
<td>SUBMITTED BY: Jeana Bellinger</td>
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**MEETING TYPE:**
- [X] REGULAR
- [ ] SPECIAL
- [ ] EXECUTIVE SESSION

**CLASSIFICATION:**
- [ ] PUBLIC HEARING
- [ ] CONSENT
- [X] REGULAR
- [ ] WORK SESSION

**ORDINANCE:**
- [ ] 1ST READING
- [ ] 2ND READING
- [ ] RESOLUTION

**AGENDA ITEM DESCRIPTION:** Discuss and Possibly Act Upon the Election by Council of Mayor Pro Tem

**SUMMARY STATEMENT:** Article III, Section 12 of the City Charter sets forth the powers and duties of the Mayor Pro Tem. The appointment of the Mayor Pro Tem typically takes place at the first council meeting following the May election cycle.

The Charter language reads: “The City Council shall elect one of their number as Mayor pro-tempore, as soon as practicable after each regular election of Councilmembers, who in the absence or inability of the Mayor to act may exercise all the powers and authority appertaining to the office of Mayor.”

**STAFF ANALYSIS (For Ordinances or Regular Agenda Items):**

A. PROS:

B. CONS:

**ALTERNATIVES (In Suggested Order of Staff Preference):** N/A

**ATTACHMENTS:** None

**FUNDING SOURCE (Where Applicable):** N/A

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:** Appoint a member of City Council to serve as Mayor Pro Tem.

**APPROVALS:** Terry K. Roberts
**AGENDA ITEM 7**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE OF MEETING: May 18, 2017</th>
<th>DATE SUBMITTED: May 12, 2017</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DEPT. OF ORIGIN: Main Street</td>
<td>SUBMITTED BY: Wende Ragonis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MEETING TYPE: REGULAR</td>
<td>CLASSIFICATION:</td>
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<td>☐ WORK SESSION</td>
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**AGENDA ITEM DESCRIPTION:** 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

**SUMMARY STATEMENT:** The wayfinding project was last discussed with Council at the May 7, 2015 Council meeting. At that meeting, fd2s, the vendor selected to develop the wayfinding program, presented the program for Council’s consideration and review. The Wayfinding Committee appointment by the Main Street Board took Council’s feedback and finalized the wayfinding program with fd2s. Since that time, staff came to an agreement with TX Dot during a joint meeting with City staff to review and discuss the wayfinding program. This meeting was held at City Hall August 23, 2016. Once TX Dot was agreeable with the design, materials and proposed placement of the signage, fd2s and Purchasing Services completed the bid documents. Purchasing Services issued Bid No 17-004 which was opened first February 14, 2017. Due to severe weather in the area which impacted the bidder’s ability to deliver bids to City Hall, a Rebid was issued. Rebid No 17-004 was opened March 21, 2017 with seven (7) responsive bidders. The Bid Tabulation is attached.

The low bidder was Triturn Enterprises, dba Austin Architectural Graphics. The base bid submitted by Triturn was in the amount of $225,113.22; however, the bidder had included Alternate D for the proposed mural at a cost of $16,415.94 in their base bid calculation. Once Alternate D is excluded from the Base Bid amount, the actual Base Bid is $208,697.28. Council had allocated $150,000 of HOT funds during the FY16-17 budget process for the installation of the wayfinding program. Considering the amount currently funded and the gap needed to award the bid, there is a shortfall of amount $58,697.27. Funding for this shortfall was discussed at the May 11, 2017 Council Budget Retreat and $50,000 of HOT fund reserves could be allocated to the budget shortfall with the remaining funds coming from Main Street raised monies.

**STAFF ANALYSIS (For Ordinances or Regular Agenda Items):**

A. **PROS:** Implement a Wayfinding Signage Program which has been identified as a priority in multiple comprehensive strategic plans for the community: 1) The Envision 2020 Plan, page 98 discusses the importance of pedestrian signage and kiosks in the downtown historic district, 2) the Downtown Master Plan, page 104 discusses monument and wayfinding signage, and more recently the need for wayfinding has been identified in two public discussion relating to tourism. 3) During the Tourism Exchange held in December 2016, signage...
was identified by 37.5 percent of participants as the best means to help foster tourism for the area; and 4) during the Tourism Initiatives Group meeting held in February 2017, wayfinding signage was discussed as an important marketing tool to direct and promote tourists into the downtown district for shopping, dining and entertainment.

B. CONS: Continue with limited wayfinding for tourists and residents.

**ALTERNATIVES (In Suggested Order of Staff Preference):**

**ATTACHMENTS:** (1) Bid Information Sheet

**FUNDING SOURCE (Where Applicable):** HOT fund reserves and Main Street Raised Monies

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:** 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

**APPROVALS:** Terry K. Roberts
Bid Information Sheet

March 21, 2017

IFB #17-004 Rebid

For: Rebid Fabrication and Installation of Wayfinding Signage

Purchase not to exceed budgeted funds.

Number of completed bids returned to Purchasing: 7
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BIDDER</th>
<th>BASE BID</th>
<th>PHASE I SIGNAGE</th>
<th>ALTERNATE PHASE II SIGNAGE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>A</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Hardman Sign LP</td>
<td>$293,845.00</td>
<td>$29,250.00</td>
<td>$156,970.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Triturn Enterprises dba</td>
<td>$225,113.22</td>
<td>$222,940.68</td>
<td>$163,846.69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Austin Arch. Graphics</td>
<td>$295,088.50</td>
<td>$55,626.00</td>
<td>$206,121.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Al Ross Sign Group</td>
<td>$277,470.00</td>
<td>$289,170.00</td>
<td>$309,855.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Architype</td>
<td>$340,093.00</td>
<td>$342,475.00</td>
<td>$296,646.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Graph Tec</td>
<td>$269,111.00</td>
<td>$274,511.00</td>
<td>$182,196.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Walton Signage</td>
<td>$330,724.22</td>
<td>No Bid</td>
<td>No Bid</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Burton Signworks Inc.</td>
<td></td>
<td>No Bid</td>
<td>No Bid</td>
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</table>
AGENDA ITEM 8

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<td>DATE SUBMITTED:</td>
<td>May 9, 2017</td>
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<td>DEPT. OF ORIGIN:</td>
<td>Administration</td>
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<td>SUBMITTED BY:</td>
<td>Kacey Weiss</td>
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**MEETING TYPE:**
- [x] REGULAR
- [ ] SPECIAL
- [ ] EXECUTIVE SESSION
- [ ] WORK SESSION

**CLASSIFICATION:**
- [ ] PUBLIC HEARING
- [ ] CONSENT
- [x] REGULAR
- [ ] RESOLUTION

**ORDINANCE:**
- [ ] 1ST READING
- [ ] 2ND READING

**AGENDA ITEM DESCRIPTION:**
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.

**SUMMARY STATEMENT:**
The Washington County Historical Juneteenth Association is requesting a Noise Variance for the Juneteenth Celebration at Fireman’s Park on Friday, June 16, 2017 from 5:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m. and Saturday, June 17, 2017 from 12:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. They will have a band both Friday night and Saturday afternoon, which requires a Noise Variance. The Brenham Police Department and the Brenham Fire Department have approved the noise variance request; therefore, I ask the City Council to approve the noise variance request.

**STAFF ANALYSIS (For Ordinances or Regular Agenda Items):**

A. PROS:

B. CONS:

**ALTERNATIVES (In Suggested Order of Staff Preference):**

**ATTACHMENTS:**
(1) Noise Variance Request form

**FUNDING SOURCE (Where Applicable):**

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:**
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.

**APPROVALS:**
Terry K. Roberts
NOISE VARIANCE REQUEST

Application Fee $10.00

1. Name of sponsoring organization:
   **WASHINGTON COUNTY HISTORICAL JUNETEENTH ASSOCIATION**

2. Name and address of individual making application on behalf of sponsoring organization:
   **Ms. Eva E. Chapel - Newly Elected President**
   317 Johnson St. (P.O. Box 471), Brenham, TX 77834

3. Purpose of the Event: **CELEBRATING EMANCIPATION DAY**

4. Location of Event: **FIREMEN'S PARK**

5. Date of the event: **02/12/17 to 02/17/17**

6. Time of Event: **02/16/17 5:00 P.M. - 11:00 P.M.**
   **02/17/17 12:00 P.M. - 5:00 P.M.**

7. Event Set-up: From: **02/14/17 4:00 P.M.** To: **02/14/17 11:00 P.M.**
   Event Clean-up: From: **02/17/17 5:00 P.M.** To: **02/17/17 8:00 P.M.**

8. You are required to describe the following:
   a) Types of Activities Planned and any additional information specific to this event:
      **FRIDAY (02/17) LIVE BAND - CONCERT (FIREMEN'S PARK)**
      **SATURDAY (02/17) LIVE BAND - CONCERT & VENDORS (FIREMEN'S PARK)**

   b) Bands/Musical Instruments: **LIVE BAND**

   c) Sound amplification equipment: **PA SYSTEM**

   d) Cleanup provisions: **02/17/17 CITY OF BRENHAM DEPT.**

Ms. Eva E. Chapel
Name of Applicant (Printed or Typed)

Ms. Kendra Chapel
Applicant or Authorized Person's Signature

Date: **05/08/17**
Phone: **832-341-1453**

Have you ever been found guilty of a criminal offense involving crimes against property, moral turpitude, and/or a felony by any Court? **Yes** ☑ No. If "Yes", please identify the offense, State of conviction and penalty imposed. (Attach additional sheets if necessary):
AGENDA ITEM 10

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE OF MEETING: May 18, 2017</th>
<th>DATE SUBMITTED: May 11, 2017</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DEPT. OF ORIGIN: Convention and Visitors Bureau</td>
<td>SUBMITTED BY: Lu Hollander</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
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<td>☐ RESOLUTION</td>
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<td></td>
<td>☑ WORK SESSION</td>
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</tbody>
</table>


SUMMARY STATEMENT: A copy of the Washington County Convention and Visitors Bureau Second Quarter Report is included in the agenda packet.

If you are interested in obtaining a hard copy, please call the City Secretary at 979-337-7567.

STAFF ANALYSIS (For Ordinances or Regular Agenda Items):

A. PROS: 

B. CONS: 

ALTERNATIVES (In Suggested Order of Staff Preference): N/A

ATTACHMENTS: (1) 2nd Quarter Report and Geiger Activity Report – Convention and Visitors Bureau

FUNDING SOURCE (Where Applicable): N/A

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Discussion only

APPROVALS: Terry K. Roberts
WCCC Convention & Visitors Bureau
Awareness Report – January 2017

WALK IN VISITORS:
2017: 452
2016: 439
2015: 1,180

VISITOR INFO REQUESTS:
2017: 1,682
2016: 1,624
2015: 3,328

WEBSITE VISITORS:
2017: 13,131
2016: 10,526
2015: 9,155

LODGING REFERRALS:
2017: 1,153
2016: 751
2015: 1,034

Major Tourism Events:
Uptown Swirl
Texas Guitar Quartet

### Weddings:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Bags</th>
<th>People</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Davis Wedding</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Smith/Heideman Wedding</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>200+</td>
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### Groups:

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<th></th>
<th>Bags</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Anna Dupree Terrace Senior Trip</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jersey Village Church of Christ</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>200+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blue Bell Invitational (Soccer)</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>Teams</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Select Cup (Soccer)</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>Teams</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OES Banquet</td>
<td>100 (Bulk)</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Media Coverage

Advertising placements:
TexasHighways – 1/3 page promoting Swirl
Texas Monthly – 1/6 page promoting Swirl
San Antonio.com – e-blast promoting Swirl
Texas Events Calendar – 1/3 page promoting Swirl
USA Today Super Bowl edition – ⅛ page promoting Brenham
TSAE membership directory – ¼ page
TourTexas.com – medium rectangle banner
TourTexas.com – featured video

Calendar Listings
Texas Events Calendar -
  Uptown Swirl
  Texas Guitar Quartet
Festivals of Texas –
  Uptown Swirl
Texas Highways –
  Uptown Swirl
  Texas Guitar Quartet
sanantoniocurrent.com
  Texas Independence Day

Editorial Coverage:

Online
Jacksonobserver.com – Top 5 restaurants in Round Top includes Royers
austin360.com – feature about Royers bringing their pies to Austin
CNN.com – feature aboutDos Brisas includes mention of Washington on the Brazos
thefederalist.com – feature about Brazos Valley Brewery’s Seven Spanish Angels beer
CNN.com – feature titled “The Texan’s Texas” is all about Brenham and the area
crossroadstoday.com – feature titled “The Texan’s Texas” picked up from CNN
gantdaily.com – feature titled “The Texan’s Texas” picked up from CNN
news8000.com (WKBT) – feature titled “The Texan’s Texas” picked up from CNN
newsOK.com – feature titled “The Texan’s Texas” picked up from CNN

Print
America (German language publication) – feature about Texas BBQ includes Truth

Regional/Civic Meetings Attended
Hwy 290 Coalition (Adventure 290)
Tourism Tuesday
Texas Association of CVBs Mid-winter
WCCC Convention & Visitors Bureau
Awareness Report – February 2017

Walk In Visitors:
2017: 463
2016: 617
2015: 362

Visitor Info Requests:
2017: 312
2016: 501
2015: 355

Website Visitors:
2017: 14,547
2016: 11,772
2015: 8,239

Lodging Referrals:
2017: 853
2016: 997
2015: 1,606

Major Tourism Events:
- Bluebonnet Wine Trail 400+
- Popovich Comedy Pet Theater @ the O'Donnell 400+
- The Diary of Anne Frank
- Fortnightly Club Annual Used Book Sale

Weddings:
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bags</th>
<th>People</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Morace/Power Wedding</td>
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Groups:
<table>
<thead>
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<th>Bags</th>
<th>People</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Senior Group - Precinct Bus Tour</td>
<td>40+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. John AME Young Men Conference</td>
<td>100+</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Media Coverage

Advertising placements:
San Antonio – 1/3 page
Byways digital magazine – ¼ page
Houston Community Newspapers e-blast

Calendar Listings
Texas Events Calendar -
“The Diary of Anne Frank” at Unity Theatre
Festivals of Texas –
“The Diary of Anne Frank” at Unity Theatre
Texas Highways –
“The Diary of Anne Frank” at Unity Theatre
Valentine’s Concert at Festival Hill
Texas Co-op Power –
Annual Used Book Sale
Round Top Register –
Valentine’s Concert at Festival Hill
benzinga.com
Texas Independence Day

Editorial Coverage:
Online
tourtexas.com – feature about Texas independence at Washington on the Brazos
wideopencountry.com – feature about the Republic of Texas includes Washington on the Brazos
gilmermirror.com – feature about Texas independence at Washington on the Brazos
uttexas.edu – feature about wildflowers mentions Brenham/Washington County
theeagle.com – feature about Texas independence at Washington on the Brazos
texasmonthly.com – feature about Texas Week includes Washington on the Brazos
thedaytripper.com – feature about Independence Day events includes Washington on the Brazos

Print
Houston Chronicle – feature about reenactors includes Washington on the Brazos
Texas Farm & Home – feature about Texas independence includes Washington on the Brazos

Regional/Civic Meetings Attended
Tourism Task Force
AJR Media Group
City Council
Commissioners Court
Downtown Merchants
Tourism Initiative Group
Hotel Occupancy Tax Board
WCCC Convention & Visitors Bureau
Awareness Report – March 2017

WALK IN VISITORS:
2017: 1,201
2016: 1,416
2015: 901

VISITOR INFO REQUESTS:
2017: 269
2016: 851
2015: 759

WEBSITE VISITORS:
2017: 37,835
2016: 30,099
2015: 30,148

UNIQUE PAGEVIEWS:
2017: 102,616
2016: 85,173
2015: 93,308

VISIT BRENHAM APP:
Mar: 519
Feb: 172
Jan: 82

LODGING REFERRALS:
2017: 558
2016: 1,778
2015: 2,881

LODGING SEARCHES:
2017: 677
2016: 2,309
2015: 3,146

ONLINE VISITOR GUIDE READS:
2017: 1,451
2016: 559
2015: 284

GOOGLE RANKINGS:
Bed and breakfast in Texas:
2017: #28
2016: #76

Texas tourist attractions:
2017: #16
2016: #33

Hotels in Brenham Texas:
2017: #6
2016: #6

Things to do in Texas:
2017: #59
2016: #75

Major Tourism Events:
Texas Independence Day Celebration
Texas Ranger Day
Round Top Antiques Festival
Bluebonnet Wine Trail

Group Activity:
Daniel Wedding – 100 people
Sam Houston Tour – 37 people
Swine House – 250 people
Central Texas Beekeepers School – 550 people
Multiple other groups – 250+

Regional/Civic Meetings Attended:
Tourism Task Force
City Council
Retail Tourism Committee
Texas Ind. Trail Region Board
Hotel Occupancy Tax Board
Commissioners Court
Houston Summit

30
Media Coverage

Advertising placements:
Living magazine – 1/2 page distributed in five Houston area suburbs
San Antonio The BUZZ – digital placement
Show Daily Antiques Guide – 1/2 page
AAA Home & Garden (Oklahoma) – 1/6 page

Calendar Listings
Texas Events Calendar –
“Doubt: A Parable” at Unity Theatre
Texas Ranger Day in Burton
LaBahia Antiques Show and Sale
Texas Independence Day

Festivals of Texas –
Wine Down at Pleasant Hill Winery
Texas Independence Day
Coles Homes tours
Stagecoach Days in Anderson

Texas Highways –
Texas Ranger Day in Burton
LaBahia Antiques Show and Sale
Texas Independence Day

Texas Co-op Power –
Texas Ranger Day

The Austin Chronicle –
Texas Ranger Day

Wegaplaces.com –
Texas Independence Day
Coles Homes tours

Authentic Texas –
Texas Independence Day

Editorial Coverage:

Online
thedaytripper.com – feature about Texas independence at Washington on the Brazos
freestonecountytimesonline.com – feature about Texas independence at Washington on the Brazos
austin.culturemap.com – feature about day trips includes Washington on the Brazos
ABC5.com (DFW) - feature about Texas independence includes Washington on the Brazos
theeagle.com – feature about Texas independence at Washington on the Brazos
marfpubradio.org – feature about Texas independence includes Washington on the Brazos
gainesvilleregister.com – feature about Texas independence includes WOB

Print
Houston Chronicle – feature about bluebonnets focuses on Washington County
Houston Chronicle – additional feature about bluebonnets includes Washington County
Dallas Drive – feature about Texas independence includes Washington on the Brazos
Group Editorial Research Trips:

- During the 2015-2016 contract year, one press tour took place on November 1-5, 2015 with 15 journalists participating
- Complimentary goods and services were arranged for the November 1-5, 2015 press tour, including air transportation, lodging, meals and activities

Development and Distribution of Materials:

- Preliminary tour packets were created and distributed to journalists participating in the November 1-5, 2015 press tour, and included the following items:
  - Letter with details regarding press tour
  - Preliminary tour schedule
  - Accommodation contact information
  - Electronic ticket confirmation
- Sponsor confirmations were sent to all partners providing complimentary goods and services on behalf of the November 1-5, 2015 press tour
- Developed a final itinerary for the November 1-5, 2015 press tour
- Distributed follow-up materials including press kits, menus, brochures and other items from sponsors and collected by our staff to journalists who participated in the November 1-5, 2015 press tour
- Distributed Geiger evaluations to journalists who participated in the November 1-5, 2015 press tour

Administrative Services:

- Continued to work with media outlets and freelance travel journalists to facilitate editorial coverage, capitalize on publicity opportunities and encourage editorial research trips
- Coordinated with Lu Hollander, and press tour hosts, to secure high-quality Washington County digital images for journalists, as requested in conjunction with anticipated publicity
Secured originals of editorial coverage to be copied, evaluated and provided to the Washington County CVB

Prepared publicity update, including a report detailing all Washington County editorial coverage that has been published since the April 2016 report.

**Anticipated Editorial Coverage:**
Anticipated publication dates are shared with Geiger & Associates; however, many additional articles are anticipated to be published resulting from the CVB's media marketing program, and will be continually tracked by Geiger staff to share with the Washington County CVB.

**Editorial Coverage Obtained:**
The following articles were collected since the April 2016 report as a result of Geiger's marketing activities for the Washington County CVB:

*you can view all the below articles here: https://drive.google.com/open?id=0B50UGxyN-VUzek5IM0dVMVVNYm8

**Country Living (Online)**  
(National)
November 5, 2014
“10 Amazing Farm Stay Vacations across the U.S.” by Lauren Matthews
Unique Visitors per Month: 1,679,737
Advertising Equivalency: $21,420.00
This publicity was generated as a result of agency media liaison efforts.

**Lake & Sumter Style Magazine**  
(Florida)
May, 2015
“Reds, Whites, and Bluebonnets” by Mary Ann DeSantis
Circulation: 210,000
Advertising Equivalency: $4,300.00
This publicity was generated as a result of the Brenham CVB March 8-12, 2015 press tour.

**Lake & Sumter Style Magazine (Online)**  
(Florida)
May 1, 2015
“Reds, Whites, and Bluebonnets” by Mary Ann DeSantis
Unique Visitors per Month: 7,000
Advertising Equivalency: N/A
This publicity was generated as a result of the Brenham CVB March 8-12, 2015 press tour.

**Crossings Magazine**  
(Canada)
Summer, 2015
“The Birthplace of Texas” by Renu Sagar
Circulation: 1,200
Advertising Equivalency: $12,800.00
This publicity was generated as a result of the Brenham CVB March 8-12, 2015 press tour.
AAA Texas Journey Magazine (Texas)
November-December, 2015
“Antique Rose Emporium” by Norman Kolpas
Circulation: 1,015,000
Advertising Equivalency: $12,760.00
This publicity was generated as a result of the Brenham CVB March 8-12, 2015 press tour.

Austin American-Statesman (Online) (Texas)
November 28, 2015
“Blue Bell Love Remains Strong in Brenham” by Helen Anders
Unique Visitors per Month: 2,109,783
Advertising Equivalency: $32,491.00
This publicity was generated as a result of the Brenham CVB November 1-5, 2015 press tour.

At Home Memphis and Midsouth Magazine (National)
January, 2016
“George W. Bush Presidential Library and Museum” by Jayne Cannon
Circulation: 107,000
Advertising Equivalency: $795.00
This publicity was generated as a result of the Brenham CVB October 31-November 4, 2010 press tour.

At Home Memphis and Midsouth Magazine (Online) (National)
January 1, 2016
“Presidential Library and Museum in Dallas” by Jayne Cannon
Unique Visitors per Month: 10,968
Advertising Equivalency: $595.00
This publicity was generated as a result of the Brenham CVB October 31-November 4, 2010 press tour.

Phoenix Magazine (Arizona)
March, 2016
“Texas Livin’” by Leah LeMoine
Circulation: 88,445
Advertising Equivalency: $6,375.00
This publicity was generated as a result of the Brenham CVB November 1-5, 2015 press tour.

Phoenix Magazine (Online) (Arizona)
March, 2016
“Texas Livin’” by Leah LeMoine
Unique Visitors per Month: 45,096
Advertising Equivalency: $4,000.00
This publicity was generated as a result of the Brenham CVB November 1-5, 2015 press tour.
Art Times Journal (National)
Summer, 2015
“Previewing this Year’s Round Top Music Festival” by Norman Kolpas
Circulation: 28,000
Advertising Equivalency: $4,962.00
This publicity was generated as a result of the Brenham CVB March 8-12, 2015 press tour.

Byways Magazine (National)
June, 2015
“Birthplace of Texas: Open for Business” by Pam Windsor
Circulation: 4,000
Advertising Equivalency: $2,397.00
This publicity was generated as a result of the Brenham CVB March 8-12, 2015 press tour.

Lake & Sumter Style Magazine (Florida)
June, 2015
“Hail to the Presidential Libraries” by Mary Ann DeSantis
Circulation: 210,000
Advertising Equivalency: $4,300.00
This publicity was generated as a result of the Brenham CVB March 8-12, 2015 press tour.

Lake & Sumter Style Magazine (Online) (Florida)
June 1, 2015
“Hail to the Presidential Libraries” by Mary Ann DeSantis
Unique Visitors per Month: 7,000
Advertising Equivalency: N/A
This publicity was generated as a result of the Brenham CVB March 8-12, 2015 press tour.

Winston-Salem Journal (North Carolina)
June 18, 2015
“From Nation to State-A Texas Story” by Zenda Douglas
Circulation: 48,252
Advertising Equivalency: $6,928.00
This publicity was generated as a result of the Brenham CVB March 8-12, 2015 press tour.

Winston-Salem Journal (Online) (North Carolina)
June 18, 2015
“Road Trip: From Nation to State-A Texas Story” by Zenda Douglas
Unique Visitors per Month: 858,652
Advertising Equivalency: $2,004.00
This publicity was generated as a result of the Brenham CVB March 8-12, 2015 press tour.
Get the Picture Blog (Online)  (National)
April 14, 2016
“It’s Bluebonnet Time in the Birthplace of Texas” by Joanne Di Bona
Unique Visitors per Month: 1,882
Advertising Equivalency: N/A
This publicity was generated as a result of the Brenham CVB March 8-12, 2015 press tour.

West Suburban Living Magazine  (Illinois)
October, 2016
“Deep in the Heart of Texas” by Chuck and Jennifer Cozette
Circulation: 25,000
Advertising Equivalency: $11,940.00
This publicity was generated as a result of the Brenham CVB November 1-5, 2015 press tour.

West Suburban Living Magazine (Online)  (Illinois)
October, 2016
“Deep in the Heart of Texas” by Chuck and Jennifer Cozette
Unique Visitors per Month: 35,000
Advertising Equivalency: $350.00
This publicity was generated as a result of the Brenham CVB November 1-5, 2015 press tour.

Parade Magazine (Online)  (National)
December 23, 2016
“How America Celebrates the Holiday Season” by Tamra Bolton
Unique Visitors per Month: 2,087,479
Advertising Equivalency: $29,225.00
This publicity was generated as a result of the Brenham CVB March 16-20, 2014 press tour.

Tribune Star (Online)  (Indiana)
February 16, 2017
“U.S. History Preserved Inside Country’s Presidential Libraries” by David & Kay Scott
Unique Visitors per Month: 75,410
Advertising Equivalency: $645.00
This publicity was generated as a result of the Brenham CVB November 2-6, 2014 press tour.

Austin American-Statesman  (Texas)
March, 2017
“Where to Spot Wildflowers” by Mauri Elbel
Circulation: 95,083
Advertising Equivalency: $6,456.00
This publicity was generated as a result of the Brenham CVB March 8-12, 2015 press tour.
Results:

Since the inception of the CVB’s media marketing program, the agency has produced the following results:

✓ 279 journalists have visited Washington County for the purposes of editorial research

✓ At least 323 print articles, 167 online articles, 14 radio broadcasts, five television broadcasts, two guidebooks were produced.

✓ If the Washington County CVB had purchased this same amount of space in the form of advertising, it would have cost $4,376,305.00

✓ The articles and broadcasts reached an audience of more than 310,092,631 consumers

✓ Advertising equivalency for the editorial coverage included in this report totals $252,342.00

✓ Editorial coverage included in this report had a potential reach of 9,288,871 consumers
Antique Rose Emporium

By Norman Kolpas | Photo by Keannon Ewell

Drive Texas country roads and you may encounter familiar plants with bright blossoms and beguiling perfumes growing alongside farmhouses or climbing headstones in old cemeteries. They resemble roses, but they aren't like any you've seen before. That's because before 1867, when the first modern hybrid tea rose was developed, Texans planted an abundance of old garden roses. "They weren't those most of us know today, lined up and pampered in rose beds," says Mike Shoup, proprietor of the Antique Rose Emporium near Brenham. "These are carefree survivors that Mother Nature hasn't been able to weed out." In 1983, Shoup launched a mail-order nursery business built around these "antique roses." He later opened an 8-acre display and retail garden in Brenham. Every day, visitors can stroll the beautifully landscaped grounds and admire nearly 400 antique-rose varieties. Shoup holds a Fall Festival of Roses in November, with free events ranging from talks on gardening tips to tours of the growing fields.

IF YOU GO

The display gardens in Brenham are located at 10000 FM 50, 1-979-836-5548; antiqueroseemporium.com.
Crossings
Volume 16, Number 2, Summer 2015

Life & Style
8
THE LIFE AQUATIC
Great Lakes Crossing is making a splash with Sea Life.
61
TAKE 5 AT TAKE FIVE BISTRO
A steakhouse that makes sweet music with its menu.
64
MEDICINE MAN
Dr. Bob Klaas leads the Cardiac Care Program at LHSC.

Travel
10
MADE FOR SUMMER
Magical memories are made in Michigan this summer.
32
A BUCKEYE STATE SUMMER
Ohio is the place to start your next summer adventure.
62
TAKE THIS WALTZ
In Vienna, life doesn’t just go on, it dances.

Free Wheeling
28
ENTER SANDMAN
Have a sand blast at the Silver Lakes Sand Dunes Area.
30
SWEET HOME ALABAMA
Summer is sweeter in Gulf Shores & Orange Beach.
66
ENCHANTED MONTAINS
Cattaraugus County is all natural New York.

50
DEEP IN THE HEART OF TEXAS
Washington County is known as the birthplace of Texas.
52
SOUTH BY SOUTHWEST
Summer is the season to be in Southwestern Ontario.
68
VERDANT VANCOUVER
Canada’s hippest city is an urban oasis of green.

The Ohio Light Opera performs in the Freedlander Theatre in Wooster.

Summer road trips are always more fun in a convertible and nothing says road trip like this red 1961 Corvette roadster.

Cover: Summer in Michigan.
More recent events can be explored at the George Bush Presidential Library located in nearby College Station. This world-class museum offers a unique glimpse into the life and career of America's 41st president, George Herbert Walker Bush. After a $8.3 million renovation to the main exhibit, The Life of George Bush, this 21,000 square foot library and museum now features a "Situation Room" where visitors can try their hand at making presidential decisions, the only Oval Office replica that visitors can walk into and take a picture sitting in the "Seat of Power." For a special treat, open the 2nd drawer down on the left.

Brenham features an historic downtown with an array of antiques and specialty shops. Visitors can take a behind the scenes tour at Blue Bell Creameries and see how your favorite ice cream flavors like "Moo-llineum Crunch" and "Birthday Cake" are made. Now the third best-selling ice cream in the United States, Blue Bell Creameries is where "they eat all they can and sell the rest." This Brenham-based institution recently celebrated its 100th birthday and attracts nearly one quarter million visitors a year.

Brenham is also one of the earliest settled areas in Texas. Stop by the Brenham Heritage Museum for look at the area's history and a deeper look into Brenham's past.

Diners in Brenham have a bewildering array of choices of restaurants, bistros
and cafes. Must Be Heaven, located right downtown, features soups, salads, sandwiches and delectable homemade pies. Make sure to try the Sawdust Pie! And, what's pie without a little ice cream? To satisfy your a la mode desire there's also an ice cream parlor and for those looking to calm a caffeine craving there's a full service espresso/cappuccino bar!

The Funky Art Café is housed in the historic 1916 Schuerenberg Blacksmith Building. This hip little café is located in downtown Brenham and features an interesting and diverse gourmet menu in an intimate and somewhat funky setting—including a year round giant Christmas tree and works by local artists.

Discover your next treasure at one of the area's distinct antique shops, Leftovers Antiques sets the bar high with fabulous American and European country antiques as well as specially re-purposed pieces to fit the modern shopper’s taste. Owners Ed Fullerson and Michael Breddin shop extensively around the world and offer a unique mix of antiques, apothecary, epicurean, bedding, gardening supplies and clothing.

The town of Burton is the home of the restored Texas Cotton Gin Museum, which offers guided tours of the historic 1914 Burton Farmers Gin. The cotton gin still operates and is the last surviving artifact of its kind in the United States. Now a National Historic Register site, it is a working reminder of Washington County's history of cotton production.

Baylor University was founded in Independence in 1846, before moving to Waco in 1886. Some of its ruins still stand surrounded by a peaceful park. A well-marked walking/driving trail highlights areas of historical interest. It's also home to the renowned Antique Rose Emporium. This popular mail-order nursery showcases a fragrant and colorful eight-acre display garden that features hundreds of varieties of old garden or antique roses, in addition to native plants, and a wildflower meadow. Most of the roses on display at the Emporium are lost or forgotten roses that were popular in gardens of early Texas and throughout the world—these roses have been rescued by the “Rose Rustlers” in order to preserve the variety.

From a working ranch to an historic Inn Washington County offers a wealth of accommodations that visitors can call "home." Housed in a 2-story, 1890s-era building, the Ant Street Inn is a 4-minute walk from the Brenham Heritage Museum. All of the fifteen, Old World-style rooms in this refined boutique hotel feature antique furnishings, oriental carpets, stained glass windows, flat-screen TVs and free WiFi. Some rooms feature exposed brick walls, and some have 4-poster or canopy beds. Complimentary perks include a full, made-to-order breakfast in the grill restaurant, and heaping helpings of Blue Bell ice cream. Rocking chairs on the back verandah overlook the property's serene fountain and gardens.

Learn the cowboy way at Texas Ranch Life, a working cattle ranch. This 1,800-acre ranch is home to American bison, quarter horses and, of course, Texas Longhorns. Texas Ranch Life offers finely appointed accommodations in eight restored historic buildings (some dating back to the 1850s) and a variety of cowboy experiences, including horseback riding over the open range, or chow down at a campfire cookout. ☀️
SPRING SPLENDOR

T E X A S

HIGHWAYS

THE TRAVEL MAGAZINE OF TEXAS * APRIL 2017

$74,670 in Advertising Equivalency Dollars

PLUS

BEYOND THE BORDER
EL PASO'S MULTICULTURAL ART

STARGAZING AND SPELUNKING
ON TOP OF THE WORLD IN ROCKSPRINGS

WASHINGTON COUNTY RAMBLE
THE BUCOLIC BEAUTY OF TEXAS' BIRTHPLACE
A CORNUCOPIA of COUNTRY CHARM—and wildflowers, too

story by HELEN ANDERS
photographs by KENNY BRAUN
Donna Cummins steps out of the Chappell Hill fog and into my room at Southern Rose Ranch bearing a tray laden with rosemary cream-cheese scrambled eggs and pecan praline cobbler.

"I'm so sorry about 3 a.m.," she says.

I shake my head, wondering what she could mean.

"The cows and chickens were really noisy. There must've been a predator in the pasture."

Could've fooled me. Without car horns, emergency sirens, or other urban sounds, I felt swathed in silence and didn't even notice the mooing and clucking.

That's the bucolic beauty of Washington County, where the Blackland Prairie's rolling hills arc rich in Texas history, picturesque cattle and horse pastures, and fields of colorful wildflowers during springtime. I expected the rural flavor. What I didn't expect was that Washington County would offer such a wide array of lodging, dining, and activities, from antiques shops to wineries, historical sites, and theaters.

Bed-and-breakfasts abound here, all with their own personalities. At the Southern Rose Ranch, the two guesthouse suites overlook a herd of belted Galloway cows. In Brenham, book one of the five lace-curtained rooms at Brenham House, and you'll be staying on the foundation of an 1851 Lutheran Church blown away by the 1900 hurricane that devastated Galveston. The current two-story house rose in the 1920s, keeping the original limestone steps. Innkeepers James and Susan Lopez, former bakery owners, know how to compose a breakfast—bread pudding followed by fluffy scrambled eggs, juicy sausage, roasted potatoes, and a cherry tomato salad.

Also in Brenham, the 15-room Ant Street Inn furnishes each of its rooms with 19th-century antiques. The building started its life in the 1850s as a mercantile and feed store. One room even boasts an open-sided freight elevator. But don't worry it's nonfunctional and you won't plummet in the middle of the night.

For visitors interested in experiencing life on a working ranch, there's Texas Ranch Life, an 1,500-acre operation on the border of Washington and Austin counties with quarter horses, Longhorn cattle, and bison. Guests can ride, rope, shoot skeet, throw tomahawks, or observe a cutting horse at work. Come evening, guests sip beers and take in the sunset while their steaks cook over an open fire.

Opening spread: The Independence Hall replica and the barn rooster at Washington on the Brazos State Historic Site. This spread: Southern Rose Ranch Bed & Breakfast spoils guests with comfort, beauty, and tranquility.
army overtook the Alamo in San Antonio, defeated Colonel J.W. Fannin's troops at the Battle of Coleto, and then massacred Fannin and other surviving Texan fighters at Goliad. The war's tide turned on April 21, 1836, when General Sam Houston led the Texas Army in a decisive victory at the Battle of San Jacinto. The battle, which lasted less than 20 minutes, secured Texas independence.

Also at Washington, on the Brazos State Historic Site, Barrington Living History Farm interprets Brazos Valley farm life circa 1850. Anson Jones, a doctor and cotton farmer who served as the final president of the Republic of Texas before it joined the United States in 1845, lived with his family in the plantation's four-room, dog-trot home for 13 years. Originally built four miles away, the house was moved to the historic site in 1938.

Visitors can tour the house's downstairs rooms as well as other farm structures, including the slave quarters, barn, cotton crib, hog pen, and smokehouse. Barrington's interpretive rangers farm cotton the old-fashioned way, with ox, plow, and wagon. A noisy flock of guinea hens roams the lawn around the farmhouse, squawking mightily.

Near the farm sits the final element of Washington on the Brazos State Historic Site, the Star of the Republic Museum. Owned and operated by Brenham-based Blinn College, the museum chronicles life in Texas up to the statehood era with artifacts such as Bowie knives, cotton bales, Spanish spears, and French spitoons. A Texas Rangers exhibit displays the jacket that Chuck Norris wore in Walker, Texas Ranger as well as a picture of actor Clayton Moore, who played the Lone Ranger in the 1950s TV show. A Texas Mystique wall explores intrinsic elements of Texas such as the Alamo, the state's Mexican heritage, Willie Nelson's music, and the magical allure of barbecue.

Stairs to the upper level pass a timeline of Texas history and a 140-foot mural depicting the journey from the Sabine River to Washington in the mid-1850s. Upstairs, the museum displays pioneer artifacts like an 1850 pump organ with foot pedals and surgical instruments such as forceps.

Washington was a bustling hub of about 750 residents by the mid-1850s, home to shops and hotels. But when the railroad came through in 1859, Washington took a pass because it didn't want to pay for a stop. So, the railroad went to Navasota and Brenham. Washington slowly declined, and only about a dozen people live in the unincorporated area now.

Brenham and Chappell Hill, though, have thrived and offer plenty for a rambling visitor to explore. At Chappell Hill Lavender Farm, 3,000 of the waist-high purple plants bloom in two seasons—May-June and August-September. Visitors can cut their own lavender when it's ready to reap and drop by the gift shop for lavender ice cream, lavender-infused honey and chipotle sauce, and lavender soaps and lotions.

Along with lavender, you'll find wineries dotting the Washington County countryside. In Chappell Hill, Texas Star Winery's offerings include a popular Roussanne, a somewhat dry white with honey and apple tones, and the Sunset Red, an award-winning lightly dry red blend. In Brenham, Windy Winery's hilltop outdoor tasting area catches a lovely breeze and makes a nice setting to sip one of its bestsellers, Cool Breeze, a dry white wine, or the

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Above: The Shrimp and Oris plate at 96 West in Brenham. Opposite page: The Funky Art Cafe in Brenham; Texas Star Winery in Chappell Hill; the Barnhill Center at Historic Simon Theatre in Brenham.
Cowboy Craig Bramer teaches roping to guests at Texas Ranch Life. A portrait of Stephen F. Austin at the Star of the Republic Museum.

spicy Independence, made from Lenoir grapes grown on its own estate.

When you're ready to head to town, Brenham hosts a concentration of cafes, boutiques, and antiques shops in the turn-of-the-century square, anchored by a white marble courthouse built in the Art Moderne style. Trains still chug through town several times a day on the BNSF Railway.

I grab lunch at Funky Art Cafe, which lives up to its name with three white brick walls and a purple wall that bears the work of local artists. It's all for sale. In a corner sits a Christmas tree decorated with American flags and sunflowers. The theme carries into the food at this lunch-only eatery. My whimsical Flanikken's Creation salad mixes mandarin oranges with greens and blue cheese, with a lemon cookie on the side and a big scoop of chicken salad in the middle. Maple vinaigrette dressing ties the whole thing together.

Attached to the cafe is The Pomegranate, a gift shop with an eclectic array of goods ranging from colorful leather purses to cutting boards, fine china, and a wall of cookie cutters in shapes like lobsters, dachshunds, and guitars. Just a block away, I explore Today & Yesterday—one of the more than a dozen shops that make Brenham an antiques mecca—and marvel at the wrought-iron doors and transoms.

A few blocks away, at Park Street Bakery, I choose a pina colada kolache—the same treat that won the grand champion award at last September's Kolache Festival in nearby Caldwell. The super-soft roll's topping of cream cheese, coconut, and pineapple tickles my taste buds.

For dinner, the upscale 96 West, also located downtown, welcomes guests with an outdoor patio perfect for an evening glass of wine and a wood-paneled dining room with tall ceilings and an urban vibe. Favorites include the juicy steak from 44 Farms in nearby Cameron, tamales, and inventive flatbread. I love mine, which comes topped with prosciutto, blueberry chutney, arugula, and provolone, drizzled with a balsamic reduction.

It's culture you're after? Brenham's got you covered. Set in a renovated warehouse, the 160-seat Unity Theatre stages professional productions featuring actors from across the region. Ken Ludwig's Leading Ladies takes the stage in June, and the classic Sleeping Beauty arrives in July.

Also in downtown Brenham, the Barnhill Center at Historic Simon Theatre presents classic movies on the big screen and live music concerts. The 321-seat theater first opened in 1935 for vaudeville shows and silent films.

As part of the auditorium's recent renovation, painters added a border of rose and pale blue tulips around the stage, precisely matching the original design. The theater's renovation harks back to the original design, which paid, and continues to pay, homage to the flowering countryside of Washington County.

Writer Helen Anders loves rambling around Texas—and waking up to chucking and mooing. Says photographer Kenny Braun: "My dad grew up in the Washington County area, and I spent a lot of time on the family farm when I was young. It felt like a homecoming of sorts to return for this assignment."

ESSENTIALS
WASHINGTON COUNTY

The Brenham/Washington County Visitor Center is at 115 W. Main St. in Brenham. Call 888/273-6426; www.visitbrenhambra.com.

Southern Rose Ranch is at 8580 Dairy Farm Road, Chappell Hill. Call 979/251-7823; www.southernrosesranch.com.

Washington on the Brazos State Historic Site is at 23400 Park Road 12 in Washington. Call 979/877-2214; www.whereistexasbecameatexas.org.

Chappell Hill Lavender Farm is at 2250 Dillard Road in Brenham. Call 979/251-8114; www.chappellhilllavender.com.

Funky Art Cafe and The Pomegranate are at 202 W. Commerce St. in Brenham. Call 979/836-5270; www.funkyartcafe.com.

Texas Ranch Life is at 10848 Cactus Lane in Chappell Hill. Call 979/865-9465; www.texasranchlife.com.

Unity Theatre is at 300 Church St. in Brenham. Call 979/830-1460; www.unitybrenham.org.
Where to spot wildflowers

Grab your camera, buck up and hit the roads throughout Central Texas.

By Mari Eileen
Special to The Austin American-Statesman

"They're back and as beautiful as ever. Texas' beloved bluebonnets arrived early this year thanks to plentiful fall and winter rains and an unusually warm winter in Austin's transmission record. Even before the calendar turned from February to March, bluebonnets were popping up all over the city, blanketing neighborhoods, highways and fields in those electric blue blooms.

"Like everything else, we are seeing flowering blooms come early this year," said Lee Clipper, director of communications for the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center. "Roses and hibiscus blooms along 360 and MoPac in Central Austin, bluebonnets are about four weeks earlier than usual."

But it's not just the bluebonnets that got a jump-start on spring, said Clipper, who has spotted everything from abundant greenfield delphiniums to locust blooms in February. "We're seeing bluebonnets popping up ahead of schedule. And for those of us who love the image of vibrant blue blooms in the 1990s, this year's bloom is even more stunning than usual."

The Austin American-Statesman

TEXAS TRADITIONS

$6,456 in Advertising Equivalency
$32,491 Online Advertising Equivalency

Bluebonnets and wildflowers found in Texas north of Llano on Highway 90; bluebonnets along I-35 near San Marcos and Blanco.

Families across Texas love seeing their children in photos of bluebonnets.

COLORFUL SPRING BLOOMS IN TEXAS

- Bluebonnets
- Poppies
- Indian paintbrushes
- Indian parsley
- Wildflowers

COLORFUL SPRING BLOOMS IN TEXAS

- Bluebonnets
- Poppies
- Indian paintbrushes
- Indian parsley
- Wildflowers

Wildflowers continued on D3
Wildflowers

The Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center is a great place to be in the spring. Second only to the Black Hills of South Dakota, it is here that wildflowers are in bloom from mid-March to mid-May, creating a spectacle of color and diversity.

Wildflower weekends are held throughout the year, offering opportunities to see the wildflowers in their full glory. These weekends feature guided tours, educational programs, and workshops on topics such as wildflower identification, conservation, and photography.

Bluebonnets, Sustainability, and Local Natives
In addition to the Bluebonnet Trail, the center also highlights other native wildflowers, such as Indian Paintbrush, Black-Eyed Susans, and Wildflowers of the Edwards Plateau. The center promotes sustainable practices and the importance of preserving native species.

Visit the Wildflower Center's website for more information on events and programs. They also offer virtual tours and educational resources for those who cannot visit in person.

Location:
14800靛翠路
Austin, Texas 78733

Contact:
(512) 232-0745

Website:
wildflower.org

Distance from downtown:
12 miles

Transportation:
Take the Mopac Expressway to Highway 190 and exit at Highway 290. Follow Highway 290 to the Wildflower Center.

Parking:
There is ample parking available at the Wildflower Center.

Additional Information:
The Wildflower Center is open daily from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM, except on Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's Day.

Admission Fees:
General admission is $10 for adults, $8 for seniors and students, and free for children 12 and under.

Guided Tours:
Guided tours are available throughout the year. Check the website for tour schedules.

Educational Programs:
The Wildflower Center offers a variety of educational programs, including workshops, lectures, and guided walks.

Virtual Tours:
The Wildflower Center also offers virtual tours of the center, allowing visitors to explore the wildflowers from the comfort of their homes.

Bird Watching:
The center is a great place for bird watching, with a variety of birds visiting the wildflowers.

Birding:
The center is also a great place for birding, with a variety of birding opportunities available.

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Additional Information:
The Wildflower Center is open daily from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM, except on Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's Day.

Admission Fees:
General admission is $10 for adults, $8 for seniors and students, and free for children 12 and under.

Guided Tours:
Guided tours are available throughout the year. Check the website for tour schedules.

Educational Programs:
The Wildflower Center offers a variety of educational programs, including workshops, lectures, and guided walks.

Virtual Tours:
The Wildflower Center also offers virtual tours of the center, allowing visitors to explore the wildflowers from the comfort of their homes.

Bird Watching:
The center is a great place for bird watching, with a variety of birds visiting the wildflowers.

Birding:
The center is also a great place for birding, with a variety of birding opportunities available.

Location:
14800靛翠路
Austin, Texas 78733

Contact:
(512) 232-0745

Website:
wildflower.org

Distance from downtown:
12 miles

Transportation:
Take the Mopac Expressway to Highway 190 and exit at Highway 290. Follow Highway 290 to the Wildflower Center.

Parking:
There is ample parking available at the Wildflower Center.

Additional Information:
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AGENDA ITEM 11

DATE OF MEETING: May 18, 2017
DATE SUBMITTED: May 12, 2017
DEPT. OF ORIGIN: Public Works
SUBMITTED BY: Dane Rau

MEETING TYPE: ☑️ REGULAR
☐ SPECIAL
☐ EXECUTIVE SESSION

CLASSIFICATION: ☐ PUBLIC HEARING
☐ CONSENT
☐ REGULAR
☒ WORK SESSION

ORDINANCE: ☐ 1ST READING
☐ 2ND READING
☐ RESOLUTION

AGENDA ITEM DESCRIPTION: Discussion and Presentation Regarding the City of Brenham Street Improvement Program and New Equipment Purchases

SUMMARY STATEMENT: Last year the City Council dedicated $225,000 toward the re-construction of City roadways. With this amount and the $135,000 in the normal operating budget the City of Brenham Street Dept. had a total of $360,000 for street rehabilitation. As many of you recall and was recently discussed the $225,000 was part of the $900,000 that came from a portion of the landfill property sale. This $900,000 will be split over the next 4 years which will allow $360,000 to be used in order to become more aggressive with the rehabilitation of our POOR streets.

In the presentation you will see the funding plan over the next 4 years with streets identified that fall within our rating of POOR and FAIR streets. This money was a great push but based on our Street Inventory, with this funding it will take us 9.5 yrs to rehab the POOR and FAIR streets which account for 55% of our 81 miles that we maintain.

The presentation will show the amount of streets that we have already been able to reconstruct in 2017 and what we have left. Our Street Dept. staff has been working hard and we are ahead of schedule based on the overall plan for 2017 with 7 streets reconstructed and 7 streets remaining. We will be tight on remaining on budget due to circumstances in the field that caused additional expenses that were unforeseen. We will monitor closely to decide if other savings can be used to complete all the identified streets or if we will need to push some streets to 2018.

With the new equipment purchases that were approved by Council through capital leases we have been able to more efficiently re-construct these roadways. We have received our new CAT 938M Loader, the Weiler lay down machine, a Pneumatic roller, a double drum roller, a water truck and an equipment trailer. These pieces of equipment have truly been awesome for our team and have made the process so much more effective. (Slides of equipment will be shown during presentation)

Other pieces of equipment that were placed on the capital lease program but we have not received them yet are a tandem dump truck (Streets), the Diamond Z Tub Grinder (Sanitation), and a bucket truck (Maintenance).
We have however received the large excavator (Trackhoe) in which this piece of equipment is assigned to Central Fleet and is currently being used on a water line project on Industrial Blvd.

Several pieces of old equipment have already been placed on Gov Deals such as the old Pneumatic Roller, the old fleet loader, and the old water truck.

**STAFF ANALYSIS (For Ordinances or Regular Agenda Items):**

A. PROS: 

B. CONS: 

**ALTERNATIVES (In Suggested Order of Staff Preference):**

**ATTACHMENTS:** None

**FUNDING SOURCE (Where Applicable):**

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:** No action required – discussion only

**APPROVALS:** Ryan Rapelye
**AGENDA ITEM 12**

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<th>DATE SUBMITTED:</th>
<th>May 11, 2017</th>
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<td>DEPT. OF ORIGIN:</td>
<td>Administration</td>
<td>SUBMITTED BY:</td>
<td>Terry Roberts</td>
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**MEETING TYPE:**
- [ ] REGULAR
- [ ] SPECIAL
- [X] EXECUTIVE SESSION

**CLASSIFICATION:**
- [ ] PUBLIC HEARING
- [ ] CONSENT
- [X] REGULAR
- [ ] WORK SESSION

**ORDINANCE:**
- [ ] 1ST READING
- [ ] 2ND READING
- [ ] RESOLUTION

**AGENDA ITEM DESCRIPTION:** Section 551.074 – Texas Government Code – Personnel Matters – Discuss and Consider City Manager’s Employment Agreement and Related Issues

**SUMMARY STATEMENT:** To be discussed in Executive Session.

**STAFF ANALYSIS (For Ordinances or Regular Agenda Items):**

A. PROS:

B. CONS:

**ALTERNATIVES (In Suggested Order of Staff Preference):**

**ATTACHMENTS:** None

**FUNDING SOURCE (Where Applicable):**

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

**APPROVALS:** Milton Y. Tate, Jr.