Brenham City Council Minutes

A special meeting of the Brenham City Council was held on May 11, 2018 beginning at 2:00 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

Members absent:

Councilmember Charlie Pyle
Councilmember Weldon Williams, Jr.

Others present:

City Manager James Fisher, City Secretary Jeana Bellinger, Deputy City Secretary Kacey Weiss, Assistant City Manager – Chief Financial Officer Carolyn Miller, Director of Community Services Wende Ragonis, Fire Chief Ricky Boeker and Assistant City Manager of Public Utilities Lowell Ogle

Citizens present:

Jeff Bevill, Lauren Naida, Joe Robertson, Ricky Dickson, Jenny Van Dorf and Candi Eaton

Media Present:

Arthur Hahn, Brenham Banner Press; and Mark Whitehead, KWHI

1. Call Meeting to Order

2. Invocation and Pledges to the US and Texas Flags – Mayor Pro Tem Ebel

3. Citizens Comments

There were no citizen comments.
4. **Discuss and Possibly Act Upon Resolution No. R-18-007 Nominating Blue Bell Creameries, L. P. to the Office of the Governor, Economic Development and Tourism for Designation as an Enterprise Project Under the Texas Enterprise Zone Program**

City Manager James Fisher presented this item. Fisher explained that the City was notified last week by Blue Bell Creameries of their intent to apply to the Office of Governor as an Enterprise Project under the Texas Enterprise Zone Project. Fisher stated that in the next five (5) years, Blue Bell is planning to invest over $40,000,000 in capital improvements by way of new construction, facility improvements and equipment upgrades. Fisher noted that in accordance with Chapter 2303 of the Texas Government Code, Blue Bell’s capital improvements qualify as an enterprise project under the Texas Enterprise Zone Program.

A motion was made by Councilmember Goss and seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Ebel to approve Resolution No. R-18-007 nominating Blue Bell Creameries, L. P. to the Office of the Governor, Economic Development and Tourism for designation as an Enterprise Project under the Texas Enterprise Zone Program.

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

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

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

A motion was made by Councilmember Herring and seconded by Councilmember Cantey to remove Item 5 from the table.

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** Abstain
- Councilmember Keith Herring Yes
- **Councilmember Charlie Pyle** Absent
- Councilmember Weldon Williams Absent
City Manager James Fisher presented this item. Fisher explained that the City of Brenham is supporting the Brenham Independent School District (BISD) in their opposition to the opening of Bluebonnet Haven Residential Facility, which is to be located in the BISD jurisdiction. Fisher advised this facility would have a negative economic effect on BISD, as it will substantially increase the student special education population and the services required for students in this program.

A motion was made by Councilmember Cantey and seconded by Councilmember Herring to approve Resolution No. R-18-006 in Opposition of the Bluebonnet Haven Residential Facility.

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  Abstain
Councilmember Keith Herring  Yes
Councilmember Charlie Pyle  Absent
Councilmember Weldon Williams  Absent

(Although a motion to remove this item from the table was seconded and approved by vote of the City Council, with one abstention, such action to remove the item from the table was not necessary because the item was not previously tabled by the City Council. The City Attorney has advised that the unnecessary action of the City Council to remove this item from the table does not affect the validity or legality of the City Council’s discussion and action regarding this item at the May 11th City Council meeting.)

6. **Administrative/Elected Officials Report**

The meeting was adjourned.

**Milton Y. Tate, Jr.**
Mayor

**Jeana Bellinger, TRMC, CMC**
City Secretary