

Brenham City Council Minutes

A special meeting of the Brenham City Council was held on October 18, 2018 beginning at 12:00 p.m. in the Brenham City Hall, City Council Chambers, at 200 W. Vulcan Street, Brenham, Texas.

Members present:

Mayor Milton Y. Tate, Jr.
Mayor Pro Tem Andrew Ebel
Councilmember Susan Cantey
Councilmember Danny Goss
Councilmember Keith Herring
Councilmember Albert Wright

Members absent:

Position 5 - Vacant

Others present:

City Manager James Fisher, City Attorney Cary Bovey, City Secretary Jeana Bellinger, Deputy City Secretary I Kacey Weiss, Human Resources Director Susan Nienstedt, Sara Parker, Director of Tourism and Marketing Jennifer Eckermann, Fire Chief Ricky Boeker, Police Chief Allwin Barrow, Dant Lange, Allison Harper and Assistant City Manager of Public Utilities Lowell Ogle

Citizens present:

Dorothy Morgan

Media Present:

None

1. Call Meeting to Order

WORK SESSION

2. Discussion Regarding Proposed Changes to the City Council Meeting Dates for November and December 2018, and January 2019

City Manager James Fisher presented this item. Fisher stated that due to several conflicting schedules and holiday travel plans, staff would like to recommend the following date changes to the City Council meeting calendar for the holiday season:

- **November 1, 2018: First regular meeting of November, 2018**
- November 15, 2018: Cancel this meeting
- **November 29, 2018: Second regular meeting of November, 2018**
- December 6, 2018: Cancel this meeting
- **December 13, 2018: The only meeting in December, 2018**
- December 20, 2018: Cancel this meeting
- January 3, 2019: Cancel this meeting
- **January 10, 2019: First regular meeting of January, 2019**
- **January 17, 2019: Second regular meeting of January, 2019**

Fisher advised that formal action would be taken on this item at the Council meeting on November 1st.

3. Presentation and Discussion Regarding the Adoption of a Social Media Policy for the City of Brenham

City Secretary Jeana Bellinger presented this item. Bellinger explained that the City of Brenham uses social media to communicate information about the City's mission, programs, services and brand; however, staff is finding out that the use of social media can be difficult to navigate at times due to others' misrepresentation of the City, propaganda of rumors and negative publicity.

Bellinger stated that the purpose of a social media policy is to set guidelines for the use of social media to ensure timely, accurate and appropriate use of social media to assure the delivery of clear, concise and consistent messages on behalf of the City. Bellinger advised that a social media policy would also establish standards and expectations of social media use for employees and citizens.

Councilmember Herring asked if councilmembers are considered employees regarding the social media policy. City Attorney Cary Bovey stated that councilmembers are not included. Bovey stated he would add the councilmembers and boards and commissions members as employees so that the policy includes them.

4. Presentation and Discussion Related to the Amendment of Chapter 5, Animals and Fowl, of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Brenham

City Secretary Jeana Bellinger presented this item. Bellinger stated that in 2016, several staff members began a comprehensive overview of the City's 1998 animal and fowl ordinance (Chapter 5 of the Code of Ordinances); however, due to unexpected turnover in staffing, the ordinance was never finalized.

Police Chief Allwin Barrow advised that there are several highlights to the ordinance and introduced Corporal Dant Lange and Animal Services Director Allison Harper to discuss those. The highlights of the revised ordinance include:

- Updated definitions;
- Added regulations on the restraining of animals, private animal sales, and animals left in hot vehicles or trailers;
- Decreased the limit of birds and fowl allowed in residential yards;
- Updated rabies enforcement provisions to follow State law;
- Added a brand new section governing dangerous dogs; and
- The organization of an Animal Shelter Task Force Advisory Board.

The meeting was adjourned.

Milton Y. Tate, Jr.

Mayor

Jeana Bellinger, TRMC, CMC

City Secretary



THIS PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK