Brenham City Council Minutes

A special meeting of the Brenham City Council, the City of Brenham Planning and Zoning Commission and the City of Brenham Board of Adjustments was held on December 6, 2018 beginning at 11:00 a.m. in the Brenham City Hall, City Council Chambers, at 200 W. Vulcan Street, Brenham, Texas.

City of Brenham City Council Members present:

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

Members absent:

Councilmember Albert Wright

City of Brenham Planning & Zoning Commission Members present:

Chairman Nancy Low
Dr. Deanna Alfred
Keith Behrens
Leroy Jefferson
Lynette Sheffield
Marcus Wamble

Members absent:

Calvin Kossie

City of Brenham Board of Adjustment Members present:

Chairman Arlen Thielemann
Jon Hodde
Thomas Painter
Jarvis Van Dyke – Alternate
Clint Kolby - Alternate
Members absent:

Johanna Fatheree  
Malisa Hampton  
Richard Heiges – Alternate  
John Pledger - Alternate  

Others present:

City Manager James Fisher, City Attorney Luke Cochran, City Secretary Jeana Bellinger, Assistant City Manager – Chief Financial Officer Carolyn Miller, Assistant City Manager of Public Utilities Lowell Ogle, Director of Tourism and Marketing Jennifer Eckermann, Fire Marshal Brent Sauble, Police Chief Allwin Barrow, Public Works Director Dane Rau, Development Services Director Lori Sanguedolce, Assistant Director of Development Services Stephanie Doland, and Kim Hodde  

Citizens present:  
None  

Media Present:  
Josh Blaschke, KWHI  

1. Call Meeting to Order  
2. Invocation and Pledges to the US and Texas Flags – Mayor Milton Tate  

WORK SESSION  
3. Discussion and Presentation Regarding the City of Brenham’s Comprehensive Plan, Including But Not Limited to the City’s Existing Comprehensive Plan, the Development and Preparation of an Updated/New Comprehensive Plan and the Process Related Thereto, and Associated Matters  

Assistant Director of Development Services Stephanie Doland presented this item and explained that this join meeting is the first step in the process of updating the City’s Comprehensive Plan. Doland introduced Gary Mitchell and Meredith Dang with Kendig Keast Collaborative (KKC) and explained that their job would be to lead a discussion to highlight the special characteristics of Brenham, evaluate major community accomplishments, and assess current and future opportunities and challenges.
Mitchell and Dang asked the group to provide feedback on the following:

- Ways in which Brenham is the same/different since 10 years ago
- Major community accomplishments over the last 10 years
- Things considered by the City but did not accomplish
- Community growth and demographic trends
- Land use and development/redevelopment
- Transportation
- Capital projects (streets, infrastructure, facilities, etc.)
- Recreation and amenities
- Housing development and affordability
- Existing development policies and regulations
- Physical characteristics of Brenham
- Difficult community issues

After further discussion with the City Council and Board Members, the following issues were highlighted as things to be considered when preparing the Comprehensive Plan:

- City’s water supply
- Maintain the small town feel and atmosphere
- “Smart” growth and development
- Beautification and preservation of history
- Airport
- Public transportation and traffic issues
- Industrial/retail growth
- Electrical service area
- Technology
- Affordable housing
- Possible growth and expansion of Blinn College
- Additional regulations in the City’s extraterritorial jurisdiction (ETJ)
- Strong schools to provide good education for our children

Dang led a discussion on the definition of “small town feel”. They asked the members in attendance to define what “small town feel” means to them. The members defined it as:

- Sense of loyalty
- Downtown and community events
- Volunteerism
- Pride/Ownership
- Safety and quality of life (restaurants, schools, etc.)
- Knowing your neighbors

Dang advised that all of these items give them many things to consider while working on the City’s Comprehensive Plan. Dang stated that all of these and some new things will be discussed in more detail at the upcoming Town Hall Meeting on January 10, 2019.
The meeting was adjourned.

*Milton Y. Tate, Jr.*
Mayor

*Jeana Bellinger, TRMC, CMC*
City Secretary