

## **Brenham City Council Minutes**

A special meeting of the Brenham City Council was held on November 14, 2019 beginning at 1:00 p.m. in the Brenham City Hall, City Council Chambers, at 200 W. Vulcan Street, Brenham, Texas.

### Members present:

Mayor Pro Tem Andrew Ebel  
Councilmember Susan Cantey  
Councilmember Adonna Saunders  
Councilmember Keith Herring  
Councilmember Albert Wright  
Councilmember Clint Kolby

### Members absent:

Mayor Milton Tate, Jr.

### Others present:

City Manager James Fisher, City Attorney Cary Bovey, City Secretary - Director of Administrative Services Jeana Bellinger, Deputy City Secretary II Karen Stack, Assistant City Manager - Chief Financial Officer Carolyn Miller, Sargent Todd Ashorn, Public Works Director Dane Rau, Development Services Director Stephanie Doland, and Kaci Konieczny

### Citizens present:

Jerry Schwake, David Brittain, Carole Brittain, Bonnie Pilchick, Robert Wright, Suzanne Bockhorn, Don Holley, Lois Holley, Ron Coder, and Robert Weiss

### Media Present:

Alyssa Faykus, Brenham Banner Press; and Josh Blaschke, KWHI

- 1. Call Meeting to Order**
- 2. Invocation and Pledges to the US and Texas Flags – City Manager James Fisher**

## PUBLIC HEARING

### 3. **Proposed Annexation of Three Areas of Land into the City Limits and Explanation of Service Plan for Each Area Proposed for Annexation**

**Section 2019-1: Approximately 44.068 Acres of Land Situated in Washington County, Texas, Out of the Phillip Coe Survey, A-31, Consisting of a Single Tract of Land with Frontage Along Industrial Blvd., FM 332 and FM 389.**

**Section 2019-2: Approximately 0.643 Acres of Land Situated in Washington County, Texas, Part of the A. Harrington Survey, A-55, Consisting of Portions of Multiple Tracts of Land with Frontage Along the West Side of Old Masonic Road.**

**Section 2019-3: Approximately 194.762 Acres of Land Situated in Washington County, Texas, Part of the A. Harrington Survey, A-55, Consisting of Multiple Tracts of Land with Frontage Along the East Side of Farmers Road Between FM 389 and Old Mill Creek Road, and the North Side of Old Mill Creek Road Between the Current City Limit Line and Jackson Creek.**

Mayor Pro Tem Ebel opened the Public Hearing.

Mayor Pro Tem Ebel acknowledged the receipt of a petition signed by homeowners living in Section 2019-3.

City Manager James Fisher presented this item. Fisher explained that this is the second required Public Hearing for the possible annexation relating to Resolution No. R-19-013. Fisher explained that Resolution No. R-19-013 authorized the City Manager to identify areas for possible annexation. Fisher stated that during numerous meetings with staff, the following areas were identified as possible areas for annexation:

- North Area: 132.005 acres
- Northwest Area: 748.357 acres
- Northeast Area: 138.676 acres
- Southeast Area: 1,050.958 acres
- Southwest Area: 194.762 acres

The staff also reviewed:

- 0.633 acres in the Scenic Estates Subdivision that was surveyed incorrectly years ago when the subdivision was constructed and annexed into the City limits; and
- Three (3) requests from property owners for voluntary annexation.

Fisher advised that because there are so many different areas for consideration by the City Council, staff broke out the areas into three (3) separate possible annexations over the next 12 months. The areas were divided as follows:

December 29, 2019	June 18, 2020	December 17, 2020
Southwest Area Scenic Estates Voluntary Tract No. 1	North Area Northwest Area Voluntary Tract Nos. 2 & 3	Southeast Area Northeast Area
<b>239.463 Acres</b> <b>75 Parcels</b>	<b>897.333 Acres</b> <b>91 Parcels</b>	<b>1,189.634 Acres</b> <b>62 Parcels</b>

Fisher stated that during the month of October, staff held two (2) Town Hall meetings (October 15<sup>th</sup> and October 29<sup>th</sup>); both meetings were well attended, and staff heard from many concerned citizens. Fisher noted that the consensus of the Town Hall meetings was that the citizens living in the Southwest Area (Section 2019-3) do not wish to be annexed by the City.

Fisher advised that at the First Public Hearing on November 7, staff's recommendation was to move forward with the annexation of Section 2019-1 (Voluntary) and 2019-2 (Scenic Estates) but that Section 2019-3 (Southwest Area) be postponed until 2020 so that staff will have sufficient time to prepare cost estimates and a service plan.

Citizen Don Holley of Country Place West stated that on behalf of himself and his neighbors, he is requesting that Council abandon annexation of Section 2019-3.

Citizen Robert Weiss stated he agreed with Don Holley and would like Council to take annexation of Section 2019-3 completely off the table, and not even consider it again in 2020. Weiss also asked why City staff recommended annexation of this area. Weiss noted that there are other more densely populated areas that would bring more property tax, but which are not being considered for annexation. Mayor Pro Tem Ebel replied that when this issue is discussed in 2020, that question would be answered.

Citizen Ron Coder stated he is opposed to the annexation. Coder noted that residents on one side of Farmers Road would share the benefits of annexation but not share the costs. Coder stated that there is no benefit of annexation to him as a homeowner, but he will lose current rights such as being able to burn brush and shoot a firearm. Coder stated that while he knows Brenham will grow, there are areas more appropriate for this growth than the agricultural land currently being considered for annexation.

Mayor Pro Tem Ebel closed the Public Hearing.

The meeting was adjourned.

*Andrew Ebel*

Mayor Pro Tem

*Jeana Bellinger, TRMC, CMC*

City Secretary

