

Brenham City Council Minutes

A special budget workshop of the Brenham City Council was held on July 17, 2019 beginning at 3:00 p.m. in the Brenham Fire Department, Emergency Operation Center, at 101 N. Chappell Hill Street, Brenham, Texas.

Members present:

Mayor Milton Y. Tate, Jr.
Mayor Pro Tem Andrew Ebel
Councilmember Susan Cantey
Councilmember Adonna Saunders
Councilmember Keith Herring
Councilmember Albert Wright
Councilmember Clint Kolby

Members absent:

None.

Others present:

City Manager James Fisher, City Attorney Cary Bovey, City Secretary – Director of Administrative Services Jeana Bellinger, Assistant City Manager – Chief Financial Officer Carolyn Miller, Comptroller Stacy Hardy, Fire Chief Ricky Boeker, Police Chief Allwin Barrow, Public Works Director Dane Rau, Assistant City Manager of Public Utilities Lowell Ogle, Development Services Director Stephanie Doland, Economic Development Director Susan Cates, Director of Tourism Jennifer Eckermann, IT Director Kevin Schmidt, Strategic Budget Officer Debbie Gaffey, and Budget Manager Kaci Konieczny

Citizens present:

None.

Media Present:

Arthur Hahn, Brenham Banner Press

1. Call Meeting to Order

2. FY 2019-20 Proposed Budget Discussions

City Manager James Fisher welcomed Council and advised that during this workshop the Council will be discussing the following:

- Drainage
- Proprietary Fund Decisions
- Debt Service
- Special Revenue Funds
- Capital Project Funds
- BCDC Fund

Fisher advised Council that when putting together the proposed FY20 Budget, staff focused on additional sources of General Fund revenue, utility fees and taxes, capital items, FEMA reimbursement funds, economic development, tourism, and debt projects.

Strategic Budget Officer Debbie Gaffey discussed in detail the following with the Council:

Drainage

- Capital Projects & Maintenance
 - Eleven upcoming drainage projects totaling an estimate \$3.9 Million and detention ponds in the Brenham Business Center and Southwest Industrial Park
 - Approximately \$300,000 in annual drainage maintenance
 - \$911,000 in drainage equipment replacement in FY20-25
- Drainage Fees
 - Monthly fees for residential and non-residential properties
 - Determination of properties that could be exempt from fee

Proprietary Funds

- Electric rate increases beginning January 1, 2020
- Water rate increases beginning October 1, 2019
- Sales tax on residential electric and gas customers beginning October 1, 2019
- Setting up a drainage utility and implementing drainage fee in January, 2020
- Setting up a Vehicle and Equipment Replacement Fund (VERF) in FY20 and if needed, utilize short term financing for transition into VERF.
- Issue debt for funding \$1.3M Baker Katz wastewater project.
- Issue debt for funding \$750,000 in water projects

Debt Service

- 20-Year Certificate of Obligation
 - Tax-backed \$3,450,000 and in I&S rate for General Fund
 - Tax-backed (pass-through) \$1,000,000 for BCDC
 - Revenue-backed \$2,050,000 for Water/Wastewater Funds

- 3-7 Year Short Term Notes or Capital Leases for Vehicles and Equipment
 - Tax-backed up to \$1,000,000 in VERF
 - Revenue-backed up to \$730,000 in Drainage Fund and \$900,000 in Sanitation Fund

Special Revenue Funds

- Hotel/Motel Fund
- Criminal Law Enforcement Fund
- Courts Security/Technology Fund
- TIRZ No. 1 Fund

Capital Projects Fund

- Airport Capital Improvements Fund
- Capital Leases Fund
- Capital Projects Fund
- Parks Capital Improvements Fund
- Streets/Drainage Fund

BCDC Fund

- BCDC Fund: 4B Sales Tax (65% Parks and 35% Economic Development)
- BDCD Capital Projects Fund
 - Brenham Family Park
 - \$1,000,000 for detention ponds in the Brenham Business Center and Southwest Industrial Park

The meeting was adjourned.

Milton Y. Tate, Jr.

Mayor

Jeana Bellinger, TRMC, CMC

City Secretary



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