

Brenham City Council Minutes

A regular meeting of the Brenham City Council was held on November 21, 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 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, Deputy City Secretary I Kacey Weiss, Deputy City Secretary II Karen Stack, Assistant City Manager – Chief Financial Officer Carolyn Miller, Comptroller Stacy Hardy, Human Resources Director Susan Nienstedt, Kaci Konieczny, Cynthia Longhofer, Crystal Locke, Melinda Gordon, Tammy Jaster, Fire Chief Ricky Boeker, Dant Lange, Kelvin Raven, Public Works Director Dane Rau, Casey Redman, Economic Development Director Susan Cates, Kevin Boggus, Nancy Stafford, Kelsey Toy, Stephen Draehn and Mason Patranella

Citizens present:

J.A. Weatherly, Charlie Pyle and Jacob Pyle

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 – Mayor Milton Tate**

3. Special Recognitions

- **GFOA Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting**
 - *Eleventh Consecutive Year*
- **Crystal Locke – Young Professional Award from Texas Recreation and Park Society (TRAPS)**

4. Citizens Comments

Citizen J.A. Weatherly addressed Council. Mr. Weatherly stated that he has lived on Spinn Street for 27 years. Weatherly explained that for the past 11 months he has been dealing with loud noises coming from the home of his backyard neighbor. Weatherly advised that he has contacted the police department regarding the noise and they have patrolled in the front of the home, but have not heard the noise. Weatherly suggested that the police department should place a recorder in his backyard to capture the noise. Weatherly offered to cover half the cost of the recording device. Mayor Tate stated that Sargent Raven would contact him regarding his complaint.

CONSENT AGENDA

5. Statutory Consent Agenda

- 5-a. **Minutes from the October 17, 2019 Special City Council Meeting and October 17, 2019 Regular City Council Meeting**
- 5-b. **Ordinance No. O-19-041 on Its Second Reading Providing for Increased Prior and Current Service Annuities in the Texas Municipal Retirement System (“TMRS”) for Retirees and Beneficiaries of Deceased Retirees of the City of Brenham and Electing to Make Current Service and Prior Service Contributions to the City’s TMRS Benefit Accumulation Fund at the Actuarially Determined Rate of Total Employee Compensation**
- 5-c. **Rescind the Purchase of Six (6) Vehicles for the City of Brenham Police Department from LaRoche Chevrolet in the Amount of \$196,800.00 Due to Unavailability of Vehicles from General Motors Corporation and Authorize the Purchase of Seven (7) Vehicles for the City of Brenham Police Department from Caldwell Country Through Buy Board Local Government Purchasing Cooperative Contract No. 521-16 in the Amount of \$223,630.00 and Authorize the Mayor to Execute Any Necessary Documentation**

5-d. Purchase of a Truck for the City of Brenham Water Treatment and Wastewater Treatment Departments from Hermann International, Through Sourcwell Contract No. 081716-NVS, in the Amount of \$147,700.00 and Authorize the Mayor to Execute Any Necessary Documentation

5-e. Purchase of a Dump Truck for the City of Brenham Sewer Construction Department from Hermann International, Through Sourcwell Contract No. 081716-NVS, in the Amount of \$87,700 and Authorize the Mayor to Execute Any Necessary Documentation

A motion was made by Councilmember Cantey and seconded by Councilmember Wright to approve the Statutory Consent Agenda Items 5-a. through 5-e. as presented.

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 Adonna Saunders	Yes
Councilmember Keith Herring	Yes
Councilmember Albert Wright	Yes
Councilmember Clint Kolby	Yes

PUBLIC HEARING

6. Public Hearing to Consider the Establishment of a Municipal Drainage Utility System, Providing for the Establishment and Calculation of Municipal Drainage Utility Charges and Credits, and Providing Penalties and Remedies for Nonpayment of Charges

Mayor Tate opened the Public Hearing.

Public Works Director Dane Rau presented this item. Rau explained that during the FY19-20 Budget Workshops, the Council received briefings from City staff and had numerous discussions concerning the January 1, 2020 implementation of a drainage utility system for addressing storm water issues. Rau stated that Council chose to include the drainage utility system in the 2019-20 adopted budget.

Rau presented information regarding what drainage is, how the drainage problem is impacting citizens, why the drainage utility system is needed, how the drainage utility system will generate revenues, and why citizens must pay the drainage utility charge.

Rau also discussed how the drainage utility charge revenues will be spent. Rau explained that revenues would be used for drainage system maintenance which includes street sweeping, mosquito spraying, storm sewer cleanout, ditch clearing/mowing, culvert/pipe cleaning and replacement of drainage equipment. Rau stated that in addition to drainage system maintenance, revenues would be used for drainage system capital improvement projects. Rau advised that revenue generated from the drainage utility charge would enable the City to address the areas prone to flooding.

Rau noted that drainage utility charges would go into effect with the first billing cycle on/or after January 1, 2020.

7. Public Hearing, Discussion and Receipt of Input Related to a Possible Submission of a Grant Application to Texas Parks and Wildlife for the Local Parks Non-Urban Outdoor Recreation Grant Program for (Phase 1(a)) of the Brenham Family Park as Outlined in the City of Brenham's 2015-2025 Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces Master Plan

Public Works Director Dane Rau presented this item. Rau explained that the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) offers the Local Park Grant Program that consists of five individual programs that assist local government with the acquisition and/or development of public recreation areas and facilities throughout the State of Texas. Rau advised that this grant, if awarded, would align with the City's goals and objectives outlined in our 2015-2025 Parks, Recreation, and Open Spaces Master Plan for the construction of the initial phase of the Brenham Family Park.

Rau noted that in accordance with Executive Order 11988 (Floodplain Management) and Executive Order 11990 (Protection of Wetlands), this Public Hearing is to receive citizen input regarding the possible environmental impact of building within the floodplain and is required since a portion of the proposed Brenham Family Park is located within the 100-year floodplain.

There were no citizen comments.

Mayor Tate closed the Public Hearing.

REGULAR SESSION

8. Discuss and Possibly Act Upon an Ordinance on its First Reading Amending Chapter 26, Utilities, of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Brenham Establishing a Municipal Drainage Utility System, Providing for the Establishment and Calculation of Municipal Drainage Utility Charges and Credits, and Providing Penalties and Remedies for Nonpayment of Charges

A motion was made by Councilmember Cantey and seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Ebel to

approve an Ordinance on its first reading amending Chapter 26, Utilities, of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Brenham Establishing a Municipal Drainage Utility System, Providing for the Establishment and Calculation of Municipal Drainage Utility Charges and Credits, and Providing Penalties and Remedies for Nonpayment of Charges.

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 Adonna Saunders	Yes
Councilmember Keith Herring	Yes
Councilmember Albert Wright	Yes
Councilmember Clint Kolby	Yes

9. Discuss and Possibly Act Upon Resolution No. R-19-034 Authorizing the Submission of a Grant Application to Texas Parks and Wildlife for the Local Parks Non-Urban Outdoor Recreation Grant Program for Phase 1(a) of the Brenham Family Park as Outlined in the City of Brenham’s 2015-2025 Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces Master Plan

Public Works Director Dane Rau presented this item. Rau stated that the Local Parks Non-Urban Outdoor Recreation Grant program provides fifty (50) percent matching grants on a reimbursement basis to eligible applicants. Rau noted that the grant ceiling is \$750,000.

Rau explained that Jones Carter has provided staff with preliminary construction cost estimates of \$1.7M for Phase I (a) in project costs and engineering services. Rau advised that Brenham Community Development Corporation (BCDC) allocated \$500,000 to Brenham Family Park in their FY19-20 budget. Rau noted in addition, BCDC has \$403,500 remaining from funds set aside in previous years for items included in Phase I (a). Rau stated that if the City is awarded the TPWD grant, additional funding to complete Phase I (a) would be requested in the FY20-21 BCDC budget process.

A motion was made by Councilmember Cantey and seconded by Councilmember Saunders to approve Resolution No. R-19-034 authorizing the submission of a grant application to Texas Parks and Wildlife for the Local Parks Non-Urban Outdoor Recreation Grant Program for Phase 1(a) of the Brenham Family Park as Outlined in the City of Brenham’s 2015-2025 Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces Master Plan.

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 Adonna Saunders	Yes
Councilmember Keith Herring	Yes
Councilmember Albert Wright	Yes
Councilmember Clint Kolby	Yes

11. Discuss and Possibly Act Upon Resolution No. R-19-036 Authorizing the Giving of Notice of Intention to Issue City of Brenham, Texas, Combination Tax and Revenue Certificates of Obligation, Series 2020; and Declaring an Effective Date

Assistant City Manager – Chief Financial Officer Carolyn Miller presented this item. Miller explained that during Council budget workshops related to the FY19-20 Budget, staff discussed issuing certificates of obligation (COs) for general government, wastewater and water system utility projects. Miller stated that the general government projects total \$3.505 million and include \$625,000 for street reconstruction/rebuild and \$2.880 million for streets and drainage improvements (i.e. Old Chappell Hill Road, Salem Road and other improvements). Miller advised that the wastewater utility improvements of \$1.425 million include a new regional lift station to support the Baker Katz retail development project. And lastly, Miller noted that the majority of the water utility improvements of \$765,000 are for the Atlow Storage Tower Rehab project and the City’s portion of the 2016 May flooding event. Miller stated that this agenda item is giving notice of the City’s intent to issue Certificates of Obligation, Series 2020 not to exceed \$5.695 million for these purposes including bond issuance costs.

Miller explained that the initial step in the financing process is to give notice of the City’s intent to issue the certificates of obligation, and upon Council’s approval, the notice itself would be published in the Brenham Banner Press. Miller stated that Garry Kimball, the City’s financial adviser, would handle securing the pricing and bring it back to Council for action at the January 16, 2020 meeting.

A motion was made by Councilmember Herring and seconded by Councilmember Kolby to approve Resolution No. R-19-036 authorizing the giving of notice of intention to issue City of Brenham, Texas, Combination Tax and Revenue Certificates of Obligation, Series 2020.

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 Adonna Saunders	Yes
Councilmember Keith Herring	Yes
Councilmember Albert Wright	Yes
Councilmember Clint Kolby	Yes

10. Discuss and Possibly Act Upon Resolution No. R-19-035 Authorizing the Submission of a Grant Application to Texas Parks and Wildlife Through the Community Outdoor Outreach Program (CO-OP) Grant for Angler Education Week at the Blue Bell Aquatic Center

Aquatic Center Supervisor Tammy Jaster presented this item. Jaster explained that the Community Outdoor Outreach Program (CO-OP) grant provides funding to local governments and non-profit organizations for programming that introduces under-served populations to environmental and conservation programs as well as Texas Parks and Wildlife Department's mission oriented outdoor activities.

Jaster stated that staff would like to apply for the Community Outdoor Outreach Program grant in order to be able to offer Angler Education Week. Jaster advised that staff would be asking TPWD for funds in the amount of \$10,599.00 to cover costs for basic supplies, refreshments, banners, promotional items, and activity supplies.

Jaster noted that for the last twelve years, the Blue Bell Aquatic Center has hosted an annual KidFish event that is free to the community. Jaster stated that staff's goal is to have the Angler Education Week October 19th – 25th including KidFish on October 24th.

A motion was made by Councilmember Kolby and seconded by Councilmember Saunders to approve Resolution No. R-19-035 authorizing the submission of a grant application to Texas Parks and Wildlife through the Community Outdoor Outreach Program (CO-OP) Grant for Angler Education Week at the Blue Bell Aquatic Center.

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 Adonna Saunders	Yes
Councilmember Keith Herring	Yes
Councilmember Albert Wright	Yes
Councilmember Clint Kolby	Yes

12. Administrative/Elected Officials Report

City Manager James Fisher reported on the following:

- The City will be closed next week Thursday and Friday for Thanksgiving
- The police department participates in No Shave November which supports Adams Angels Ministry. That fundraiser will end next week.
- The Christmas Stroll and Lighted Parade will be December 6th and 7th

The meeting was adjourned.

Milton Y. Tate, Jr.

Mayor

Jeana Bellinger, TRMC, CMC

City Secretary

