

Brenham City Council Minutes

A regular meeting of the Brenham City Council was held on December 17, 2020 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 Keith Herring
Councilmember Clint Kolby
Councilmember Adonna Saunders
Councilmember Albert Wright

Members absent:

None

Others present:

City Manager James Fisher, City Attorney Cary Bovey, Assistant City Manager – Chief Financial Officer Carolyn Miller, City Secretary Jeana Bellinger, Deputy City Secretary II Karen Stack, Human Resources Director Susan Nienstedt, Andria Heiges, Betty Thiel, Tourism & Marketing Director Jennifer Eckermann, Fire Department Chief Ricky Boeker, Police Captain Lloyd Powell, Public Works Director Dane Rau, Assistant City Manager – Public Services and Utilities Donald Reese, Development Services Director Stephanie Doland, Economic Development Director Susan Cates, Shauna Laauwe, Grayson Marburger, Kevin Boggus, and Steven Eilert.

Citizens present:

Washington County Commissioner Candace Bullock, Tee Dippel, and Blake Brannon.

Media Present:

Alison Bryce, Brenham Banner Press; and Josh Blaschke, KWHI

- 1. Call Meeting to Order**
- 2. Invocation and Pledges to the US and Texas Flags – City Attorney Cary Bovey**

3. **Special Recognition**
 - **Betty Thiel, 35 Years – Library**
4. **Citizens Comments**

Sgt. Eilert introduced new Brenham Police Office Grayson Marburger.

CONSENT AGENDA

5. **Statutory Consent Agenda**
 - 5-a. **Approve the Minutes from the November 19, 2020 Regular City Council Meeting, the December 3, 2020 Special Workshop Meeting, and the December 3, 2020 Regular City Council Meeting**
 - 5-b. **Approve Ordinance No. O-20-029 on Its Second Reading Granting a Variance to Chapter 8 1/2, Article III, Subsection 8 1/2 - 12(7) of the City of Brenham's Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance to Allow Ralston Creek Lift Station to be Elevated Above the 500-Year Floodplain**
 - 5-c. **Approve Ordinance No. O-20-030 on Its Second Reading Amending the Official Zoning Map of the City of Brenham to Change the Zoning District from a Commercial, Research and Technology District (B-2) to a Local Business/Residential Mixed Use District (B-1) on the Following (Case No. P-20-039):**
 - a. **Approximately 0.3219 Acres of Land, Being Two (2) Unaddressed Tracts and Both Being Further Described as Block 26, Lot E, Part of Lot 5A and Block 27, NW Part of Lot 10B, Out of the Keys 1st Addition, in Brenham Washington County, Texas (R23563, R23571)**
 - b. **Approximately 1.9716 Acres of Land Being Five (5) Tracts Addressed as 401, 403, 405, 505 and 507 Clinton Street, All Being Further Described as Block 26, North Part of Lot 5A, South Part of Lot 5A, Lot 5B, Lot 6A, and Lot 6B, Out of the Arrabella Harrington Survey, A-55, in Brenham, Washington County, Texas (R23561, R23562, R23564, R23566, R23565)**
 - c. **Approximately 0.6218 Acres of Land Being Three (3) Tracts Addressed as 500, 502 and 504 Seelhorst Street, All Being Further Described as Block 27, Part of Lot 11, Lot 11C and Lot 11D, Out of the Arrabella Harrington Survey, A-55, in Brenham, Washington County, Texas (R23573, R23575, R23576)**
 - d. **A Portion of 5.646 Acres of Land Being Addressed as 708 Seelhorst Street, Being Further Described as Tract 32, Out of the Arrabella Harrington Survey, A-55, in Brenham, Washington County, Texas (R14341)**

- e. **Approximately 1.13 Acres of Land Being Addressed as 604 Seelhorst Street, Being Further Described as Tract 65, Out of the Arrabella Harrington Survey, A-55, in Brenham, Washington County, Texas (R14376)**
 - f. **Approximately 2.748 Acres of Land Being Two (2) Tracts Addressed as 702 and 706 Seelhorst Street, Being Further Described as Part of Lot 1, Lot 2, and Part of Lot 1 of the Scheel Subdivision in Brenham, Washington County, Texas (R56425, R41882)**
 - g. **Approximately 0.7416 Acres of Land Being Four (4) Tracts Being Addressed as 502, 506, 508 and 510 Dark Street, All Being Further Described as Block 27, Lot E, Lot 10A, NE Part of Lot 10B and South Part of Lot 10B, Out of the Keys 1st Addition, in Brenham, Washington County, Texas (R23577,R23570, R40943, R23572)**
 - h. **Approximately 0.2297 Acres of Land Being Two (2) Tracts Addressed as 507 and 509 Dark Street, All Being Further Described as Tract 250 and Tract 153, Out of the Arrabella Harrington Survey, A-55, in Brenham, Washington County, Texas (R14571, R14479)**
- 5-d. Approve a Professional Services Agreement Between the City of Brenham and with Strand Associates, Inc. Related to 2021 On-Call Engineering Services, In An Amount Not to Exceed \$120,000.00, and Authorize the Mayor to Execute Any Necessary Documentation**
- 5-e. Award RFP No. 21-003 for Group Basic Term Life, Accidental Death & Dismemberment, and Long-Term Disability Insurance to BlueCross BlueShield of Texas, for a 3-Year Guaranteed Term, and Authorize the Mayor to Execute Any Necessary Documentation**
- 5-f. Approve a Contract with Revize LLC, d/b/a Revize Software Systems, in the Amount of \$8,175.00, for the Redesign of the Nancy Carol Roberts Memorial Library Website and Authorize the Mayor to Execute Any Necessary Documentation**

A motion was made by Councilmember Wright and seconded by Councilmember Saunders to approve the Statutory Consent Agenda Item 5-a. through 5-f., with the corrections to the December 3, 2020 minutes as presented to Council.

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

WORK SESSION

6. Discussion and Update on the Tax Phase-In Compliance Review Committee

This item was presented by Economic Development Director Susan Cates. Cates reported that due to COVID-19, the Tax Phase in Joint Compliance Committee did not convene in 2020. Cates noted that she has been in contact with representatives of each of the companies receiving Tax Phase In, and they are all compliant with their agreements. Cates advised that with Washington County Tax Appraiser Willy Dilworth retiring at the end of 2020, she plans to meet with his replacement and review all Tax Phase in Agreements. Cates said the Joint Compliance Committee for Tax Phase In will be convened in the early part of Spring 2021.

7. Discussion and Presentation of TxDOT's Proposed Improvements to the US 290/SH 36 Interchange in Brenham, Washington County, Texas

This item was presented by City Manager James Fisher. Fisher advised that on December 3, 2020, the City Council and Washington County Commissioners held a joint work session on the proposed concepts currently under consideration for the TxDOT US 290/SH 36 Interchange project. Fisher said that staff have been reviewing the concepts and the potential impacts to the City's utility system, street infrastructure, and community. Fisher noted that the City has several gas, water, and wastewater lines in the area that may need to be relocated. Fisher said the City should look at what is needed for traffic management to allow citizens and guests to easily navigate the area without having to get on the highway, and how guests traveling through the area can easily get on and off the highway to support local businesses.

Fisher recommended that once the City Council makes its recommendation to TxDOT regarding a preferred Concept, that Council quickly take the following action steps:

1. Create a Transportation Focus Group to assist with recommendations on infrastructure improvements for the project.
2. Complete the City's Thoroughfare Plan.
3. Beginning in the Fiscal Year 2022 budget, begin setting aside \$150,000 annually to help address and/or offset potential costs associated with the project
4. Determine what measures are necessary to ensure the economic viability of existing businesses, especially downtown.

Councilmember Herring asked whether the City was ready to make a recommendation regarding a specific Concept. Fisher replied that most comments have been in favor of Revised Concept B. Councilmember Kolby asked when TxDOT would finalize the Concept. Fisher said he believes the Concept will be finalized within 12-18 months.

Councilmember Kolby stated he is in favor of Concept B and would like the City's recommendation to include the Berlin Road overpass and extending the Highway 290 frontage road over the railroad tracks at FM 389. Kolby said that while ultimately funding will determine what projects are completed, the recommendation letter from Council should include all these items together. Councilmember Herring agreed.

Mayor Tate read a letter from citizen and local business owner, Larry Tegeler, in support of Revised Concept B and opposing Concept E.

After further discussion, the Council all agreed that the City should support Revised Concept B - Central Direct Connect.

REGULAR SESSION

- 8. Discuss and Possibly Act Upon the Termination of the March 19, 2020 Interlocal Agreement Between the City of Brenham and Washington County for Economic Development Services, Said Termination to be Effective December 31, 2020 by Mutual Agreement of the City of Brenham and Washington County and Authorize the Mayor to Execute Any Necessary Documentation**
- 9. Discuss and Possibly Act Upon an Interlocal Agreement Between the City of Brenham and Washington County for Economic Development Services, Said Interlocal Agreement to be Effective January 1, 2021, and Authorize the Mayor to Execute Any Necessary Documentation**

Economic Development Director Susan Cates asked Council to consider Items 8 and 9 at the same time since the two items are companion items. Cates explained that the City and Washington County executed an Interlocal Agreement (ILA) for Economic Development Services in March of 2020. Cates stated that at that time, there had been an urgent need to get an agreement in place that would allow her to manage Project Silver Crayon on behalf of the County, including the ability for her to present to the County Commissioners in Executive Session. A termination date was included as December 31, 2020 with the ability to extend the agreement. Cates explained that the understanding between the City and County was that the agreement would be more thoroughly developed by the end of the year to include other economic development partners.

Cates advised that the new agreement was developed by an ad hoc Committee comprised of Washington County Commissioners Bullock and Hanath, Brenham City Councilmembers Kolby and Herring, Brenham Community Development Corporation Board Member John Hasskarl, and Brenham Economic Development Foundation (EDF) members Tee Dippel and Blake Brannon. Cates stated that the notable provisions of the agreement include:

- Formally creates the Brenham/Washington County Economic Development Organization (BWEDO).
- The City's Director of Economic Development will serve as the Director of BWEDO.
- The County will contribute \$100,000.00 annually to the BWEDO.
- Accountability of the BWEDO to the City, County, BCDC & EDF with monthly, quarterly, and annual reports.

- Formalized Project Review Guidelines (Exhibit A of the ILA) that outlines the process that BWEDO will follow in engaging community partners with potential economic development projects.
- The ILA is a three (3) year agreement with the option of subsequent 2-year renewal periods.
- Either party must provide the other party 180-day notice of intent to terminate.

Dippel stated that the ad-hoc committee was a great group to work with, and this agreement lays the groundwork for future economic development in Washington County and demonstrates that the City and County can collaborate well. Commissioner Bullock thanked Mayor Tate and City Manager James Fisher for allowing the committee to proceed. Bullock said she looks forward to many years of collaboration between the City and County. Blake Brannon said this is a great step to bringing new businesses into our area.

Cates noted that the Commissioners Court has already approved the termination of the old Interlocal Agreement and approved the new agreement as presented.

Mayor Tate asked for a motion related to Item 8. A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Ebel and seconded by Councilmember Saunders to approve the termination of the March 19, 2020 Interlocal Agreement between the City of Brenham and Washington County for economic development services, said termination to be effective on December 31, 2020, due to both the City and County mutually agreeing to waive the 60-day termination notice requirement, and authorize the Mayor to execute any necessary documentation.

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

Mayor Tate asked for a motion related to Item 9. A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Ebel and seconded by Councilmember Saunders to approve an Interlocal Agreement between the City of Brenham and Washington County for Economic Development Services, effective January 1, 2021, and remain in effect for a period of three years with options for extensions in two-year increments, with corrections as noted, and authorize the Mayor to execute any necessary documentation.

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

Mayor Pro Tem Ebel said this is a great step forward in economic development. Councilmember Kolby thanked the committee and said he is confident that the area's Economic Development program will be much stronger in the future. Councilmember Herring said he was excited and would welcome the opportunity to work again with Commissioners Bullock and Hanath. Mayor Tate thanked the Committee members for their work.

10. Discuss and Possibly Act Upon the Appointment of Nine Members (Places 1 Through 9) to Serve on the Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone No. 1 Board of Directors for a Period of Two Years Beginning January 1, 2021 and Authorize the Mayor to Execute Any Necessary Documentation

This item was presented by Assistant City Manager – Chief Financial Officer Carolyn Miller. Miller said that when the Zone was created in December 2018, Ordinance No. O-18-019 also created a TIRZ Board consisting of nine members being appointed by the City Council. Miller reported that on December 5, 2019 Council appointed the Mayor to Place 1, Councilmember Ward 1 to Place 2, Councilmember Ward 2 to Place 3, Councilmember Ward 3 to Place 4, Councilmember Ward 4 to Place 5, Councilmember Position 5 to Place 6, and Councilmember Position 6 to Place 7. Council also appointed Gary Crocker, BCDC Board Member to Place 8 and Tom Whitehead, Main Street Board Member to Place 9. Miller noted that both are willing to serve again and look forward to working with our community regarding public improvements and private development that occurs in the Zone.

A motion was made by Councilmember Cantey and seconded by Councilmember Kolby to approve the appointment of the Mayor and Councilmembers Wards 1 through 4 and Positions 5 and 6 to Places 1 through 7, and Gary Crocker to Place 8 and Tom Whitehead to Place 9 of the Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone No. 1 Board for a period of two years beginning January 1, 2021 and authorize the Mayor to execute any necessary documentation.

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

11. Discuss and Possibly Act Upon the Appointment of a Board Member to Serve as Chairman of the Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone No. 1 Board of Directors for a Period of One Year Beginning January 1, 2021 and Authorize the Mayor to Execute Any Necessary Documentation

This item was presented by Assistant City Manager – Chief Financial Officer Carolyn Miller. Miller said that Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone No. 1 was created in December 2018. When the Zone was created, Ordinance No. O-18-019 also created a TIRZ Board consisting of nine members. The member appointed to Place 1 was also appointed as Chairman of the TIRZ Board. At that time, Mayor Tate was appointed by Council to Place 1, and therefore he served as Chairman of the Board for 2019.

Miller said that as outlined by the Texas Tax Code, the City Council must appoint a Chairman of the TIRZ Board every year. At the December 5, 2019 Council meeting, Mayor Tate was again appointed as Chairman of the TIRZ Board for 2020. This agenda item is to appoint a Chairman for the TIRZ Board to serve for calendar year 2021. The Council can appoint any member of the Board to serve as Chairman and his/her term would be for a period of one year, beginning on January 1, 2021.

A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Ebel and seconded by Councilmember Herring to appoint Mayor Milton Tate as Chairman of the Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone No. 1 Board of Directors for a period of one year beginning January 1, 2021 and authorize the Mayor to execute any necessary documentation.

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

12. Discuss and Possibly Act Upon the Purchase and Installation of a Restroom Facility for the Henderson Park Splashpad, Phase 2 Improvements, Using BuyBoard Contract No. 592-19 and Authorize the Mayor to Execute Any Necessary Documentation

This item was presented by Public Works Director Dane Rau. Rau said that with Season 2 of the Splashpad at Henderson Park approaching, staff have been reviewing possible improvements for Phase II. Rau reported that BCDC approved \$250,000 for Phase II, which will include a small restroom facility. Rau said the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board recommends approval of installation of a small restroom facility. Rau noted that there was also a survey sent out at the end of Season 1 of the Splashpad, with almost every comment mentioning the need for a closer restroom.

Rau said that due to this facility being a small footprint staff has decided to work with Corworth Restroom Facilities on a single-family style restroom that can accommodate numerous family members at once. The pre-engineered restroom will come as a complete package, which avoids long construction timelines. There will be a sidewalk leading from the splashpad to this location and it will abide by all ADA requirements. Staff members are currently working with Strand and Associates on a site plan and layout including making sure that all amenities are ADA approved.

Rau said the facility will be block exterior which will be painted with a small porch and metal roof. Staff is still working on the terms and conditions of this purchase with Corworth and the City Attorney. Rau also informed the City Council that the cost of a required payment bond changes the price to \$93,129.00. Rau added that staff's recommendation of approval is contingent on mutual agreement between Corworth and City Attorney.

A motion was made by Councilmember Kolby and seconded by Councilmember Cantey to approve the purchase and installation of a restroom facility for the Henderson Park Splashpad, Phase 2 improvements, using Buyboard Contract No. 592-19 in the amount of \$93,129.00, contingent upon final approval of the contract by the City Attorney and authorize the Mayor to execute any necessary documentation.

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

13. Discuss and Possibly Act Upon the Purchase of Radio Frequency Identification Solutions - FE Technologies Smart Bin, as a Sole Source Item, for the Nancy Carol Roberts Memorial Library and Authorize the Mayor to Execute Any Necessary Documentation

This item was presented by Librarian Andria Heiges. Heiges said that in order to deliver positive experiences for both library users and staff, staff has looked for methods and technologies to automate its workflows and processes. Library staff currently uses Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) technology to check materials in and out and to operate self-check machines. The addition of an automated book return bin for the back-staff area will increase staff efficiencies and improve the self-service experience, as it would allow a patron's items to be checked in immediately. Heiges advised that currently, items waiting to be sanitized and checked in remain listed on a patron's account until staff can check them in at designated times. The Smart Bin would resolve the backlog issue.

Heiges explained that the RFID Enabled Smart Bin is a sole source product and the only product on the market that utilizes RFID Accelerate technology capable of checking RFID Tagged items to check-in books and turn off security. There are no other like products available for purchase that would serve exactly the same function. The one-time purchase price for the Smart Bin is \$10,625 and would be paid through the Library donation fund.

A motion was made by Councilmember Cantey and seconded by Councilmember Herring to approve the purchase of Radio Frequency Identification Solutions (Smart Bin) from FE Technologies Group, as a sole source item, in the amount of \$10,625.00 for the Nancy Carol Roberts Memorial Library and authorize the Mayor to execute any necessary documentation.

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

14. Discuss and Possibly Act Upon Resolution No. R-20-039 Amending the Policies and Procedures for City of Brenham Boards and Commissions

This item was presented by City Manager James Fisher. Fisher said that at the September 17, 2020 Council meeting, staff held a work session to discuss possible amendments to the City of Brenham's Policies and Procedures for Boards and Commissions. Using the guidance provided by Council during that work session, the Boards and Commissions Subcommittee consisting of Mayor Tate, Councilmember Cantey, and Councilmember Saunders met on December 3rd and recommended the following changes, to take effect January 1, 2021:

- Members of Council are ineligible to serve on a board.
- Term lengths for all boards are increased from two (2) years to three (3) years, except for the Board of Adjustments, Brenham Housing Authority and the Brenham Community Development Corporation (BCDC) Board as state law requires a two (2) year term for these board.
- Consecutive years of service in any single board are limited to 3 terms before a 1-year layoff is required.
- The Fixed Base Operator will be a non-voting, ex officio, member of the Airport Advisory Board.
- Special training will be required for members of the BCDC Board and the Planning & Zoning Commission.
- The description of the Hotel Occupancy Tax Board is removed. Brenham and Washington County have mutually agreed to transition this board to a tourism board.

A motion was made by Councilmember Herring and seconded by Councilmember Cantey to approve Resolution No. R-20-039 amending the Policies and Procedures for City of Brenham Boards and Commissions, as presented with a change to Councilmember’s ineligibility to serve not taking effect until January 1, 2022 and authorize the Mayor to execute any necessary documentation.

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

15. Discuss and Possibly Act Upon Recommendations for Appointments and/or Re-Appointments to Various City Boards and Commissions and Authorize the Mayor to Execute Any Necessary Documentation

City Manager James Fisher presented this item. Fisher explained that according to the City of Brenham’s Policies and Procedures for Boards and Commissions, a Subcommittee of City Council is to make recommendations for appointments to citizen boards and commissions.

Fisher advised that staff is requesting the Airport Advisory Board be reduced from 9 to 7 members with the elimination of Positions 3 and 9. Fisher also reported that John Hasskarl has resigned from BCDC Position 7, and staff is recommending this position be temporarily left vacant while BCDC considers amending its bylaws to allow members who do not reside within the City limits to serve.

Fisher explained that the Subcommittee of Council recommends the following individuals for appointment or reappointment to the following boards/committees, for a term of one (1) year:

Airport Advisory Board:

Grant Meschewitz – Position 1

Josiah Jameson – Position 4

Jon Hodde – Position 6

Mark Whitehead – Position 7

*Positions 3 and 9 are eliminated.

Animal Shelter Advisory Committee:

Lee Panko – Position 1

Pam Ruemke – Position 2

Alison Harper – Position 3

Sharon Guelker – Position 5

Building Standards Commission:

Arlen Thielemann – Position 1

Walt Edmunds – Position 2

Stoney Lacina – Position 4

Library Advisory Board:

Lillian Marshall – Position 1

Keith Herring – Position 2

Jerry Jares – Position 3

Sabrina Roberts – Position 5

Janie Mehrens – Position 7

Lu Hollander – Position 8

Main Street Advisory Board:

Melinda Faubion – Position 1

Tiffany Morisak – Position 3

Lowell Ogle – Position 4

John Hermann – Position 6

Tom Whitehead – Position 7

Douglas Peck – Position 9

Elizabeth Price – Position 10

Connie Wilder – Position 11

Parks & Recreation Advisory Board:

Tina Henderson – Position 1
Bill Betts – Position 3
Jim Baker – Position 4
Paula Buls – Position 6
Lee Chalmers – Position 7
Dusty Robinson – Position 9

Planning & Zoning Commission:

Marcus Wamble – Position 2
Artis Edwards, Jr. – Position 4
Calvin Kossie – Position 6
Christopher Cangelosi – Position 7

Fisher further explained that the Subcommittee of Council is also recommending the following individuals for appointment or reappointment to the following boards/committees, for a term of two (2) years, as required by State law:

Board of Adjustments and Appeals:

Jon Hodde – Position 3
Mary Lou Winkelmann – Position 5
Walt Edmunds – Alternate Position A-1

Brenham Community Development Corporation:

Gary Crocker – Position 5
Bill Betts – Position 6
*Position 7 vacant

Brenham Housing Authority Board:

Richard Flammer – Position 4
Marcus Wamble – Position 5
Cory Flencher – Position 6
Lillian Pollard – Position 7

A motion was made by Councilmember Cantey and seconded by Councilmember Wright to approve the recommendations for appointments and reappointments to various City Boards and Commissions as presented and authorize the Mayor to execute any necessary documentation.

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

16. Discuss and Possibly Act Upon a Letter of Support or Resolution in Support of TxDOT Improvements to the US 290/SH 36 Interchange and Authorize the Mayor to Execute Any Necessary Documentation

This item was presented by City Manager James Fisher. Fisher stated that the City Council held a Joint Workshop Meeting with Washington County Commissioners on December 3, 2020 to discuss in detail TxDOT's proposed improvements to the US 290/SH 36 interchange. Fisher explained this action item allows the City Council to take any action regarding a Resolution and/or Letter of Support for one or more of the proposed improvements being considered by TxDOT.

A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Ebel and seconded by Councilmember Saunders to approve a letter of support for "Revised Concept B – Central Direct Connect" and authorize the Mayor to execute any necessary documentation.

Mayor Pro Tem Ebel asked about the status of the possible addition of an overpass on the Highway 290 frontage road at FM 389. Fisher replied that he believes TxDOT will consider extending the access road as this project plan progresses, and they will also likely consider an overpass at Highway 290 and Berlin Road. Fisher said he believes the two overpasses can be listed as alternates in the bid letting. Ebel said he believes the City should focus on trying to get the overpasses included.

Fisher suggested that staff should draft a letter to be signed by all Councilmembers, supporting "Revised Concept B – Central Direct Connect" but to also ask TxDOT to consider the overpass at Berlin Road and the overpass on the Highway 290 frontage road at FM 389.

Ebel stated he believes the overpass at FM 389 should be the priority. Councilmember Herring said he believes the overpass at Berlin Road is more important because traffic at Berlin Road could back up all the way into town. Fisher said one of the challenges with a Berlin Road overpass is that after construction, the roads connecting to it will need significant improvements by the County.

Mayor Pro Tem Ebel then amended his motion to approve a letter of support to TxDOT for “Revised Concept B – Central Direct Connect” with a request for TxDOT to also consider the construction of overpasses at Berlin Road and FM 389 as bid alternates and authorize the Mayor to execute any necessary documentation. The amended motion was seconded by Councilmember Saunders.

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

17. Administrative/Elected Officials Report

City Manager James Fisher reported on the following:

- Thanked Crystal Locke, Sergeant Eilert, Tammy Jaster, Assistant Fire Chief Sheffer, and others for the great job with Santa through Town.
- The City’s planning group received a Certificate of Achievement for Planning Excellence from the American Planning Association, Texas Chapter.
- City offices will be closed on December 24th, 25th, and 31st and on January 1st for the Christmas and New Year’s Holidays.
- Trash and recycling pickup normally scheduled for December 25th will be moved to the 26th, and pickup scheduled for January 1st will be moved to the 2nd. Brannon Industrial Group will pick up extra bags left next to trash bins for the next two weeks.
- The City’s general election will be May 1, 2021. Citizens will elect Councilmembers for Places 1, 3, 5, and 6. Candidate packets will be available December 28th. The deadline to file for a place on the ballot will be February 12, 2021, at 5:00 p.m.

Public Works Director Dane Rau reported on the following:

- Thanked Brannon Industrial Group for distributing toys to children along various sanitation routes.

Council adjourned into Executive Session at 2:20 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

- 18. Section 551.071 - Texas Government Code - Consultation with Attorney - Consultation with City Attorney Regarding Pending Litigation and Claims: T. Hyde v. Washington County Sheriff's Department, City of Brenham and Brenham Police Department, Cause No. 37404, 21st Judicial District, Washington County, Texas; D. Guyton v. City of Brenham, Texas, et al., Cause No. 1:20-CV-00412-RP, United States District Court, Western District of Texas, Austin Division; Claims of R. Robinson Alleged Against the City of Brenham and Additional Persons and Entities**

Executive Session adjourned at 3:04 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned.

Milton Y. Tate, Jr.

Mayor

Karen Stack

Deputy City Secretary

