

Brenham City Council Minutes

A regular meeting of the Brenham City Council was held on January 21, 2021 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.
Councilmember Susan Cantey
Councilmember Keith Herring
Councilmember Clint Kolby
Councilmember Adonna Saunders
Councilmember Albert Wright

Members absent:

Mayor Pro Tem Ebel

Others present:

City Manager James Fisher, City Attorney Cary Bovey, City Secretary – Director of Administrative Services Jeana Bellinger, Assistant City Manager – Public Services/Utilities Donald Reese, Public Works Director Dane Rau, Police Chief Ron Parker, Fire Chief Ricky Boeker, Police Officer Marley Mayo, and Alton Sommerfield

Citizens present:

Wesley Brinkmeyer

Media Present:

Alyssa Faykus, Brenham Banner Press

- 1. Call Meeting to Order**
- 2. Invocation and Pledges to the US and Texas Flags – Councilmember Kolby**
- 3. Citizens Comments**

There were no citizen comments.

CONSENT AGENDA

4. Statutory Consent Agenda

- 4-a. **Approve the Minutes from the December 17, 2020 and January 7, 2021 Regular City Council Meetings**
- 4-b. **Approve Ordinance No. O-21-001 on Its Second Reading Annexing the Following into the City of Brenham: Section 2020-2, All That 5.1545 Acre Tract or Parcel of Land Situated in Washington County, Texas, Out of the Phillip Coe Survey A-31, Being the Same Property Described in a Deed from Mike Hopkins Distributing Company, Inc. to River Eagle Real Estate, LTD. Dated July 1, 2005 as Recorded in Volume 1172, Page 220 of the Official Records of Washington County, Texas and Being Further Described as a Portion of Lot 1, Block 1 of the River Eagle Subdivision, Formerly Identified as Tract 12 of the Phillip Coe Survey, A-31, Washington County, Texas**
- 4-c. **Approve Ordinance No. O-21-002 on its Second Reading to Amending the Official Zoning Map of the City of Brenham to Assign a Zoning Classification of Industrial (I) District on Approximately 5.145 Acres of Land Generally Located West and Adjacent of 1751 US Highway 290 West, Being Further Described as a Portion of Lot 1, Block 1 of the River Eagle Subdivision, Washington County, Texas, and Formerly Identified as Tract 12 of the Phillip Coe Survey, A-31, in Brenham, Washington County, Texas. (Case Number P-20-045)**
- 4-d. **Approve Ordinance No. O-21-003 on Its Second Reading Amending Chapter 24, Article II, Hotel Occupancy Tax, of the Code of Ordinances, City of Brenham, Texas to Temporarily Modify the Hotel Occupancy Tax Reporting and Payment Schedule**
- 4-e. **Approve the Submission of a Grant Application to The Department of Homeland Security for Fiscal Year 2020 Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program for Operations and Safety - Personal Protective Equipment and Authorize the Mayor to Execute Any Necessary Documentation**
- 4-f. **Approve the Submission of a Grant Application to the Lower Colorado River Authority (LCRA) Through Their Community Development Partnership Program (CDPP) for the Rehabilitation and Renovation of the Antique Carousel in Fireman's Park and Authorize the Mayor to Execute Any Necessary Documentation**

A motion was made by Councilmember Cantey and seconded by Councilmember Herring to approve the Statutory Consent Agenda Item 4-a. through 4-f. 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	Absent
Councilmember Susan Cantey	Yes
Councilmember Keith Herring	Yes
Councilmember Clint Kolby	Yes
Councilmember Adonna Saunders	Yes
Councilmember Albert Wright	Yes

REGULAR SESSION

5. **Discuss and Possibly Act Upon an Order Calling a General Election on May 1, 2021 for the Purpose of Electing One Councilmember for Place 1 - Ward 1; One Councilmember for Place 3 - Ward 3; One Councilmember for Place 5 - At Large; and One Councilmember for Place 6 - At Large, Each for Four (4) Year Terms**

Hablar de y posiblemente actuar sobre una orden pidiendo una Elección General el 1 de mayo, 2021 Con el Propósito de Elegir Un Concejal para Lugar 1 – Distrito Electoral 1; Un Concejal para Lugar 3 – Distrito Electoral 3; Un Concejal para Lugar 5 – Distrito Abierto; y Un Concejal Lugar 6 – Distrito Abierto, Cada Puesto para Términos de Cuatro (4) Años

This item was presented by City Secretary – Director of Administrative Services Jeana Bellinger. Bellinger said that in accordance with Texas Election Law and the City of Brenham’s Charter, the City must hold a General Election on Saturday, May 1, 2021 to elect one Councilmember for Place 1 – Ward 1, one Councilmember for Place 3 – Ward 3, one Councilmember for Place 5 – At Large, and one Councilmember for Place 6 – At Large. Bellinger advised that the term for each of these positions is four (4) years. The period in which candidates can file for a place on the ballot is Wednesday, January 13th through Friday, February 12th.

A motion was made by Councilmember Herring and seconded by Councilmember Saunders to approve an Order authorizing the calling of a general election on May 1, 2021 for the purpose of electing one Councilmember for Place 1 – Ward 1; one Councilmember for Place 3 – Ward 3; one Councilmember for Place 5 – At Large; and one Councilmember for Place 6 – At Large, each for four (4) year terms.

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	Absent
Councilmember Susan Cantey	Yes
Councilmember Keith Herring	Yes
Councilmember Clint Kolby	Yes
Councilmember Adonna Saunders	Yes
Councilmember Albert Wright	Yes

6. Discuss and Possibly Act Upon an Election Services Contract Between the City of Brenham and Washington County Related to Election Responsibilities for the May 1, 2021 General Election and Authorize the Mayor to Execute Any Necessary Documentation

This item was presented by City Secretary – Director of Administrative Services Jeana Bellinger. Bellinger said the City will be contracting with Washington County to provide various election services and election equipment for the May 1, 2021 General Election. This Election Services Agreement defines what each entity will be responsible for during the Election. Changes made to the Agreement this year include naming Carol Jackson, Washington County Chief Deputy Elections Clerk, as a Deputy Early Voting Clerk, and increasing election equipment rental fees by \$800 total. In addition, City Police Officers will no longer be used to deliver equipment on election day, and the County has some additional responsibilities regarding signage, supplies, and personal protective equipment that is necessary due to COVID. Bellinger noted that the agreement has been reviewed and approved by the County and the City Attorney.

A motion was made by Councilmember Kolby and seconded by Councilmember Cantey to approve an Election Services Contract between the City of Brenham and Washington County related to election responsibilities for the May 1, 2021 General Election 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	Absent
Councilmember Susan Cantey	Yes
Councilmember Keith Herring	Yes
Councilmember Clint Kolby	Yes
Councilmember Adonna Saunders	Yes
Councilmember Albert Wright	Yes

7. Discuss and Possibly Act Upon an Interlocal Agreement Between the City of Brenham, Brenham Independent School District (BISD) and Blinn College for the May 1, 2021 General Election and Authorize the Mayor to Execute Any Necessary Documentation

This item was presented by City Secretary – Director of Administrative Services Jeana Bellinger. Bellinger said that in previous years, the City, Brenham Independent School District, and Blinn College have all contracted with Washington County for election services and equipment. Bellinger explained that this Interlocal Agreement addresses various issues related to the election and outlines what each entity will be responsible for during the May 1, 2021 General Election. Bellinger noted that the Agreement is consistent with the terms outlined in the City’s Election Services Agreement with Washington County.

A motion was made by Councilmember Cantey and seconded by Councilmember Saunders to approve an Interlocal Agreement between the City of Brenham, Brenham Independent School District, and Blinn College for the May 1, 2021 General Election 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	Absent
Councilmember Susan Cantey	Yes
Councilmember Keith Herring	Yes
Councilmember Clint Kolby	Yes
Councilmember Adonna Saunders	Yes
Councilmember Albert Wright	Yes

8. Discuss and Possibly Act Upon a Consulting Services Agreement Between the City of Brenham and Gas Supply Consulting, Inc. for Consulting Services Related to the City of Brenham's Natural Gas Supply and Transportation and Authorize the Mayor to Execute Any Necessary Documentation

This item was presented by Assistant City Manager – Public Services/Utilities Donald Reese. Reese explained that City staff wish to obtain consulting services from Gas Supply Consulting, Inc. (GSC) to assist with the acquisition of natural gas supply and natural gas transportation services. These consulting services would include reviewing the City’s natural gas supply and transportation requirements, negotiating, and acquiring natural gas transportation service, and negotiating and acquiring a natural gas supply service via competitive bid process.

Reese explained that the City will pay GSC only for actual services performed, and the cost to provide those services is not to exceed \$23,850.00. Funding will come from the Gas Fund.

A motion was made by Councilmember Cantey and seconded by Councilmember Kolby to approve the Consulting Services Agreement between the City of Brenham and Gas Supply Consulting, Inc. in the amount of \$23,850.00 and authorize the Mayor to execute any necessary documentation.

Councilmember Kolby asked whether GSC would be negotiating only with our current supplier. Reese replied that GSC would negotiate with multiple suppliers. Councilmember Cantey asked how many suppliers there were, and Reese replied that the last time the City went through this process there were four or five responses.

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	Absent
Councilmember Susan Cantey	Yes
Councilmember Keith Herring	Yes
Councilmember Clint Kolby	Yes
Councilmember Adonna Saunders	Yes
Councilmember Albert Wright	Yes

9. Discuss and Possibly Act Upon Payment to Bluebonnet Electric Cooperative for the Installation of Underground Electric Distribution Facilities for the BK Stringer, Ltd. Retail Development Project and Authorize the Mayor to Execute Any Necessary Documentation

This item was presented by Assistant City Manager – Public Services/Utilities Donald Reese. Reese said the second amendment to the Chapter 380 Economic Development Agreement between the City of Brenham and BK Stringer, LTD. calls for the electrical lines servicing the development to be installed underground. City staff has been working with representatives from BK Stringer and Bluebonnet Electric to design the best route for the installation and come up with a cost estimate.

Reese said the lines will be buried on the west side of Chappell Hill and run south to the end of the BK Stringer property. Bluebonnet Electric will construct the project and it will include boring multiple crossings to serve the east side of Chappell Hill in the future. The project will also include installing conduit and bases for street lighting. Poles, arms, and heads will be added at a later date.

Reese reported that Bluebonnet Electric Cooperative submitted a cost estimate of \$148,691.71 for this project. If approved by Council, Bluebonnet will begin construction upon receipt of payment. Reese noted that this item was budgeted for Fiscal Year 2021 in the Electric Fund.

A motion was made by Councilmember Saunders and seconded by Councilmember Wright to approve a payment of \$148,691.71 to Bluebonnet Electric Cooperative for the installation of underground electric distribution facilities for the BK Stringer, Ltd. Retail Development Project 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	Absent
Councilmember Susan Cantey	Yes
Councilmember Keith Herring	Yes
Councilmember Clint Kolby	Yes
Councilmember Adonna Saunders	Yes
Councilmember Albert Wright	Yes

Councilmember Herring asked when the construction would begin. Reese introduced Wesley Brinkmeyer, Manager of Energy Services with Bluebonnet Electric Cooperative, who replied that the work would begin about five weeks after receiving payment and would take approximately four weeks to complete.

11. Administrative/Elected Officials Report

City Manager James Fisher reported on the following:

- The City of Brenham has been designated a Music Friendly City by the Governor's Office.
- The City's General Election filing deadline is February 12th.
- The SubHub has given over 2000 vaccines in 2 days. More vaccines will be given in the future. Fisher thanked the employees who volunteered to assist.

The meeting was adjourned.

Milton Y. Tate, Jr.

Mayor

Jeana Bellinger, TRMC, CMC

City Secretary



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