

## **Brenham City Council Minutes**

An emergency special meeting of the Brenham City Council was conducted virtually via teleconference and/or videoconference on February 17, 2021 beginning at 2:00 p.m.

*This Emergency Meeting was held pursuant to the authority provided in Texas Government Code Section 551.045 in that an emergency and/or urgent public necessity exist and immediate action is required by the governing body of the City of Brenham to address the imminent threats to public health and safety associated with the severe winter weather affecting the public health, safety and welfare of the citizens of the City of Brenham, Texas.*

### Members present:

Mayor Milton Y. Tate, Jr. – Via Teleconference  
Mayor Pro Tem Andrew Ebel - Via Teleconference  
Councilmember Susan Cantey - Via Videoconference  
Councilmember Keith Herring - Via Teleconference  
Councilmember Clint Kolby - Via Teleconference  
Councilmember Adonna Saunders - Via Videoconference

### Members absent:

Councilmember Albert Wright

### Others present:

City Manager James Fisher, City Attorney Cary Bovey, Assistant City Manager – Public Services/Utilities Donald Reese, City Secretary Jeana Bellinger, Fire Chief Ricky Boeker, Public Works Director Dane Rau, Director of Public Utilities Alton Sommerfield, Brian Scheffer, and Assistant Fire Chief, Director of IT Kevin Schmidt.

### Citizens present:

Washington County Judge John Durrenburger, Washington County EMS Director Kevin Deramus and Brian Ruemke

### Media Present:

There were no members of the media present.

1. **Call Meeting to Order**
2. **Discuss and Possibly Act Upon Various Issues Related to the Impact of the Severe Winter Weather, Certified as a Statewide Disaster by Governor Abbott's February 12, 2021 Proclamation, on the Public Health, Safety and Welfare of the Citizens of the City of Brenham, as well as the Functions and Operations of the City of Brenham, and the Necessity of the City Council to Take Immediate Action to Ensure the Public Health, Safety and Welfare of the Citizens of the City of Brenham, and the Operation, Management, Security and Supervision of the City of Brenham Functions and Related City of Brenham Facilities**

Assistant City Manager Donald Reese provided the City Council with updates on the following:

- Electricity
  - Rolling blackouts are still being conducted throughout the City as per ERCOT's instructions.
  - The City's outage management system is being monitored and staff is trying to control the blackout locations as much as possible.
  - In an effort to help reduce the length of blackout times, staff rolled power over to other circuits as much as possible.
- Water
  - Due to high water demand (multiple leaks and citizens leaving pipes dripping for long periods of time) the amount of water in the City's water towers has been depleted. City staff is working to repair leaks and/or shut off water service as quickly as possible. Staff is currently working 24-hour shifts to accomplish this.
  - There have been seven (7) main water line breaks in the last 24 hours. Staff is still working to get some of these repaired.
  - Due to the low water in the elevated water tanks, the City is required by law to issue boil water notices to all citizens. The boil water notice will remain in place until all tanks are back at full capacity for an extended period of time.

Fire Chief Ricky Boeker provided the City Council with updates on the following:

- A back-up plan for fire service has been prepared with Myersville and Salem Road volunteer fire departments. In the event of a large fire, the Blue Bell Aquatic Center will be drained to fill tanker trucks.
- The Fire Department has been delivering cases of water to the State Supporting Living Center and area nursing homes. C-Force Bottling Company in Navasota, TX will be delivering 24 cases of water to Central Warehouse today for distribution as needed. Blue Bell Creameries has delivered a tanker of water to Kruse Village.

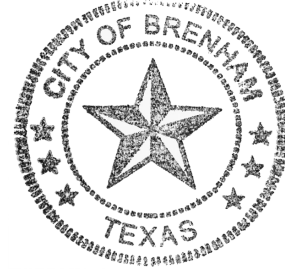
The meeting was adjourned.

*Milton Y. Tate, Jr.*

Mayor

*Jeana Bellinger, TRMC, CMC*

City Secretary



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