NOTICE OF A SPECIAL / WORKSHOP MEETING
THE BRENHAM CITY COUNCIL
MONDAY, JULY 21, 2025 AT 8:30 AM
SECOND FLOOR CITY HALL
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
200 W. VULCAN STREET
BRENHAM, TEXAS

1. **Call Meeting to Order**

REGULAR SESSION

2. **Discuss and Possibly Act Upon an Ordinance on Its First Reading Amending Chapter 25, Article II, of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Brenham to Amend the Hours of Controlled Speed Limits in Designated School Crossing Zones**

WORK SESSION

3. **FY2025-26 Proposed Budget Discussions**

ADJOURN

Executive Sessions: The City Council for the City of Brenham reserves the right to convene into executive session at any time during the course of this meeting to discuss any of the matters listed, as authorized by Texas Government Code, Chapter 551, including but not limited to §551.071 - Consultation with Attorney, §551.072 - Real Property, §551.073 - Prospective Gifts, §551.074 - Personnel Matters, §551.076 - Security Devices, §551.086 - Utility Competitive Matters, and §551.087 - Economic Development Negotiation

CERTIFICATION

I certify that a copy of the agenda of items to be considered by the City of Brenham City Council on Monday, July 21, 2025 was posted to the City Hall bulletin board at 200 W. Vulcan St., Brenham, TX on Thursday, July 17, 2025 at 4:30 p.m.

Jeana Bellinger, TRMC, CMC
City Secretary

Disability Access Statement: This meeting is wheelchair accessible. The accessible entrance is located at the Vulcan Street entrance to the City Administration Building. Accessible parking spaces are located adjoining the entrance. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request (interpreters for the deaf must be requested seventy-two (72) hours before the meeting) by calling (979) 337-7567 for assistance.

I certify that the attached notice and agenda of items to be considered by the City Council was removed by me from the City Hall bulletin board on the _____ day of _____, 2025 at _____ a.m./p.m.

_____ _____

Signature Title

City Council Special / Workshop Meeting

AGENDA ITEM 2

Agenda Item: **Discuss and Possibly Act Upon an Ordinance on Its First Reading Amending Chapter 25, Article II, of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Brenham to Amend the Hours of Controlled Speed Limits in Designated School Crossing Zones**

Meeting Date: July 21, 2025

Department: Public Works

Staff Contact: Dane Rau, Director of Public Works

SUMMARY STATEMENT:

It was brought to our attention by Brenham Independent School District's (BISD's) Director of Transportation Services Manager, Brian Gibson, that the school zone times related to school zones be reconsidered since BISD bell schedules have shifted over the years. We received the bell schedules from BISD, and most schools start at 8:00 am, but others start earlier than 8:00 am, being Brenham High School and Brenham Junior High. We reached out to Brooke Trahan and Superintendent Clay Gillentine, and both agreed that a change in the morning school zone times would serve better to be shifted back to aligning with earlier bell schedules and when traffic is the heaviest.

Currently, the ordinance states that school zones begin at 7:30 am - 8:30 am. In the afternoons, the school zones are from 2:45 pm - 4:00 pm. Due to the earlier bell schedules, heavier traffic and buses running earlier, all parties agree that a change in the morning times be shifted to 7:15 am-8:15 am. This would require the City of Brenham to modify the current school zone signs to reflect the new times once approved. We also have coordinated with TXDOT, and they have confirmed that they can adjust their school zone beacons on TXDOT roadways to reflect the new time changes by reprogramming.

If approved of the first and second readings, we will move forward by changing the times on the signs that we are in control of by the start of school.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Ordinance for 1st Reading
2. Current Signage Pic
3. City/BISD Correspondence

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve an Ordinance on its first reading amending Chapter 25, Article II, of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Brenham to amend the hours of controlled speed limits in designated school crossing zones

ORDINANCE NO. _____

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BRENHAM, TEXAS, AMENDING CHAPTER 25, ARTICLE II, OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF BRENHAM, TEXAS BY CHANGING THE HOURS OF CONTROLLED SPEED LIMITS IN DESIGNATED SCHOOL CROSSING ZONES; PROVIDING FOR A PENALTY CLAUSE; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY, REPEALING AND SAVINGS CLAUSES; PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE; FINDING OF PROPER NOTICE AND MEETINGS.

WHEREAS, the City of Brenham, Texas is a Home Rule municipality incorporated and operating under the Laws of the State of Texas; and

WHEREAS, Section 51.001, Texas Local Government Code, authorizes the City Council of the City of Brenham to adopt ordinances for the good government, peace, safety, and order of the municipality; and

WHEREAS, the Texas Transportation Code authorizes the City to adopt laws and ordinances to regulate traffic within the corporate limits of the City of Brenham, Texas; and

WHEREAS, the City Council finds that in order to protect the public health, safety, and welfare, especially of school-aged children, it is necessary to adopt an ordinance regulating the speed in designated school crossing zones;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it ordained by the City Council of the City of Brenham, Texas that:

SECTION 1

Chapter 25, Article II, Speed Limits, Section 25-20, Generally, Subsection 25-20(d), of the Code of Ordinances, City of Brenham, Texas shall be amended to read as follows:

(d) The following school crossing zones will be posted, and it shall be unlawful for any vehicle to travel within any designated school crossing zone in excess of the posted speed limit during active school crossing zone times on days when school is in session. The school crossing zone times shall be posted with the speed limit for those times. Active school crossing zone times shall be determined by both the start of the school day and the dismissal of the school day. Therefore, all active school crossing zones on the city streets at the locations designated herein shall be from 7:15 a.m. to 8:15 a.m. and from 2:45 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. on days that school is in session.

SECTION 2
PENALTY

Any person violating this Ordinance shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof shall be fined a sum not exceeding two hundred dollars ($200.00).

SECTION 3
SAVINGS CLAUSE

All provisions of any ordinance in conflict with this Ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent they are in conflict; but such repeal shall not abate any pending prosecution for violation of occurring prior to the repeal of the ordinance. Any remaining portions of said ordinances shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 4
SEVERABILITY

Should any section, subsection, sentence, clause or phrase of this Ordinance be declared unconstitutional or invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, it is expressly provided that any and all remaining portions of this Ordinance shall remain in full force and effect. City hereby declares that it would have passed this Ordinance, and each section, subsection, sentences, clauses and phrases be declared unconstitutional or invalid.

SECTION 5
REPEALER

Any other ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict with this Ordinance are hereby expressly repealed.

SECTION 6
EFFECTIVE DATE

This Ordinance shall become effective upon adoption and publication as required by law.

SECTION 7
PROPER NOTICE AND MEETING

It is hereby officially found and determined that the meetings at which this ordinance was passed were open to the public as required and that public notice of the time, place and purpose of said meetings were given as required by the Open Meetings Act, Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code.

PASSED AND APPROVED, on its first reading on the ____ day of _____ 2025.

PASSED AND APPROVED, on its second reading on the ____ day of _____ 2025.

_____
Atwood C. Kenjura
Mayor

ATTEST:

_____
Jeana Bellinger, TRMC, CMC
City Secretary

SCHOOL
SPEED
LIMIT
20
7 : 30 - 8 : 30 AM
2 : 45 - 4 : 00 PM
SCHOOL DAYS
CELL PHONE
USE
PROHIBITED
UP TO $200 FINE
NO
PARKING
ANY
TIME

Dane Rau

From: Brooke Trahan <btrahan@brenhamk-12.net>
Sent: Thursday, June 12, 2025 9:30 AM
To: Dane Rau
Cc: Clay Gillentine; Christine Johnson
Subject: Re: FW: Bell Schedule for BISD

Hi Dane,

Thank you for your thoughtful email and for your continued partnership with BISD. We appreciate your proactive approach in reviewing the current school zone signage, especially as our bell schedules and traffic patterns have evolved over time.

Clay is currently enjoying some well-deserved time with his family, but I know he would echo my appreciation for your kind words and your leadership in this conversation. We're incredibly proud of his recognition as Superintendent of the Year and grateful for the support from our city partners.

I've reviewed Mr. Gibson's submission, and I can confirm that the bell schedule and timeframes he provided are accurate. His summary reflects our current operations and matches the official start and stop times published on our district website **here.**

We appreciate the opportunity to collaborate on refining the school zone times to better match actual traffic activity. From our perspective, the afternoon window of 2:45–4:00 PM still effectively captures the bus and car line activity and seems appropriate to maintain.

However, we would recommend revisiting the morning school zone timeframe. Several of our campuses begin instruction before 8:00 AM, but Brenham High School starts at 7:45 AM, Brenham Junior High at 7:55 AM, and others follow closely at 8:00 AM. This means that staff, students, and buses are arriving on or near campuses well before the current 7:30 AM school zone start time.

Adjusting the morning school zone window to begin at 7:00 or 7:15 AM, while maintaining the end time of 8:15 AM, would provide better coverage during peak traffic and help ensure a safer environment for everyone during those high-volume arrival times.

We fully support this review process and welcome coordination with TXDOT as needed. Please know that BISD is committed to working alongside the City of Brenham and all relevant partners to ensure our school zones reflect both current schedules and the safest environment possible for our students and community.

Let us know what next steps you envision and how we can assist in moving this forward.

Warm regards,

On Thu, Jun 12, 2025 at 8:55 AM Dane Rau <DRau@cityofbrenham.org> wrote:

Clay/Brooke

Hope the summer is going well. I know you all really don't get much of a break but hope you are enjoying a little time off with your families. Clay congrats on the Superintendent of the Year Award. That is so deserving, and we are grateful for your leadership here in Brenham.

Below you will see an email from Brian Gibson who has requested that we consider changing the school zone signs around all schools to adequately reflect earlier times due to bus flow, traffic, and bell times changing over the years. I have attached our current ordinance from 2009 in which we still go by and what the signs state on the listed local roadways. On state highways such as FM 577 (Blue Bell Rd) and Business 36 (N. Park), and Business 290 (Market St), TXDOT has their own flashing signs, and these are based on each schools' bell schedule listed on the BISD website.

We don't mind looking at these and getting more protection earlier as we want them to reflect when the most traffic is in the area, and I can certainly work with TXDOT to get there take. I would like your opinion on this topic and your verification that the information Brian submitted is accurate and BISD supports it. We have sometime on this, but I would like to get it taken care of in July and adopted if changes are needed so we can make the new signs and coordinate with TXDOT.

Thank you,

Dane Rau

Director of Public Works

City of Brenham

979-337-7407

drau@cityofbrenham.org

From: Brian Gibson <bgibson2@brenhamk-12.net>
Sent: Wednesday, April 16, 2025 11:32 AM

City Council Special / Workshop Meeting

AGENDA ITEM 3

Agenda Item: **FY2025-26 Proposed Budget Discussions**

Meeting Date: July 21, 2025

Department: Budget

Staff Contact: Julie Flagg, Chief Financial Officer

SUMMARY STATEMENT:

Chief Financial Officer Julie Flagg will discuss the FY2025-26 budget.

ATTACHMENTS:

None

RECOMMENDATION:

No action - discussion only.