

## **Brenham City Council Minutes**

A Regular Meeting of the Brenham City Council was held on Thursday, August 21, 2025 beginning at 1:00 PM in the Brenham City Hall, City Council Chambers, at 200 W. Vulcan Street, Brenham, Texas.

### Members Present:

Mayor Atwood Kenjura  
Mayor Pro Tem Clint Kolby  
Councilmember Leah Cook  
Councilmember Paul LaRoche  
Councilmember Adonna Saunders  
Councilmember Steve Soman

### Members Absent:

Councilmember Albert Wright

### City of Brenham Staff Present:

City Manager Carolyn Miller, City Attorney Cary Bovey, Assistant City Manager Megan Mainer, City Secretary/Director of Administrative Services Jeana Bellinger, General Manager of Public Utilities William Bissette, Director of Gas and Utility Services Shawn Bolenbarr, Director of Water and Wastewater Jerry Saldivar, Director of Public Works Dane Rau, Chief Financial Officer Julie Flagg, Fire Chief Mark Donovan, Assistant Fire Chief David Cella, Police Chief Gary Boshears, Development Services Director Stephanie Doland, Kyle Branham, Jared Beckendorf, Gabriela Trejo, Christine Simich and Kevin Boggus

### Citizens/Others Present:

Brandon Roznovsky and Jeremiah Byerly

### Media Present:

Joshua Blaschke with KWHI, and Sarah Forsythe with Brenham Banner Press

- 1. Call Meeting to Order**
- 2. Invocation and Pledges to the US and Texas Flags - Councilmember Adonna Saunders**
- 3. Special Recognition:**
  - Introduction of New Police Chief Gary Boshears**
- 4. Citizen Comments**

No citizen comments were heard.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

### **5. Statutory Consent Agenda**

- 5.a. Approve the Minutes from the August 7, 2025 Regular City Council Meeting**
- 5.b. Approve Ordinance No. O-25-012 on Its Second Reading to Repeal O-24-009 Relating to the Non-Exclusive Franchise Granted to Waste Solutions USA, LLC to Operate a Roll-Off Container Service for Residents, Businesses, and Industries Inside Brenham City Limits**
- 5.c. Approve a Recommendation from the Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone (TIRZ) No. 1 Board to Approve TIRZ Funding Corrections, in the Amount of \$199,715.87, for Fiscal Years 2020-2024 Due to Revised Property Valuations and Authorize the Mayor to Execute Any Necessary Documentation**

A motion was made by Councilmember Saunders and seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Kolby to approve Consent Agenda Items 5.a. through 5.c. with corrections to the Minutes (5.a.) as presented.

Mayor Kenjura called for a vote. The motion with Council voting as follows:

- Yes:** Mayor Kenjura, Mayor Pro Tem Kolby, Councilmember Cook, Councilmember LaRoche, Councilmember Saunders, Councilmember Soman
- No:** None
- Absent:** Councilmember Wright

## **WORK SESSION**

### **6. Discussion and Presentation on the Passage of House Bill 1522 in the 89th Texas Legislative Session**

City Secretary Jeana Bellinger presented this item. Bellinger explained that during the recent 89th Legislative Session, House Bill 1522 was signed into law to become effective on September 1, 2025. This new law made changes to the Open Meetings Act related to agenda posting requirements for all City Council and Advisory Board agendas, and it requires specific wording on agendas when the annual budget is being discussed and considered by City Council.

Bellinger presented the following information to the City Council about the new law:

- House Bill 1522: 3 Business-Day Law
- Timeline of HB 1522
- Two Parts of HB 1522
- Change to the Open Meetings Act - Section 551.043 of the Government Code
- Definition of Business Day
- Exceptions to the 3 Business Day Rule
- What the new rule means to City Council and City Advisory Boards
- Holidays - State, Federal and Local
- New agenda and agenda packet processing procedures

## **REGULAR SESSION**

### **7. Discuss and Possibly Act Upon an Ordinance on Its First Reading Amending the Rate Tariff Schedule for the City of Brenham Sanitation Rates**

Public Works Director Dane Rau presented this item. Rau explained that in May 2025, Brannon Industrial Group, aka BVR Waste and Recycling (BVR) notified the City about proposed rate increases. Rau stated that staff met with BVR and looked at all rate classes and considered how a rate increase would affect our seniors, residents, commercial businesses and users of the Collection Station.

Rau stated that after working with BVR, we settled on a blended rate increase of 7.9% related to sanitation and recycling services. Rau explained the rate increases would be as follows:

- Curbside sanitation and recycling rate would go from \$17.00 to \$18.00 per month;
- Senior citizen rate would go from \$12.50 to \$13.00 per month;
- Commercial sanitation would have an overall increase of 10% as this part of the operation requires more expensive trucks, more travel and has more risks with sanitation pickup, which leads to higher costs.

Rau explained that these rate increases were based on operating costs, risk, and markets for materials. Rau advised that while staff did not want to raise rates, they feel that in order to operate effectively and to maintain a partnership between BVR, the City and the customers we all serve, it is important at this time. BVR has done well and, in order to maintain fair wages for their employees, keep up with higher insurance costs as well as increased prices on all equipment; therefore, staff believes this increase is needed.

A motion was made by Councilmember Cook and seconded by Councilmember Saunders

to approve an Ordinance on its first reading amending the rate tariff schedule for the City of Brenham Sanitation Rates.

Mayor Kenjura called for a vote. The motion passed with Council voting as follows:

**Yes:** Mayor Kenjura, Mayor Pro Tem Kolby, Councilmember Cook, Councilmember LaRoche, Councilmember Saunders, Councilmember Soman

**No:** None

**Absent:** Councilmember Wright

**8. Discuss and Possibly Act Upon Resolution No. R-25-020 Related to the Appointment of Members to Serve on the Capital Improvements Advisory Committee (CIAC)**

Director of Development Services Stephanie Doland presented this item. Doland explained that on July 5, 2023 the City Council appointed the inaugural Capital Improvements Advisory Committee (CIAC) to review, advise, and recommend adoption of assessing impact fees following the results of the impact fee study as completed by Strand Associates. The Impact Fee Ordinance was subsequently adopted by Council on February 22, 2024 following the recommendation by the CIAC.

Doland stated that during the recent legislative session, Senate Bill 1883 was passed with an effective date of September 1, 2025 that specifically alters the requirements of the industry professionals required to serve on the CIAC. Previously the statute allowed the City's Planning and Zoning Commission to serve as the CIAC; however, with SB 1883, at least 50% of the committee's members shall be representatives of the real estate, development, or building industries who are not employees or officials of the governmental entity.

Doland stated that staff recommends a new CIAC Board be reappointed to comply with the new requirements of SB 1833. Doland asked that the following seven (7) members, set to staggered terms, be appointed:

- Dr. Paul LaRoche - City Council Representative: Term to expire on December 31, 2028
- Cayte Neil - P&Z Representative: Term to expire on December 31, 2026
- Blake Brannon - ETJ Representative: Term to expire on December 31, 2027
- Wende Buckley - Real Estate Representative: Term to expire on December 31, 2028
- Blake Lucherik - Real Estate Representative: Term to expire on December 31, 2027
- Dale Martin - Real Estate Representative: Term to expire on December 31, 2026

- Elizabeth Price - Building Industry (Architect) Representative: Term to expire on December 31, 2028

A motion was made by Councilmember Saunders and seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Kolby to approve Resolution No. R-25-020 related to the appointment of seven (7) members, as presented, to serve on the Capital Improvements Advisory Committee (CIAC).

Mayor Kenjura called for a vote. The motion with Council voting as follows:

**Yes:** Mayor Kenjura, Mayor Pro Tem Kolby, Councilmember Cook, Councilmember LaRoche, Councilmember Saunders, Councilmember Soman

**No:** None

**Absent:** Councilmember Wright

**9. Discuss and Possibly Act Upon Amendment No. 1 to the Professional Services Agreement Between the City of Brenham and Strand Associates, Inc. Related to Project No. 63C-21C, Surface Water Treatment Plant Rehab and Expansion, and Authorize the Mayor to Execute Any Necessary Documentation**

Director of Gas and Utility Services Shawn Bolenbarr presented this item. Bolenbarr advised that the City entered into a Professional Services Agreement with Strand Associates on September 1, 2023, for engineering services related to Project No. 63C-21C (Surface Water Treatment Plant Rehab and Expansion) for an amount not to exceed \$2,520,000.00.

Bolenbarr explained that Public Utilities staff would like to amend the Agreement to include bidding and construction-related services for additional upgrades to the chlorine room located at the Water Treatment Plant. Bolenbarr stated that the amendment would increase the contract amount by \$7,500.00 making the new total contract amount for the project \$2,527,500.00. This amendment would also adjust the time of performance from a completion date of October 1, 2027, to January 31, 2028.

A motion was made by Councilmember LaRoche and seconded by Councilmember Saunders to approve Amendment No. 1 to the Professional Services Agreement between the City of Brenham and Strand Associates, Inc. related to Project No. 63C-21C, Surface Water Treatment Plant Rehab and Expansion, in the amount of \$7,500.00 and authorize the Mayor to execute any necessary documentation.

Mayor Kenjura called for a vote. The motion with Council voting as follows:

**Yes:** Mayor Kenjura, Mayor Pro Tem Kolby, Councilmember Cook, Councilmember LaRoche, Councilmember Saunders, Councilmember Soman

**No:** None

**Absent:** Councilmember Wright

## **10. Administrative/Elected Officials Report**

City Secretary Jeana Bellinger provided the following update:

- Clear The Shelter on Saturday, August 23rd from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Brenham Animal Shelter.

City Manager Carolyn Miller provided the following update:

- Special City Council Meeting on August 27th at 8:30 a.m.
- Labor Day Holiday on September 1st
- Regular City Council meeting will be September 4th
- Washington County Fair Parade on September 13th
- City Council Photo on September 18th at 11:45 a.m.

Council adjourned into Executive Session at 1:45 p.m.

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**11. Section 551.072, Texas Government Code - Deliberation Regarding Real Property - Discussion Regarding the Purchase, Exchange and/or Acquisition of Real Property for the City of Brenham Sanitary Sewer Improvements and Facilities**

**12. Section 551.071, Texas Government Code - Consultation with Attorney - Consultation with City Attorney Concerning the Brenham Municipal Airport, Its Operations and Services, and Associated Matters**

Executive Session adjourned at 3:02 p.m.

## **ADJOURN**

*Atwood C. Kenjura*

Mayor

*Jeana Bellinger, TRMC, CMC*

City Secretary

