

Brenham City Council Minutes

A Regular Meeting of the Brenham City Council was held on Thursday, December 4, 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
Councilmember Leah Cook
Councilmember Paul LaRoche
Councilmember Adonna Saunders
Councilmember Steve Soman
Councilmember Albert Wright

Members Absent:

Mayor Pro Tem Clint Kolby

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 Bisette, Director of Gas and Utilities Shawn Bolenbarr, Director of Finance Stacy Hardy, Director of Public Works Dane Rau, Chief Financial Officer Julie Flagg, Director of HR and Risk Management Susan Nienstedt, Fire Chief Mark Donovan, Police Chief Gary Boshears, Development Services Director Stephanie Doland, Economic & Community Development Director Teresa Rosales, Director of Engineering Richard O'Malley, Kyle Branham, Shauna Laauwe, David Cella, Tammy Murphy, Kevin Boggus, and Gabriela Trejo

Citizens/Others Present:

Linda Thomas, Ronnie Becker, Cody Neutzler, Melinda Fay, Peter Fay, Brad Tegeler, Brian Herzog, Cori Herzog, Tony Grahmann, Betty Thiel, Geoffrey Thiel, Jeff Miles, and Bryan Blaylock

Media Present:

Jason May, 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. Service Recognitions**
 - ◆ **Betty Thiel — 40 Years - Library**

4. Citizen Comments

Fire Chief Mark Donovan presented the Brenham Fire Department's Outstanding Employee Award to Melinda Gordon, Communications and Public Relations Manager for the City of Brenham. Chief Donovan thanked Gordon for her hard work, dedication and professionalism while assisting all first responders.

Citizen and business owner Brad Tegeler addressed the City Council regarding the traffic mitigation improvements being considered by TXDOT on Highway 36.

Tegeler stated he was in favor of the medians in the area of Wal-Mart and the Bluebonnet Shopping Center (south of Hwy 290) but urged Council to reconsider the medians being proposed on the north side of Highway 290 near HEB due to it cutting off access to several businesses along the east side of Highway 36 (Walgreens, Specs, tanning and hair salons).

Citizen and business owner Brian Herzog addressed the City Council regarding the traffic mitigation improvements being considered by TXDOT on Highway 36.

Herzog requested that the Council to reconsider the medians being proposed on the north side of Highway 290 near HEB due to it cutting off access to his business.

Herzog stated that his customers coming from downtown would have an additional 6 minutes added to their travel time and that the quickest route to access his business would be through the residential neighborhood behind his business - which will create more traffic on those residential streets.

CONSENT AGENDA

5. Statutory Consent Agenda

- 5.a. Approve the Minutes from the November 13, 2025 and November 20, 2025 Regular City Council Meetings**
- 5.b. Approve Ordinance No. O- 25-020 on its Second Reading Amending the City of Brenham's FY2024-25 Adopted Budget**
- 5.c. Approve Resolution No. R-25-035 Regarding the Election of Members to the Board of Directors of the Washington County Appraisal District**
- 5.d. Approve a Professional Services Agreement Between the City of Brenham and Operational Technical Services, LLC Related to Technical Staffing Services and Authorize the Mayor to Execute Any Necessary Documentation**
- 5.e. Approve Resolution No. R-25-036 Adopting an Increase in the City of Brenham's Monthly Contribution to the Texas Emergency Services Retirement System (TESRS)**
- 5.f. Approve Recommendations for Appointments and/or Re-appointments**

to Various City Boards and Commissions and Authorize the Mayor to Execute Any Necessary Documentation

5.g. Approve a Ratification to the Multi-Year Contract with Carahsoft Technology Corporation for Online Planning and Permitting Software Agreement in the Amount of \$61,713.99 and Authorize the Mayor to Execute Any Necessary Documentation

A motion was made by Councilmember Wright and seconded by Councilmember Saunders to approve Consent Agenda Items 5.a. through 5.g. with the correction to Item 5.f. as presented.

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

Yes: Mayor Kenjura, Councilmember Cook, Councilmember LaRoche, Councilmember Saunders, Councilmember Soman, Councilmember Wright

No: None

Absent: Mayor Pro Tem Kolby

REGULAR SESSION

6. Discuss and Possibly Act Upon the Purchase of One (1) Chevrolet Silverado 2500HD Pickup Truck and One (1) Chevrolet 1500 Pickup Truck for the City of Brenham Parks Department from LaRoche Chevrolet and Authorize the Mayor to Execute Any Necessary Documentation

Stephen Draehn, Maintenance Supervisor, presented this item. Draehn stated that the Parks Department is seeking approval to purchase one (1) Chevrolet Silverado 2500HD Crew Cab 4WD Pickup Truck and one (1) Chevrolet Silverado 1500 Crew Cab 4WD pickup truck for fiscal year 2026 for use by the Parks Department's Maintenance Crews.

Draehn explained that staff obtained multiple quotes for these vehicles from several different vendors and the quote was from LaRoche Chevrolet for \$85,614.00.

A motion was made by Councilmember Saunders and seconded by Councilmember Soman to approve the purchase of one (1) Chevrolet Silverado 2500HD pickup truck and one (1) Chevrolet 1500 pickup truck for the City of Brenham Parks Department from LaRoche Chevrolet, in the amount of \$85,614.00, and authorize the Mayor to execute any necessary documentation.

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

follows:

Yes: Mayor Kenjura, Councilmember Cook, Councilmember Saunders, Councilmember Soman, Councilmember Wright

No: None

Absent: Mayor Pro Tem Kolby

7. Discuss and Possibly Act Upon Resolution No. R-25-037 Accepting the Public Infrastructure Improvements in the Vintage Farms Phase 7 Subdivision

Stephanie Doland, Director of Development Services, presented this item. Doland stated that the subject property was developed by Rainer and Son Development Company LLC and is more commonly known as Stylecraft. The Vintage Farms subdivision has been under construction since 2017 and the infrastructure for Phases 1 through 6 and the Townhome Phase is complete. Doland explained that Phase 7 consisted of 13 lots for single-family home construction, dedication of a public roadway, and three (3) common areas for streetscaping, sidewalks, and community landscaping.

Doland advised that the public infrastructure improvements for Phase 7 have a total valuation of \$289,910.14 and have been constructed and inspected according to the City of Brenham ordinances and regulations and are ready for acceptance by the City.

A motion was made by Councilmember Soman and seconded by Councilmember Saunders to approve Resolution No. R-25-037 accepting the public infrastructure improvements in the Vintage Farms Phase 7 Subdivision.

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

Yes: Mayor Kenjura, Councilmember Cook, Councilmember LaRoche, Councilmember Saunders, Councilmember Soman, Councilmember Wright

No: None

Absent: Mayor Pro Tem Kolby

8. Administrative/Elected Officials Report

City Manager Carolyn Miller reported on the following:

- Toy Drive on Sunday, December 7th at Fireman's Training Center
- Downtown Christmas Stroll is December 5-6
- Jackson Street Park Ribbon Cutting will be on Tuesday, December 16th at 3:00 p.m.
- Next City Council meeting will be Thursday, December 18th at 1:00 p.m.

WORK SESSION

9. Proposed Traffic Mitigation Improvements within the Business 36 and State Highway 36 TXDOT Right-of-Way

Stephanie Doland, Director of Development Services, introduced this item and introduced Dan Marino, Director of Transportation Planning and Development for TXDOT.

Doland stated that in 2019, the Brenham City Council adopted a new Comprehensive Plan titled, Historic Past, Bold Future: Plan 2040 (Plan 2040). Plan 2040 included a large public input component on areas including transportation and roadway network. During the Town Hall meeting on January 1, 2019, over 150 citizens packed the Brenham Nancy Carol Roberts Memorial Library and were tasked with identifying areas in the City that need improved traffic flow. Doland explained that the area commonly referred to as the “four corners,” located between H-E-B and Lowe’s along Business 36 (S. Day St.) and State Highway 36 were unanimously identified.

Doland explained that since that meeting, TxDOT and City staff have prioritized developing a solution that improves traffic flow and access management along both the Business 36 (S. Day St) corridor and State Highway 36 (from the feeder road to Woodridge Boulevard). The plan emphasizes safety and incorporates public feedback, including a dedicated left-turn option from H-E-B, while minimizing excessive traffic movements on Business 36.

Marino presented the following update on the proposed traffic mitigation project for the Business 36 (S. Day St) corridor and State Highway 36 (from the feeder road to Woodridge Boulevard) area:

- Project Information: S. Day Street north of US 290 and SH 36 south of US 290; tentative contract bid date of December 2026.
- Current traffic volume in the area is 20,000+ vehicles per day.
- Project Scope: Reduce congestion, reduce the number of accidents and limit the impact on businesses in the area
- Background Information from the City's Comprehensive Plan and Thoroughfare Map
- Raised Median Features and Statistics

- Current Roadways and Proposed Draft Layout of the Medians

The City Council expressed the following concerns with the draft layout presented by Marino:

- Whether speed limits on both the north and south end of Hwy 36 can be reduced to help slow traffic down as they approach the median area. Marino advised that TXDOT would probably support that; however, a traffic study would need to be done on the north end of the project area.
- Could medians be revised to include a left turn into the businesses on the east side of S. Day Street so that they will not be so negatively impacted. Marino advised that he is working with City staff to address this issue and determine if the turn into HEB on the west side of S. Day Street can be changed into a left turn into the businesses on the east side.
- Adding signal lights at Sonic and Salem Road. Marino stated that signal lights must be at least 1,000 feet apart and are not provided for private driveways such as Sonic; however, TXDOT is currently working on a signal solution at Salem Road.

City Council adjourned into Executive Session at 2:12 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

10. 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 Electric Department Improvements and Facilities

Executive Session adjourned at 2:36 p.m.

ADJOURN

Atwood C. Kenjura
Atwood C. Kenjura
Mayor

Jeana Bellinger, TRMC, CMC
Jeana Bellinger, TRMC, CMC
City Secretary

