

Brenham City Council Minutes

A Regular Meeting of the Brenham City Council was held on Thursday, January 22, 2026 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
Councilmember Albert Wright

Members Absent:

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 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, Director of Engineering Richard O'Malley, Gabriela Trejo, and Christine Simich

Citizens/Others Present:

Linda Bessmer, John Powell, Stephanie Wehring

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 — Councilmember Albert Wright**
- 3. Citizen Comments**

John Powell addressed the City Council to thank them for what has been done along Old Mill Creek Road to ensure it is safe for residents living in the Timber Oaks

Subdivision. Powell also thanked Dane Rau and Stephanie Doland for their professionalism and empathy for the residents during the project.

Linda Bessmer addressed the City Council and asked them to continue to keep the city's utility infrastructure in mind as the data center begins construction. Bessmer also requested that the City Council please consider how the CGG project and future projects will affect BISD

CONSENT AGENDA

4. Statutory Consent Agenda

- 4.a. Approve a Software Renewal Between the City of Brenham and CDW Government LLC (CDWG) for Cybersecurity Software in the Amount of \$80,129.64 Through Texas Department of Information Resources Contract No. DIR-CPO-5303 and Authorize the Mayor to Execute Any Necessary Documentation**
- 4.b. Approve the Purchase of Public Safety Equipment from Fenix Industries on Buyboard Contract No.703-23 in the Amount of \$52,828.00 and Authorize the Mayor to Execute Any Necessary Documentation**
- 4.c. Approve an Equipment Financing Proposal with Cadence Equipment Finance, In the Amount of \$369,340.00 with a Five-Year Term and an Interest Rate of 5.75%, for the Purchase of a Street Sweeper for the City of Brenham 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 4.a. through 4.c.

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, Councilmember Wright

No: None

Absent: None

WORK SESSION

5. Presentation and Discussion on the Ice Cream Capital of Texas Logo and Brand Guide

Megan Mainer, Assistant City Manager , presented this item. Mainer stated that Brenham was officially designated as the Ice Cream Capital of Texas in May of 2025 and since that occurred, excitement and momentum around the "Ice Cream Capital of Texas" identity created a unique opportunity for Visit Brenham staff to develop a brand in a meaningful way.

Mainer explained that in the summer of 2025, Visit Brenham sought proposals from local graphic artists to develop an Ice Cream Capital of Texas branding package. James Pharaon Creative, Bryan Creative, and Drifting Creatives provided proposals, and staff selected James Pharaon Creative for graphic design services. The goal of the branding package was to aid in consistent use of logos, colors, and typography and promote consistency in marketing and communication efforts, while also supporting marketing and sales teams with ready-to-use branded assets.

Mainer stated that in order to ensure the branding package reflected input from key stakeholders, including Visit Brenham staff, Blue Bell Creameries, the Tourism Advisory Board, and the City Council, staff developed an Ice Cream Capital of Texas Working Group consisting of Joe Robertson, Stephanie Wehring, Jenny Van Dorf, Leah Cook, Traci Pyle, Kathrine Briscoe, and herself. The Working Group began meeting in August and finalized the logo selection on October 7, 2025.

Mainer explained that James Pharaon Creative subsequently developed a brand guide in December 2025. The Ice Cream Capital of Texas Brand Guide was presented to the Tourism Advisory Board on January 15 for review and feedback. Staff, along with the Ice Cream Capital of Texas Working Group, recommends that the City Council review and provide feedback on the Ice Cream Capital of Texas logo and brand guide.

REGULAR SESSION

6. Discuss and Possibly Act Upon Resolution No. R-26-002 Authorizing the Publication of Notice of Intention to Issue Certificates of Obligation, Series 2026

Julie Flagg, Chief Financial Officer, presented this item. Flagg explained that during the FY2025-26 City Council budget workshops held in June and July 2025, staff discussed issuing certificates of obligation (COs) for water system improvements, drainage projects, and general government capital purchases and projects.

Flagg stated that the water system improvement amount of \$5,800,000.00 is the remaining amount for the water treatment plant expansion, based on the awarded bid amount. The general government capital purchases and projects are not to exceed \$7,000,000.00 and include the purchase of two (2) fire trucks, the remodel of Fire Station No. 1, funds for other public safety purposes, and funds for street reconstruction. The drainage amount is \$1,520,000.00 and is for various projects that have been completed, are underway, and/or are to be done in future periods. A

Reimbursement Resolution (Resolution R-24-015) related to the drainage funding was passed at the October 3, 2024 City Council meeting. Flagg explained that this Resolution is officially giving notice of the City's intention to issue Certificates of Obligation Series 2026 not to exceed \$14,460,000.00 for these purposes, including bond issuance costs.

A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Kolby and seconded by Councilmember Saunders to approve Resolution No. R-26-002 authorizing the publication of Notice of Intention to Issue Certificates of Obligation, Series 2026, 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, Mayor Pro Tem Kolby, Councilmember Cook, Councilmember LaRoche, Councilmember Saunders, Councilmember Soman, Councilmember Wright

No: None

Absent: None

7. Discuss and Possibly Act Upon on Resolution No. R-26-003 Providing for the Approval of the Bylaws of the Main Street Advisory Board

Leigh Linden, Main Street Manager, presented this item. Linden state that the Main Street Advisory Board voted to approve updated bylaws during their meeting in August to ensure compliance with the standards established by Main Street America. This update is essential for the Main Street Brenham program to meet current standards and requirements, thereby preserving its accreditation status and fostering the continued success of the program.

A motion was made by Councilmember Saunders and seconded by Councilmember Cook to approve Resolution No. R-26-003 providing for the approval of the Bylaws of the Main Street Advisory Board of the City of Brenham, Texas 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, Mayor Pro Tem Kolby, Councilmember Cook, Councilmember LaRoche, Councilmember Saunders, Councilmember Soman, Councilmember Wright

No: None

Absent: None

8. Administrative/Elected Officials Report

City Manager Carolyn Miller reported on the following:

- Chamber Banquet is Tuesday, January 27th at the Fireman's Training Center
- Black History Month Forums will be held every Monday in February at the Cannery Kitchen at 6:00 p.m.

The Fire Chief, Police Chief, Public Work Director and the General Manager of Public Utilities all gave the City Council an update on the department preparations for the upcoming winter storm.

Council adjourned into Executive Session at 1: 50 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

9. 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 2:46 p.m.

ADJOURN

Atwood C. Kenjura

Atwood C. Kenjura
Mayor

Jeana Bellinger, TRMC, CMC

Jeana Bellinger, TRMC, CMC
City Secretary

