

Brenham City Council Minutes

A Regular Meeting of the Brenham City Council was held on Thursday, April 2, 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:

None

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 Utilities Shawn Bolenbarr, Director of Water and Wastewater Jerry Saldivar, 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, Kyle Branham, Shauna Laauwe, David Cella, Kelvin Raven, Kevin Boggus, Morgan Patton, Megan Gray, Karen Stack, Gabriela Trejo, Joanne Hynes, Carrie Derkowski, Stephen Draehn

Citizens/Others Present:

Carol Collins, Linda Thomas, Steve Sefcik, Ann McCulloch, DeWayne Mortenson

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 - Mayor Atwood Kenjura**
- 3. Proclamations**

- **Fair Housing Month**

4. Service Recognitions

- **Tammy Jaster, Aquatic Center- 20 Years**

5. Special Recognition - Donation to City of Brenham Animal Services

Carol Collins presented a \$20,000.00 donation to the City of Brenham Animal Services. Jensen recognized Megan Gray and the Animal Service staff for all of their hard work.

6. Citizen Comments

Dr. Tina Henderson of Prairie View A&M University addressed the City Council. Henderson stated she wanted to reintroduce herself to the community. Henderson stated that she is the new Community Economic Development Extension Agent through Prairie View A&M University.

CONSENT AGENDA

7. Statutory Consent Agenda

- 7.a. Approve the Minutes from the March 19, 2026 Regular City Council Meeting**
- 7.b. Approve the Appointment of Rick Oldenettle to Fill a Vacancy on the Brenham Police Citizen Advisory Board, for an Unexpired Term to End on December 31, 2028, and Authorize the Mayor to Execute Any Necessary Documentation**
- 7.c. Approve the Appointment of Whitney Ray to Fill a Vacancy on the Main Street Advisory Board, for an Unexpired Term to End on December 31, 2026, and Authorize the Mayor to Execute Any Necessary Documentation**
- 7.d. Approve a Change Order, in the Amount of \$5,861.00, to Altec Industries, Inc. Related to the Purchase of a Digger Derrick Truck and Authorize the Mayor to Execute Any Necessary Documentation**
- 7.e. Approve the Purchase of an Automatic Transfer Switch System for the Lake Somerville Pump Station from Clifford Power Systems, Inc. Through Texas BuyBoard Contract No. 757-24, In the Amount of**

\$89,573.84, 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 7.a. through 7.e.

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

REGULAR SESSION

8. Discuss and Possibly Act Upon Approval of Ordinance No. O-26-006 of the City of Brenham, Texas, Awarding the Sale and Authorizing the Issuance of the City of Brenham, Texas, Combination Tax Revenue Certificates of Obligation, Series 2026, Levying a Tax in Payment Thereof; Authorizing the Execution and Delivery of a Paying/Agent Registrar Agreement; Approving the Official Statement; and Enacting Other Provisions Relating Thereto

Julie Flagg, Chief Financial Officer, presented this item. Flagg advised that on January 22, 2026, City Council approved Resolution No. R-26-002 giving notice of intention to issue Certificates of Obligation, which we are issuing today. Flagg advised that the notice was published for two consecutive weeks in the local newspaper and has been posted continuously on the City's website for at least forty-five days.

Flagg stated that the proceeds from the sale of these Certificate of Obligation, in the amount not to exceed \$14,460,000.00 will be used for the following purposes: (1) construction and acquisition of, and improvements to, the City's waterworks system and facilities, including in each case the acquisition of land and rights-of-way in connection therewith; (2) construction and acquisition of, and improvements to, the City's sanitary sewer system and facilities, including in each case the acquisition of land and rights-of-way in connection therewith; (3) construction and acquisition of, and improvements to, City's drainage utility system and facilities, including in each case the acquisition of land and rights-of-way in connection therewith; (4) construction and acquisition of, and improvements to, the City streets, including traffic control systems, traffic safety improvements, landscaping, and street lighting, bridges, sidewalks and drainage improvement facilities, including in each case the acquisition of land and rights-of-way in connection therewith; (5) construction of a new City fire station, and expansion, renovation and repair of and improvements to existing City fire stations, including in

each case the acquisition of land and rights-of-way in connection therewith; (6) acquisition of vehicles and equipment for City fire purposes, including, the acquisition of new fire trucks; and (7) professional services incurred in connection with items (1) through (6), and to pay the costs incurred in connection with the issuance of the Certificates.

Flagg introduced the City's financial advisor, Jennifer Ritter, of Specialized Public Finance, who advised that (11) eleven bids were received with Robert W. Baird and Co., INC coming with the lowest interest rate of 4.169338%.

A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Kolby and seconded by Councilmember Saunders to approve Ordinance No. O-26-006 of the City of Brenham, Texas awarding the sale and authorizing the issuance of the City of Brenham, Texas, Combination Tax Revenue Certificate of Obligation, Series 2026; levying a tax in payment thereof; authorizing the execution and delivery of a Paying/Agent Registrar Agreement; approving the official statement; and enacting other provisions relating thereto.

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

9. Discuss and Possibly Act Upon a Pole Attachment Agreement Between the City of Brenham and Fiberlight LLC, Related to Various Attachments on Utility Poles Located Within the City Limits and Authorize the Mayor to Execute Any Necessary Documentation

William Bissette, General Manager of Public Utilities, presented this item. Bissette explained that the City has renegotiated a Pole Attachment Agreement with FiberLight LLC to allow the company to attach and maintain fiber optic communication facilities to City-owned electric distribution poles. The agreement grants FiberLight a non-exclusive license, subject to City approval through a formal permit process, to install, maintain, relocate, and remove attachments for the purpose of providing lawful telecommunications services within the community.

A motion was made by Councilmember Soman and seconded by Councilmember Cook to approve a Pole Attachment Agreement between the City of Brenham and Fiberlight LLC, related to various attachments on utility poles located within the city limits 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

10. Discuss and Possibly Act Upon Change Order No. 1 and Final Payment to Techline Sports Lighting LLC for the Installation of Field Lighting at Henderson Park and Authorize the Mayor to Execute Any Necessary Documentation

Dane Rau, Director of Public Works, presented this item. Rau stated that in 2025-26 Budget, BCDC granted \$275,000.00 to upgrade the field lights at both Finke and Korthaurer fields located at Henderson Park. Rau explained that Council on October 2, 2025, awarded a contract to Techline Sports Field Lighting, LLC in the amount of \$268,975.00.

Rau explained that during the project there was one change order in the amount of \$2,750.00, which resulted in a change in the main electrical rack due to a current pole not being suitable for mounting.

A motion was made by Councilmember LaRoche and seconded by Councilmember Wright to approve Change Order No. 1 and Final Payment to Techline Sports Lighting LLC, in the amount of \$27,172.50, for the installation of field lighting at Henderson Park 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

11. Discuss and Possibly Act Upon an Ordinance on Its First Reading Establishing New Speed Limits on Highway 36 South from 290 Feeder Road

to Brenham City Limits

Dane Rau, Director of Public Works, presented this item. Rau stated that the City of Brenham and TXDOT have been working on several upcoming projects along Hwy 36 S. prior to the construction of the medians and a potential signal light. Rau stated that staff has asked TXDOT to consider decreasing the speed limit as you get closer into Brenham with the heavier traffic and numerous entrances and exits from commercial properties. Rau advised that TXDOT performed a traffic study and has recommended that the City lower the speed limits as follows:

- Hwy. 36 South, for traffic moving in a southerly direction, from 50 mph to 40 mph from the 290 feeder to approximately 0.525 miles out.
- Hwy. 36 South, for traffic moving in a northerly direction for 0.943 miles from the southern city limits will be 55 mph. For the 0.525 miles closest to the Hwy 290 intersection, the speed limit would be 40 mph.

Rau stated that TXDOT's recommendation are contained in the Ordinance being presented for first reading. TXDOT will be performing a traffic analysis on the south side of 36 once the sidewalk project is completed.

A motion was made by Councilmember Soman and seconded by Councilmember Saunders to approve an Ordinance on its first reading establishing new speed limits on Highway 36 South from 290 Feeder Road to Brenham City limits.

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

12. Discuss and Possibly Act Upon Final Payment to Solid Bridge Construction LLC Related to the Hurricane Harvey General Land Office (GLO) Community Development Block Grant Mitigation (CDBG-MIT) Program and Authorize the Mayor to Execute Any Necessary Documentation

Dane Rau, Director of Public Works, presented this item. Rau advised that Hurricane Harvey Projects are coming to a close. On October 3, 2024, Council awarded a construction contract to Solid Bridge Construction LLC for 7 sites around town that were part of the 2017 Hurricane Harvey GLO CDBG-MIT Grant. A grant

totaling \$5.01M was received for all services. Once bid out, the construction portion was awarded at \$5,422,110.00 for 7 sites being (Burleson Low Water Crossing), (Jefferson St Drainage Improvements), (Higgins Branch Creek at Henderson Park) (Baylor St Drainage Improvements), (E. Commerce/Dark St/Seelhorst/Clinton St Drainage Improvements), (Higgins Branch-Key to Day) and (Tom Dee St Drainage Improvements)

Rau stated that the City is received a deductive change order from the in the amount of \$459,280.00, which brings the total construction costs to \$5,119,813.00. All sites have been approved by Strand Engineering, the Contractor and City Staff. A 1-year warranty is also included for and will address any issues that may arise.

A motion was made by Councilmember Saunders and seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Kolby to approve final payment to Solid Bridge Construction LLC related to the Hurricane Harvey General Land Office (GLO) Community Development Block Grant Mitigation (CDBG-MIT) Program, in the amount of \$511,981.30, 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

13. Discuss and Possibly Act Upon Resolution No. R-26-015 Authorizing the Submission of a Texas Community Development Block Grant Program Application to the Texas Department of Agriculture for the Downtown Revitalization Program

Stephanie Doland, Director of Development Services, presented this item. Doland stated that the City of Brenham is designated as a Main Street City by the Texas Historical Commission and is therefore eligible to receive funding through the Texas Community Development Block Grant (TxCDBG) Downtown Revitalization Program. The objective of the Downtown Revitalization/Main Street Program is to provide infrastructure improvements that address conditions contributing to deterioration within areas designated as slum or blighted in a community's downtown or Main Street district. All TxCDBG-funded infrastructure improvements must be located on public property within the designated Main Street area.

Doland Stated that the program provides up to \$1,000,000.00 in funding, with a required local match of 5%, or \$50,000.00. The first phase of the application is due April

7, 2026. If the City is invited to submit a second-phase application, a formal procurement process will be initiated for engineering and grant administration services.

A motion was made by Councilmember Saunders and seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Kolby to approve Resolution No. R-26-015 authorizing the submission of a Texas Community Development Block Grant Program application to the Texas Department of Agriculture for the downtown revitalization program.

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
None

14. Administrative/Elected Officials Report

- Mayor Atwood C Kenjura congratulated Rick Oldnettle on volunteering to join the Police Citizen Advisory Board.

City Council adjourned into Executive Session at 2:08 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

15. Section 551.074, Texas Government Code, Personnel Matters - Discussion Concerning the Retirement of the City Manager, Potential Roles/Duties of the Retiring City Manager in Facilitating the Transition to a New City Manager, and the Appointment, Employment, Evaluation and Duties of a New City Manager, and Associated Issues

Executive Session adjourned at 3:42 p.m.

RE-OPEN REGULAR SESSION

16. Discuss and Possibly Act Upon the Appointment of an Interim City Manager and Authorize the Mayor to Execute Any Necessary Documentation

A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Kolby and seconded by Councilmember Saunders to appoint Megan Mainer as Interim City Manager.

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

ADJOURN

Atwood C. Kenjura

Atwood C. Kenjura
Mayor

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

