

Minutes of the February 14, 2022, Regular City Council Meeting at Heritage Hall, 7:00 PM.

The Merkel City Council met for a Regular City Council Meeting on February 14, 2022, at Heritage Hall, 7:00 PM. Mayor Schrampfer called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM and announced a quorum present. Council members present were Matthew Riggan, Brady Rutledge, Shae Garrett, Larry Hewitt, and Joseph Wilson.

Mayor Schrampfer led the Pledge of Allegiance and Texas Pledge.

Citizen comments – Tootie Bland spoke on Ordinance 011419. Mandy Schuman spoke on revitalization of downtown. Jimmy Cornett spoke on animal control. Phil Crowley introduced himself as a candidate for Taylor County Judge. Gary Hicks discussed Cleanup Merkel. D 'Lynn Lee spoke on building a new fire station. Clayton Tarpley introduced Ken Becker who spoke about Texas Communities Group. Tyler MacDermott stated his concerns as a business owner.

Fire station and Code enforcement to be placed on a future agenda.

Brady Rutledge made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 10, 2022, Regular City Council Meeting and was seconded by Shae Garrett. Approved 5-0.

Chief Harris gave the January Fire Department Report. Harris stated that they have 3 personnel in the academy now and would like to have open house at the Fire Station. Chief Conklin gave the January Police Department Report. City Manager Campbell gave the January Water Usage and Municipal Court reports.

Chief Conklin presented the 2021 City of Merkel Crime Statistics and Racial Profiling Report.

The City council reviewed and discussed the Section 3 presentation, including employment opportunities for Section 3 workers, contractor outreach, and tracking work hours for all contracts in accordance to the TxCDBG sewer project.

Shae Garrett made a motion to approve the Voting recommendation of appointing Michael Rice to serve a two-year term on the Abilene/Taylor County 911 District Board of Managers and was seconded by Joseph Wilson. Approved 5-0.

Brady Rutledge made a motion to order an election to be held on May 7, 2022 for Council Place 1, Council Place 2, and Council Place 3. Matthew Riggan seconded the motion. Approved 5-0.

Steve Campbell provided the 1st Quarter Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Quarterly Investment Report. Joseph Wilson made a motion to approve the 1st Quarter FY 2021-2022 Quarterly Investment Report. Seconded by Matthew Riggan. Approved 5-0.

Council reviewed the 1st Quarter budget numbers of Fiscal Year 2021-2022.

The Council discussed the Premium Pay Plan submitted by City Manager Campbell and discussed future projects for disbursement of SLFRF funds.

Brady Rutledge made motion to approve the Premium Pay Plan as presented for employees using the ARPA funding and was seconded by Shae Garrett. Approved 5-0.

Matt Riggan made a motion to adjourn and was seconded by Shae Garrett. Approved 5-0.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:02 PM.



Evelyn Morse, City Secretary



Mary Schramper, Mayor