

Minutes of the May 9, 2022, Regular City Council Meeting at Heritage Hall, 7:00 PM.

The Merkel City Council met for a Regular City Council Meeting on May 9, 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, and Joseph Wilson. Larry Hewitt was absent.

Mayor Schrampfer led the Pledge of Allegiance and Texas Pledge.

Citizens were given an opportunity to comment.

Matthew Riggan motioned to approve the minutes of the April 11, 2022, Regular City Council Meeting with changes and was seconded by Brady Rutledge. Approved 4-0.

Chief Harris gave the April Fire Department Report. Harris reported that the Fire Department has an upcoming fundraiser on June 11th. Chief Conklin gave the April Police Department Report. City Manager Campbell gave the April Municipal Court report. Councilman Riggan inquired on Code Enforcement report requested stated it has been 60 days and Campbell explained has not yet been completed. Riggan suggested simple spreadsheet report, stated he has examples he could provide. Campbell gave the April Water Usage report and provided the 2021 Water Audit Report to Council.

The Council discussed appointment to the EDC. Councilman Riggan mentioned Mandy Schuman, whose vitae was given to EDC President at a previous meeting. City Manager Campbell recommended local businessman Matt Travis. Mr. Travis addressed the Council, stating wants to help move Merkel forward. Brady Rutledge motioned to appoint Mr. Travis to the EDC Board and was seconded by Shae Garrett. Approved 3-1 with Riggan opposing.

Assistant Chief Hester of the MVFD spoke to the Council about the Texas Line of Duty Task Force and the city participating in the event; May is Fallen First Responder Awareness Month. Mayor Schrampfer presented the Proclamation-Make it Purple : Dress in Purple Day to the Merkel Fire Department for Fallen First Responder Awareness Month.

Discussion of the Merkel HOA downtown event scheduled for August 6, 2022. The Merkel HOA is asking for approval of a special event permit.

Motion to approve the Merkel HOA application for Alcoholic Beverage Special Event Permit was made by Brady Rutledge and seconded by Joseph Wilson. Approved 3-0. Shae Garrett recused himself as he is an HOA Board member.

Review and discuss section 3 policy updates & information for the city's TxCDBG contract #7220301.

Motion to approve Resolution No. 05092022 A Resolution of the City of Merkel, Texas finding that AEP Texas Inc.'s application to amend its distribution cost recovery factors to increase distribution

rates within the city should be denied was made by Matthew Riggan and seconded by Brady Rutledge. Approved 4-0.

Shaun Martin of Atmos Energy was in attendance to speak to the City Council regarding Ordinance #05092022-1 An Ordinance granting to Atmos Energy Corporation, a Texas and Virginia Corporation, its successors and assigns, a franchise to construct, maintain, and operate pipelines and equipment in the City of Merkel, Taylor County, Texas, for the transportation, delivery, sale, and distribution of gas in, out of, and through the said City for all purposes; providing for the payment of a fee or charge for the use of the public rights-of-ways; and providing that such fee shall be in lieu of other fees and charges, excepting Ad Valorem taxes; and repealing all previous gas franchise ordinances.

Brady Rutledge motioned to approve Ordinance 05092022-1 An Ordinance granting to Atmos Energy Corporation, a Texas and Virginia Corporation, its successors and assigns, a franchise to construct, maintain, and operate pipelines and equipment in the City of Merkel, Taylor County, Texas, for the transportation, delivery, sale, and distribution of gas in, out of, and through the said City for all purposes; providing for the payment of a fee or charge for the use of the public rights-of-ways; and providing that such fee shall be in lieu of other fees and charges, excepting Ad Valorem taxes; and repealing all previous gas franchise ordinances was seconded by Joseph Wilson. Approved 4-0.

Steve Campbell provided the 2nd Quarter Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Quarterly Investment Report.

Joseph Wilson made a motion to approve the 2nd Quarter FY 2021-2022 Quarterly Investment Report. Seconded by Matthew Riggan. Approved 4-0.

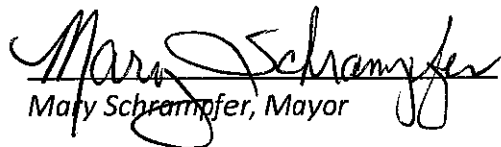
Council reviewed the 2nd Quarter budget numbers of Fiscal Year 2021-2022.

Brady Rutledge's motion to adjourn was seconded by Matthew Riggan and approved 4-0.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:06 PM.

Evelyn Morse

Evelyn Morse, City Secretary


Mary Schramper
Mary Schramper, Mayor