

Minutes of the October 10, 2022, Regular City Council Meeting at Heritage Hall, 7:00 PM.

The Merkel City Council met for a Regular City Council Meeting on October 10, 2022, at Heritage Hall, 7:00 PM. Mayor Schramper called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM and announced a quorum present. Council members present were Matthew Riggan, Gary Hicks, Larry Hewitt, Brady Rutledge and Joseph Wilson.

Mayor Schramper led the Pledge of Allegiance and Texas Pledge.

Prayer led by Larry Hewitt.

Citizens were given an opportunity to comment.

Brady Rutledge motioned to approve the minutes of the September 12, 2022, Regular City Council Meeting, and September 22, 2022, Called City Council Meeting. Gary Hicks seconded the motion. Approved 5-0.

Justin Ray gave the September Fire Department Report. Chief Conklin gave the September Police Department Report. Chief stated 3 officers were promoted at ceremony on October 7, 2022. Mayor Schramper gave the September Water Usage report. No Municipal Court report for September.

The council discussed Ordinance 10102022 adopting the ICC model codes. Gary Hicks spoke to City of Clyde, which is working with Bureau Veritas, to get input on what ICC model codes they are adopting. Hicks suggested tabling decision to get more information on suggested codes.

Gary Hicks motioned to table vote on Ordinance 101022. Matthew Riggan seconded the motion. Approved 5-0.

The council discussed TDA Project 7220301. Cory Higgins from Jacob Martin explained the bid process award for the Sewer Plant Project and suggested starting a new bid process to finish the Sewer Ponds. Motion was made by Brady Rutledge to award construction contract to Dowtech Specialty Contractors. Joseph Wilson seconded the motion. Approved 5-0.

Motion to approve the Merkel Economic Development Corporation's Budget for the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 was made by Matthew Riggan. Joseph Wilson seconded the motion. Approved 5-0.

Discussion of the EDC project to promote new business to provide a forgivable loan to Baldree & Jowers Enterprises. Hicks brought up other locations, how business is doing, possible bank loans. Riggan also questioned why not financed through a bank. Rutledge stated a business plan was presented to EDC which was approved. EDC to have 1st lien on property at 1400 N 1st, Merkel.

Brady Rutledge made a motion to approve the 1st reading of Resolution 10102022-01 a resolution of the City of Merkel, Texas authorizing the Merkel Economic Development Corporation to undertake a

project to promote new or expanded business enterprises by providing a forgivable loan to Baldree & Jowers Enterprises LLC D/B/A Ranch 2 Rail. Larry Hewitt seconded the motion. Approved 4-1.

The council discussed the repeal of the alcohol beverage ordinance. Brady motioned to table discussion of Ordinance for corrections to be made. Matthew Riggan seconded the motion. Approved 5-0.

Discussion of recommendations from the City Manager Applicant Review Committee. Motion to enter Executive Session was made by Gary Hicks and seconded by Joseph Wilson. Approved 5-0.

Mayor Schrapfer entered Executive Session at 8:42 PM to discuss personnel. Executive Session closed at 9:34 PM.

Open Meeting resumed at 9:34 PM.

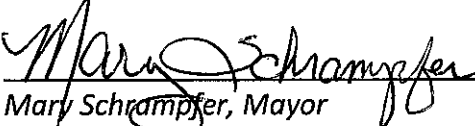
Brady Rutledge motioned to approve recommendation from the City Manager Applicant Review Committee and authorize the Interim City Manager/Mayor to negotiate contract. Gary Hicks seconded the motion. Approved 5-0

Brady Rutledge motioned to adjourn and was seconded by Larry Hewitt and approved 5-0.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:35 PM.



Evelyn Morse, City Secretary



Mary Schrapfer, Mayor