

## **Minutes of the January 9, 2023, Regular City Council Meeting at Heritage Hall, 7:00 PM.**

The Merkel City Council met for a Regular City Council Meeting on January 9, 2023, at Heritage Hall, 7:00 PM. Mayor Schrapfer 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 Schrapfer 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 December 12, 2022, Regular City Council Meeting. Gary Hicks seconded the motion. Approved 5-0.

Kris Hester gave the December Fire Department Report. Chief Conklin gave the December Police Department Report. Mayor Schrapfer gave the December Water Usage report. There was no December Municipal Court report. Steve McKay gave the December Code Enforcement report.

Presentation of Annual Financial Report (Audit) for Fiscal Year ending September 30, 2022, was given by Cathrine Wilks, CPA.

A motion to approve the Annual Financial Report for Fiscal Year ending September 30, 2022, was made by Matt Riggan. Seconded by Joe Wilson. Approved 5-0.

Discussion of the Downtown Revitalization and Main Street Program. Motion to approve application for the Downtown Revitalization and Main Street program was made by Matt Riggan and seconded by Larry Hewitt. Approved 5-0.

Tootie Bland spoke about the renovations being made to the city sidewalks around the Rosemary building. Motion to approve the changes to the city sidewalks by Tootie Bland was made by Brady Rutledge and seconded by Gary Hicks. Approved 5-0.

The Board discussed Ordinance 01092023-1 an Ordinance of the City of Merkel, Texas, for the regulation of sexual offenders; making it unlawful for certain sexual offenders to go in, on, or within 1000 feet of child safety zones within the city; providing exceptions to the ordinance; providing penalties for violations of the ordinance, including, but not limited to a fine not to exceed \$500.00 as allowed by law, per day of continuing violation.

Motion to approve Ordinance 01092023-1 an Ordinance of the City of Merkel, Texas, for the regulation of sexual offenders; making it unlawful for certain sexual offenders to go in, on, or within 1000 feet of child safety zones within the city; providing exceptions to the ordinance; providing penalties for violations of the ordinance, including, but not limited to a fine not to exceed \$500.00 as

allowed by law, per day of continuing violation was made by Brady Rutledge and seconded by Gary Hicks. Approved 5-0.

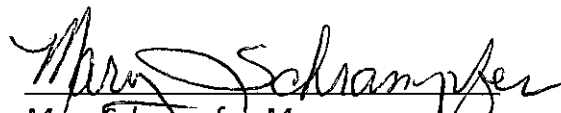
Discussion of Resolution 01092023 A resolution by The City Council of the City of Merkel, Texas approving submission of the grant application for the Criminal Justice Grant to the Office of the Governor.

Motion to approve Resolution 01092023 A resolution by The City Council of the City of Merkel, Texas approving submission of the grant application for the Criminal Justice Grant to the Office of the Governor was made by Gary Hicks and seconded by Matt Riggan. Approved 5-0.

Brady Rutledge's motion to adjourn was seconded by Matt Riggan and approved 5-0.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:03 PM.

  
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Evelyn Morse, City Secretary

  
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Mary Schramper, Mayor