

Minutes of March 31, 2025, Called City Council Meeting at Heritage Hall, 6:00 PM.

The Merkel City Council met for a Called City Council Meeting on March 31, 2025, at Heritage Hall, 6:00 PM. Mayor Schramper called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM and announced a quorum present. Council members present were Elaine Chaney, Collin Jacobs, and Matthew Riggan. Brady Rutledge and Rode McElreath were absent.

Prayer led by Collin Jacobs.

Mayor Schramper led the Pledge of Allegiance and Texas Pledge.

Citizens were given an opportunity to comment.

The council discussed Ordinance 04-21-2025 that would adopt regulations regarding substandard buildings. Chief Conklin shared pictures of current structures that are in the city and stated two were occupied. Conklin spoke on the dilapidated structures, hearing/appeal process, abatement process and guidance on details needed in the ordinance. Council discussed hiring code enforcement official, compliance percentage, training, and community engagement.

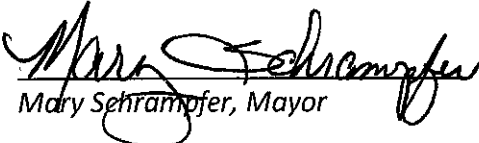
The council discussed FY26 budget needs for infrastructure, police and fire department. A discussion of bonds, capital improvements, and interest/sinking accounts. CJIS audit requirements were discussed with Chief Conklin and suggested solutions. Future bunker gear costs were discussed with Chief Harris.

Matthew Riggan's motion to adjourn and seconded by Collin Jacobs. Approved 3-0.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:09 PM.



Evelyn Morse, City Secretary



Mary Schramper, Mayor