

## **CITY OF MERKEL**

### **NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MERKEL, TEXAS**

This notice is posted pursuant to the Texas Open Meetings Act, (Vernon's Texas Code Annotated, Government Code, Chapter 551)

**The City Council of the City of Merkel, Texas will hold a Regular City Council Meeting at 6:00 PM, September 16, 2025, at Heritage Hall, which is located at 111 Taylor Street, Merkel, Texas 79536, at which time the following items will be considered:**

#### **OPEN MEETING**

1. ***Call meeting to order*** and announce a quorum is present.
2. ***PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE and TEXAS PLEDGE.***
3. ***Citizens Comments and Receipt of Petitions*** (At this time, anyone may speak on any matter other than personnel matters or matters under litigation for a length of time not to exceed three (3) minutes. ***(No Council/Board discussion or action can take place on any matter until such matter has been placed on an agenda and posted in accordance with the law).***
4. ***Administer*** Oath of Office to Tyler Newberry, City Council Place 2.
5. ***Recognition of Service*** Phillip Conklin (10 years), Andres Garcia (13 years), Delbert Russell (13 years).

#### ***Consent Agenda***

All items listed in the Consent Agenda are considered routine by the City Council and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion or presentation of these items unless otherwise requested by a Council Member. In the event one or more Council Members remove an item from the consent Agenda for separate discussion or presentation, the item or items removed will be considered in numerical order as part of the Regular Agenda and shall include a public hearing.

After the Council Members have requested any item on the consent Agenda be considered separately, the public comment period will be held. The public comment section of the consent agenda allows members of the public to present any ideas or information to the City Council and staff and also allows for public comment on the consent agenda items not otherwise pulled for separate consideration. Neither the City Council nor staff will engage in discussion with the public during the public comments unless the item is listed on the Council agenda.

6. ***Minutes:*** Discuss/Consider approval of the minutes of August 6, 2025, Called City Council Meeting, and August 19, 2025, Regular City Council Meeting.
7. ***Acceptance*** of Staff Reports.
8. ***Ordinance:*** Discuss/Consider Ordinance No. 09162025-2 AN ORDINANCE REGARDING THE CITY OF MERKEL'S TEXAS MUNICIPAL RETIREMENT SYSTEM BENEFITS PROVIDING FOR (1) AN INCREASE TO THE EMPLOYEE CONTRIBUTION RATE; AND (2) ADOPTING: (i) ANNUALLY ACCRUING UPDATED SERVICE CREDITS AND TRANSFER UPDATED SERVICE CREDITS; AND (ii) ANNUALLY ACCRUING ANNUITY INCREASES, ALSO REFERRED TO AS COST OF LIVING ADJUSTMENTS (COLAS) FOR RETIREES AND THEIR BENEFICIARIES.
9. ***Policy:*** Discuss/Consider updated Employee Policy Handbook.

10. **Discuss/Consider** Resolution No. 09162025 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MERKEL, TEXAS RATIFYING AND APPROVING PARTICIPATION IN A GLOBAL OPIOID SETTLEMENT LED BY THE TEXAS ATTORNEY GENERAL; ADOPTING THE TEXAS TERM SHEET; AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY SECRETARY TO SIGN THE PURDUE/SACKLER SETTLEMENT PARTICIPATION FORM AND ALL FUTURE SETTLEMENT PARTICIPATION FORMS.
11. **Discuss/Consider** Nominating Collin Jacobs to the Executive Committee of the West Central Texas Council of Governments.

## **Regular Agenda**

12. **Update** of Atmos Energy Project in Merkel.
13. **Discuss/Consider** Special Event Permit Application.
14. **Discuss/Consider** Planning and Zoning Committee Appointments.
15. **Public Hearing** on Budget Ordinance No. 09162025 for FY 2025-2026.
16. **Consider** 2<sup>nd</sup> READING OF ORDINANCE NO. 09162025 AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF MERKEL, TAYLOR COUNTY, TEXAS FIXING AND ESTABLISHING A BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING OCTOBER 1, 2025, AND ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2026 (FY 2026).
17. **Public Hearing** on the proposed tax rate of \$0.5600 per one hundred dollars (\$100.00) valuation for the 2025-2026 Fiscal Year. The proposed rate is an increase in taxes above the established no-new-revenue rate.
18. **Consider** 2<sup>nd</sup> READING OF ORDINANCE NO. 09162025 AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF MERKEL, TAYLOR COUNTY, TEXAS FIXING AND ESTABLISHING A BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING OCTOBER 1, 2025, AND ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2026 (FY 2026).
19. **Public Hearing** Regarding the Potentially Substandard Structure Situated on the Following Property: College of Merkel, Block 14, Lot W100 S150 W2/3, commonly known as 1506 N 3<sup>rd</sup>.
20. **Consider and Take Appropriate Action** Regarding Determination that the Structure on 1506 N 3<sup>rd</sup> is or is not Substandard pursuant to City Ordinance No. 04-21-2025.
21. **Consider and Take Appropriate Action** to Enter an Order requiring that the structure on 1506 N 3<sup>rd</sup> be vacated, secured, repaired, removed, or demolished within a certain time frame.
22. **Public Hearing** Regarding the Potentially Substandard Structure Situated on the Following Property: Sharp of Merkel, Lot 23 & 24, commonly known as 1712 S 2<sup>nd</sup>.
23. **Consider and Take Appropriate Action** Regarding Determination that the Structure on 1712 S 2<sup>nd</sup> is or is not Substandard pursuant to City Ordinance No. 04-21-2025.
24. **Consider and Take Appropriate Action** to Enter an Order requiring that the structure on 1712 S 2<sup>nd</sup> be vacated, secured, repaired, removed, or demolished within a certain time frame.

25. **Public Hearing** Regarding the Potentially Substandard Structure Situated on the Following Property: Original Town Merkel, Block 15, Lot S240 ft of LT 11, commonly known as 208 Lamar.
26. **Consider and Take Appropriate Action** Regarding Determination that the Structure on 208 Lamar is or is not Substandard pursuant to City Ordinance No. 04-21-2025.
27. **Consider and Take Appropriate Action** to Enter an Order requiring that the structure on 208 Lamar be vacated, secured, repaired, removed, or demolished within a certain time frame.
28. **Discuss** Merkel Branding Survey.
29. **Discuss/Consider** EDC Board Appointment/Reappointment.
30. **Executive Session** Unless otherwise properly requested) Under Texas Gov't Code Section, 551.074 (Personnel Matters) Evaluation of City Manager.

## ADJOURNMENT

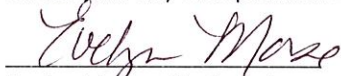
*All items on the agenda are for discussion and possible action.*

*The Merkel City Council reserves the right to adjourn into Executive Session at any time concerning any matters listed above, whenever it is considered necessary by the Council and is legally justified under the Texas Open Meetings Act (Texas Government Code Chapter 551, Subchapter D), as authorized by Texas Government Code Sections 551.071 (Consultation with Attorney), 551.072 (Deliberations about Real Property), 551.073 (Deliberations about Gifts and Donations), 551.074 (Personnel Matters), 551.076 (Deliberations about Security Devices), and 551.086 (Economic Development).*

*The City of Merkel is committed to compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Reasonable accommodation and equal access to communications will be provided to those who provide notice to the City Secretary, 325-928-4911, at least 48 hours in advance.*

## CERTIFICATION

I certify that the above notice of meeting was posted on the City Posting Board at City Hall, 100 Kent Street, Merkel, Texas, on the 11th day of September 2025.



Evelyn Morse, City Secretary