

MERCEDES CITY COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
OCTOBER 20, 2015 -6:00 P.M.
MERCEDES CITY HALL - COMMISSION CHAMBERS

MEMBERS PRESENT: Henry Hinojosa Mayor
Ruben Guajardo Mayor Pro-Tem
Jose M. Gomez Commissioner
Armando Lopez Commissioner
James Howard Wade, Jr. Commissioner
Juan Molina City Attorney
Ricardo Garcia City Manager

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

Staff: Amanda Morales, Hernan Gonzalez, Jaime Sandoval, Frank Rios, and Arturo Garcia.

1.) CALL MEETING TO ORDER.

Mayor Hinojosa called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

2.) ESTABLISH QUORUM.

A quorum of the commission was present.

3.) INVOCATION.

Reverend Juan de los Santos led the invocation.

4.) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

Commissioner Wade led the pledge of allegiance.

Mayor Hinojosa read a proclamation in recognition of Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

5.) OPEN FORUM

Leonel Benavides spoke about items discussed at previous meetings. Petra Vidales spoke about travel by City Commissioners. Commissioner Gomez and Mayor Pro-Tem Guajardo had signed up to speak under open forum, however City Manager Ricardo Garcia explained that City Commissioners were generally not allowed to discuss matters of public policy in Open Forum.

6.) CONSENT AGENDA (ORDINANCE NO. 98-21):

A.) APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR CITY COMMISSION MEETING (S) HELD OCTOBER 6, 2015. B.) APPROVAL OF FOURTH QUARTER INVESTMENT REPORT. C.) APPROVAL OF CHANGE ORDER NO. 3 TO CONTRACT WITH PIETRA CONSTRUCTION LLC FOR EXTENSION OF TIME. (#2015/10/20A) D.) APPROVAL OF PROJECT AGREEMENT WITH VIDA. (#2015/10/20B). E.) APPROVAL OF CONTRACT WITH AGENT OF RECORD. (#2015/10/20C) F.) RATIFICATION OF SOUTH TEXAS BALLOON FESTIVAL. G.) APPROVAL OF REQUEST FOR USE OF CIVIC CENTER PAVILION FOR "BIKESGIVING". Mayor Pro-Tem Guajardo made a motion to approve all items under consent. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Wade and passed unanimously.

7.) PRESENTATION OF DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION OF MERCEDES, INC. MONTHLY REPORT.

EDC Executive Director Hernan Gonzalez made a presentation regarding several ongoing projects including the opening of Tulum Seafood Restaurant, the South Texas Balloon Festival and the construction of a new warehouse at Rios of Mercedes. There was no action taken on this item.

8.) PRESENTATION OF CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS.

City Manager Ricardo Garcia presented a slideshow featuring several projects the city has recently completed including new batting cages, covered pavilions and seating at the Collier Park baseball fields and the repair of more than a dozen streets along with drainage and sidewalks improvements. Mr. Garcia also noted the café being installed at the Library and an amphitheatre currently under construction at the Civic Center Park. A new Safe Shelter dome and recreation center is near completion as well. There was no action taken on this item.

9.) DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION OF PRELIMINARY AND FINAL PLAT FOR ALEJANDRA GONZALEZ SUBDIVISION BEING A 2.00 ACRE TRACT OF LAND OUT OF FARM TRACT 3029, NORTH CAPISALLO DISTRICT SUBDIVISION, MERCEDES, HIDALGO COUNTY.

Mayor Hinojosa made a motion to approve the preliminary and final plat for Alejandra Gonzalez subdivision – being a 2.00 acre tract of land out of Farm Tract 3029, North Capisallo subdivision, Mercedes, Hidalgo County. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Wade and passed unanimously.

10.) DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON APPOINTMENT/REAPPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO THE MERCEDES HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION.

Commissioner Wade made a motion to re-appoint Dahlia G. de la Cerda, Steven L. McGarraugh, and Lorri Marchant to the Mercedes Historic Preservation Commission. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lopez and passed unanimously.

11.) PRESENTATION OF DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORTS.

There was no action taken on this item.

12.) DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION APPROVING THE CITY'S DROUGHT CONTINGENCY PLAN, UTILITY PROFILE PLAN AND WATER CONSERVATION PLAN.

Mayor Hinojosa made a motion to approve the City's drought contingency plan, utility profile plan and water conservation plan. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Guajardo and passed unanimously.

Mayor Hinojosa called the meeting into Executive Session at 6:53 p.m.

13.) EXECUTIVE SESSION:

-DISCUSSION REGARDING DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE CITY MANAGER. - TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE, SECTION 551.074 -PERSONNEL.

-DISCUSSION REGARDING PERSONNEL. -TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE, SECTION 551.074 - PERSONNEL.

-DISCUSSION REGARDING COMMERCIAL PROJECT BY ZDG, LLC. - SECTION 551.087, TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODES ANNOTATED. - ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.

There was no action taken during Executive Session.

Mayor Hinojosa called the meeting back to order at 8:05 p.m.

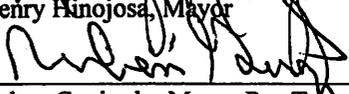
14.) DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING ITEM(S) DISCUSSED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION.

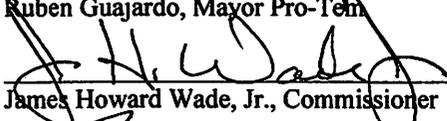
Mayor Hinojosa made a motion to proceed as discussed in Executive Session. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lopez and passed unanimously.

15.) ADJOURN.

There being no further business to discuss, Commissioner Lopez made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Guajardo and passed unanimously.


Henry Hinojosa, Mayor


Ruben Guajardo, Mayor Pro-Tem


James Howard Wade, Jr., Commissioner


Jose M. Gomez, Commissioner


Armando Lopez, Commissioner

ATTEST:


Arcelia L. Felix, City Secretary