

**MERCEDES CITY COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
APRIL 2, 2019 – 6:00 P.M.
MERCEDES CITY HALL – COMMISSION CHAMBERS**

MEMBERS PRESENT:	Henry Hinojosa	Mayor
	Ruben Guajardo	Mayor Pro-Tem
	Howard Wade	Commissioner
	Leandro Villarreal	Commissioner
	Cristella De Leon Hernandez	Commissioner
	Sergio Zavala	City Manager
	Anthony Troiani	City Attorney

MEMBERS ABSENT: NONE

Staff: Nereida Perez, Marisol Vidales, Jose Figueroa, Tommy Ureste, Saul Rodriguez and Joselynn Castillo.

1.) CALL MEETING TO ORDER.

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

2.) ESTABLISH QUORUM.

All members of the Commission were present which constituted a full quorum.

3.) INVOCATION.

City Manager Sergio Zavala said the invocation.

4.) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

Commissioner Villarreal led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

A.) APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR CITY COMMISSION MEETING(S) HELD MARCH 19, 26, AND 29, 2019.
Mayor Pro-Tem Guajardo made motion to approve all items under consent agenda. Commissioner Villarreal seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

6.) CITY MANAGER COMMENTS.

Mr. Zavala informed the Commission about the amount of building permits for new homes issued last year compared to the current year, which increased significantly.

7.) DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON INTERLOCAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF MERCEDES AND THE COUNTY OF HIDALGO FOR RURAL EMERGENCY SERVICES. (#2019-04-02A)

Tommy Ureste addressed the Commission regarding the Interlocal Agreement between the City of Mercedes and the County of Hidalgo for rural emergency services. The agreement will allow the City to legally assist and respond to rural emergencies and send appropriate invoices for the services. Mayor Pro-Tem Guajardo made a motion to approve the interlocal agreement between the City of Mercedes and the County of Hidalgo for rural emergency services. Commissioner Villarreal seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

8.) DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE AMENDMENT TO THE CONTRACT WITH UTRGV TO EXECUTE AN EXTENSION ON EPA BORDER 2020 GRANT PROJECT. (#2019-04-02B)

Mr. Figueroa addressed the Commission about the contract with UTRGV. Mr. Figueroa stated the amendment is for a 6 month extension to complete the low impact development master plan and the plan is to identify areas for Green Infrastructure. Mayor Pro-Tem Guajardo made a motion to approve amending the contract with UTRGV to execute an extension on EPA Border 2020 Grant project. Mayor Hinojosa seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

9.) DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO RATIFY CITY MANAGER'S ACTION OF POINT TO POINT FIBER CONNECTION CONTRACT AS IT RELATES TO THE 9-11 SYSTEM.

Saul Rodriguez informed the Commission that the Point to Point fiber will be from Mercedes Police Department to the 9-11 Regional Unit. Mr. Rodriguez stated the City accepted quotes from Smartcom, Foremost, and Spectrum. Mr. Zavala explained to the Commission about ratifying the decision to select Smartcom. Mr. Rodriguez stated the services provided will be data, voice and video for dispatch. There was some discussion regarding getting support from existing law enforcement agencies, hub replacement, back-up in case of a cut line, fees for service calls, maintenance, weekend rates and timeline. Mayor Pro-Tem Guajardo made a motion to approve ratifying City Manager's action of point to point fiber connection contract as it relates to the 9-11 system to Smartcom. Commissioner Wade seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

10.) DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING CONTRACT WITH COUNTY OF HIDALGO ELECTIONS DEPARTMENT FOR 2019 CITY OFFICERS' ELECTION. (#2019/04/02)

Mr. Zavala addressed the Commission about the contract with County of Hidalgo Elections department. The contract is for the County to conduct the City's election for Commissioner Place 2 and Commissioner Place 4.

Mr. Zavala stated the amount for the County to run the elections for the city is \$22,355.81. Commissioner Wade made a motion to approve item 10- contract with County of Hidalgo Elections Department for 2019 City Officer's election. Guajardo seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

11.) DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE MASTER PARKS UPDATED PLAN CONTRACT WITH MIKE MESA.

Mr. Zavala informed the Commission about awarding the update for the City's Master Parks plan to Mike Mesa late last year. The City received the proposed contract outlining the work involved with the contract amount of \$12,000.00. Mayor Pro-Tem Guajardo made a motion to approve the Master Parks Updated plan contract with Mike Mesa. Commissioner Villarreal seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

12.) OPEN FORUM.

Ms. Esmer Guerrero informed the Commission about her concerns on the time of the special meeting and about no officer being present at the meeting.

Ms. Marissa Wallace addressed the Commission about her support for the Ribbon tree. Ms. Wallace stated she is an artist and would like to have a fundraiser to help pay for the ribbon tree.

Mr Leonel Benavidez stated he had signed up to speak; however, he was signing up while Mayor Hinojosa was calling the meeting to Order.

Mayor Hinojosa called the meeting into executive session at 6:23 pm. No action will be taken at this time.

13.) EXECUTIVE SESSION:

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

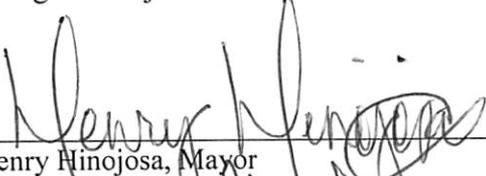
Mayor Hinojosa called the meeting back to order at 7:33 P.M.

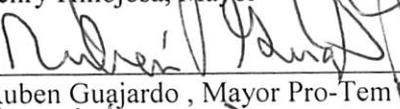
14.) DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING ITEM(S) DISCUSSION IN EXECUTIVE SESSION.

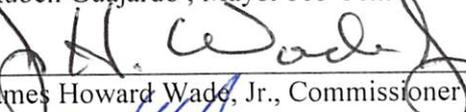
No action taken on the items discussed in executive session.

15.) ADJOURN.

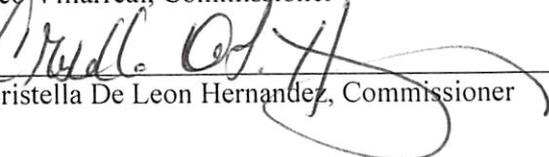
Mayor Hinojosa made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mayor Pro-Tem Guajardo seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 7:34 P.M.


Henry Hinojosa, Mayor

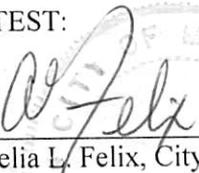

Ruben Guajardo, Mayor Pro-Tem


James Howard Wade, Jr., Commissioner


Leo Villarreal, Commissioner


Cristella De Leon Hernandez, Commissioner

ATTEST:


Arcelia L. Felix, City Secretary

