

MERCEDES CITY COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
JULY 19, 2016 -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, Marisol Vidales, Olga Maldonado 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.

Juan de los Santos led the invocation.

4.) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

Commissioner Lopez led the pledge of allegiance.

5.) OPEN FORUM.

Janet Schofield , a Hidalgo County Master Gardener asked the Commission for permission to start a community garden at the civic center park.

Miriam Flores addressed the Commission regarding health and fitness equipment and upgrades she would like to see implemented at the City's parks.

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

A.) APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR CITY COMMISSION MEETING (S) HELD JULY 5, 2016. B.) SECOND AND FINAL READING OF ORDINANCE NO. 2016-07 REGARDING TOW TRUCKS. C.) APPROVAL OF QUARTERLY INVESTMENT REPORT.

Commissioner Gomez noted that statements he made in the meeting held July 5 were not included in the minutes. After some discussion it was noted that the statements were made during executive session. Commissioner Guajardo made a motion to approve items 6B and 6C only. The motion was seconded by Mayor Hinojosa and passed unanimously.

7.) DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION OF CONTRACTS-

(EXPIRE 9/30/2016): A.) JUAN R. ALVAREZ (MUNICIPAL COURT JUDGE), B.) BETTS OIL & BUTANE, INC. (FUEL PURCHASE SUPPLIER C.) GALLAGHER BENEFIT SERVICE, INC. (INSURANCE AGENT); D.) FULBRIGHT JAWORSKI, LLP (BOND COUNSEL); E.) GUZMAN & MUNOZ ENGINEERING (CITY ENGINEER), F.) HARLINGEN HUMANE SOCIETY (ANIMAL SHELTER); G.) PERDUE, BRANDON, FIELDER, COLLINS & MOTT, LLP (DLQT TAX/OTHER FEES ATTORNEY); H.) LONG, CHILTON, LLP (AUDITORS); I.) MATA, GARCIA ARCHITECTS (CITY ARCHITECT); J.) JUAN R. MOLINA (CITY ATTORNEY); K.) PALM VALLEY ANIMAL SHELTER L.) RBC-DAIN RAUSCHER, INC. (FINANCIAL ADVISORS) M.) BENJAMIN SALINAS (HEALTH OFFICER); N.) STAR E.M.S. (AMBULANCE SERVICES); O.)TML-IRP - LIABILITY/E&O/PHYSICAL, PROPERTY/MOBILE/FLOOD) (EXPIRES 10/31/2016); SHEPARD WALTON KING (WORKER'S COMP)

(REVIEW ONLY):

(EXPIRES 2017) WASTE CONNECTION (SOLIDWASTE SERVICES); (EXPIRES 2017) TML MULTISTATE IEBP (EMPLOYEE HEALTH INSURANCE) (EXPIRES 2017) TEXAS NATIONAL BANK (DEPOSITORY BANK SERVICES) (EXPIRES 2017) MCAFEE INSURANCE (GOVERNMENT CRIME INSURANCE); (EXPIRES 2020) OMI, INC. (WATER/WASTEWATER PLANTS) (EXPIRES 2020) UNIFIRST (EMPLOYEE UNIFORM/LINEN RENTAL)

- A.) Commissioners Guajardo made a motion to extend the contract with Juan R. Alvarez for Municipal Court Judge. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Lopez and passed unanimously.
- B.) Commissioner Guajardo made a motion to extend the contract with Betts Oil & Butane for fuel purchase supplier. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Lopez and passed unanimously.
- C.) Commissioner Guajardo made a motion to extend the contract with Gallagher Benefits Service, Inc. for Insurance Agent. The motion was seconded by Mayor Hinojosa and passed unanimously.
- D.) Mayor Hinojosa made a motion to extend the contract with Fulbright Jaworski, LLP – now doing business as Norton Rose Fulbright for bond counsel. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Guajardo and passed unanimously.
- E.) Commissioner Guajardo made a motion to extend the contract with Guzman & Munoz engineering for City Engineer and also have other engineering firms on rotation as needed by City Departments. After some discussion, the motion died for lack of a second. Commissioner Wade made a motion to extend the contract with Guzman & Munoz Engineering as City Engineer. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Lopez and passed with Mayor Hinojosa, Mayor Pro-Tem Lopez, Commissioner Gomez and Commissioner Wade all voting Aye and Commissioner Guajardo voting Nay.
- F.) Mayor Hinojosa made a motion to extend the contract with Harlingen Humane Society for animal shelter services. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Guajardo and passed unanimously.
- G.) Mayor Hinojosa made a motion to extend the contract with Perdue, Brandon, Fielder, Collins & Mott, LLP for delinquent taxes and fees attorney services. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Wade and passed unanimously.

- H.) Commissioner Wade made a motion to extend the contract with Long, Chilton, LLP for City Auditor services. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Lopez and passed unanimously.
- I.) Commissioner Guajardo made a motion to extend the contract with Mata, Garcia Architects for City Architect Services. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Lopez and passed unanimously.
- J.) Mayor Hinojosa made a motion to extend the contract with Juan R. Molina for City Attorney. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Wade and passed unanimously.
- K.) Mayor Hinojosa made a motion to extend the contract with Palm Valley Animal Shelter for quarantine services. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Lopez and passed unanimously.
- L.) Commissioner Guajardo made a motion to extend the contract with RBC-Dain Rauscher, Inc. for financial advisor services. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Wade and passed unanimously.
- M.) Mayor Hinojosa made a motion to extend the contract with Dr. Benjamin Salinas as City Health Officer. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Lopez and passed unanimously.
- N.) Mayor Hinojosa made a motion to extend the contract with Star EMS for a period of three years. Commissioner Wade seconded the motion and it passed with Mayor Hinojosa, Mayor Pro-Tem Lopez, Commissioner Wade and Commissioner Gomez voting Aye and Commissioner Guajardo voting Nay.
- O.) Commissioner Guajardo made a motion to advertise for requests for proposals for Liability/E&O/physical/mobile/property/flood insurance. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Gomez and passed unanimously.

Commissioner Guajardo made a motion to advertise for requests for proposals for worker's compensation insurance. The motion was seconded by Mayor Hinojosa and passed unanimously.
 There was no action taken on the contracts with Waste Connections, TML Multistate IEBP, Texas National Bank, McAfee Insurance, OMI, Inc., and Unifirst.

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

EDC Executive Director Hernan Gonzalez gave the Commission an update on several ongoing projects including RGV Livestock show parking lot renovations, Aguila Distribution Center opening in the former H&H foods property, Rios of Mercedes distribution center, relocation of PROTECH security, Knapp Family practice residency clinic construction, and Movies in the Park. There was no action taken on this item.

9.) DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON APPOINTMENT OF MEMBER TO THE MERCEDES HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION.

Mayor Hinojosa made a motion to appoint Cherity Ysquierdo to the Historic Preservation Committee. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Lopez and passed unanimously.

10.) DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON APPOINTMENT OF MEMBER(S) TO THE MERCEDES INDUSTRIAL FOUNDATION.

There are not currently any applications to fill the vacancy on this board. Mayor Hinojosa made a motion to authorize staff to advertise for the vacancy. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Lopez and passed unanimously.

11.) PRESENTATION OF DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT.

There was no action taken on this item.

Mayor Hinojosa called the meeting into Executive Session at 7:00 p.m.

12.) 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.

There was no action taken during Executive Session.

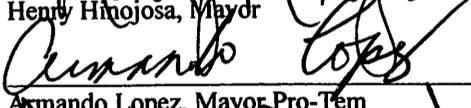
13.) DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING ITEM(S) DISCUSSED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION.

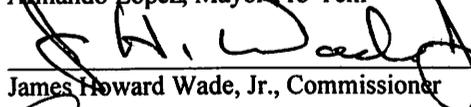
Mayor Hinojosa called the meeting back to order at 7:28 p.m. There was no action taken on this item.

14.) ADJOURN.

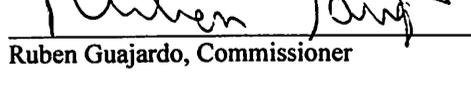
There being no further business to discuss, Commissioner Guajardo made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Lopez and passed unanimously.


 Henry Hinojosa, Mayor

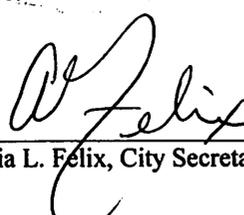

 Armando Lopez, Mayor Pro-Tem


 James Howard Wade, Jr., Commissioner


 Jose M. Gomez, Commissioner


 Ruben Guajardo, Commissioner




 Arcelia L. Felix, City Secretary