

MERCEDES CITY COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING  
FEBRUARY 20, 2018 – 6:00 P.M.  
MERCEDES CITY HALL - COMMISSION CHAMBERS

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Henry Hinojosa Mayor  
Ruben Guajardo Mayor Pro-Tem  
Howard Wade Commissioner  
Leo Villarreal Commissioner  
Cris De Leon Hernandez Commissioner

Sergio Zavala Assistant City Manager  
Juan R. Molina City Attorney

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** NONE

**Staff:** Marisol Vidales, Jose Figueroa, David Lopez, Salvador Hernandez and Joselynn Castillo.

**1.) CALL MEETING TO ORDER.**

Mayor Hinojosa welcomed everyone 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.**

Reverend Juan De los Santos said the invocation.

**4.) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.**

Commissioner Howard Wade led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

**A.) APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR CITY COMMISSION MEETING (S) HELD FEBRUARY 6, 2018. B.) SECOND AND FINAL READING OF ORDINANCE NO. 2018-03 APPOINTING TIRZ BOARD OF DIRECTORS. C.) SECOND AND FINAL READING OF ORDINANCE NO. 2018-04 AMENDING BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2017-2018. D.) APPROVAL OF LOAN STAR DIA GRANT. E.) FORMAL ACTION TO AUTHORIZE STAFF TO APPLY FOR SPECIAL PROJECT GRANT. F.) FORMAL ACTION TO AUTHORIZE STAFF TO APPLY FOR THE 2018 NRPA/DISNEY PLAY SPACES GRANT.**

Mayor Pro-Tem Guajardo made a motion to approve all items under consent agenda. Commissioner Villarreal seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

**6.) DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION OF FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE NO. 2018-05 AMENDING BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2017-2018 FOR THE FOLLOWING ITEMS: 1.) BUILDING AND MAINTENANCE FUND FOR 'MOLD & ASBESTOS ASSESSMENT'; 2.) PROJECT DEVELOPMENT FUND FOR 'MARYLAND GRINDER PUMP PROJECT' AND 'IRRIGATION LINE RE-ROUTE PROJECT'.**

Mr. Zavala addressed the Commission about amending the budget for City projects that need to be done. Mr. Zavala stated \$9,370 will be allocated from the Planning Department salary fund to the Building and Maintenance Fund to conduct Mold and Asbestos examination of the Police Department Building. Also, in disengaging with Starr EMS, the funds will then be available for the Project Development Fund for Maryland grinder pump project and the Irrigation line re-route project. Mayor Pro-Tem Guajardo made a motion to approve amending the budget for fiscal year 2017-2018 as presented. Commissioner Wade seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

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

Marisol Vidales addressed the Commission about appointing Lawrence Serna to a vacancy in the Mercedes Historic Preservation Commission. Mayor Pro-Tem Guajardo made a motion to appoint Lawrence Serna to the Mercedes Historic Preservation Commission. Commissioner Howard Wade seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

**8.) DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO FILL "ALTERNATE" SEATS IN THE ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENTS.**

Mr. Zavala addressed the Commission about the Zoning Board of Adjustments. Mr. Zavala stated a minimum of 4 of 5 members is needed to have a quorum and to have the favorable vote for variances to building setback requirements, height regulations, and off-street parking codes. Mr. David Mariscal is interested in being reappointed as an alternate and the 3 seats are up for new appointments. Commissioner Wade made a motion to reappoint David Mariscal and appoint Mary Rangel Salas, Mirta Flores and Lawrence Serna to the alternate seats. Commissioner Villarreal seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

**9.) PRESENTATION OF MONTHLY REPORTS.**

Monthly reports were included for the Commission to review.

Mayor Hinojosa called the meeting into Executive Session at 6:13 P.M.

**10.) EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

- DISCUSSION REGARDING DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER. – SECTION 551.074, TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE ANNOTATED. – PERSONNEL.
- DISCUSSION OF WALKING TRAIL. – SECTION 551.071 TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE ANNOTATED. – POTENTIAL LITIGATION.
- DISCUSSION AND UPDATE REGARDING OLD WATER IRRIGATION DISTRICT OFFICE. – SECTION 551.087 TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODES ANNOTATED. – ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.
- DISCUSSION REGARDING DEVELOPMENT OF BASEBALL FIELDS AND RELATED POLICIES. – SECTION 551.087 TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODES ANNOTATED. – ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.
- DISCUSSION REGARDING MERCEDES INVESTMENTS, LP PROJECT (KAMEL). – SECTION 551.087, TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODES ANNOTATED. – ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.

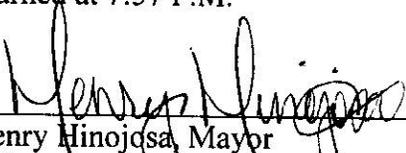
Mayor Hinojosa called meeting to order at 7:56 P.M.

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

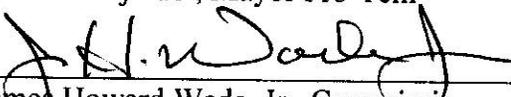
Mayor Hinojosa made a motion to proceed as discussed in executive session. Commissioner Wade seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

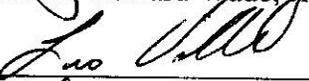
**16.) ADJOURN.**

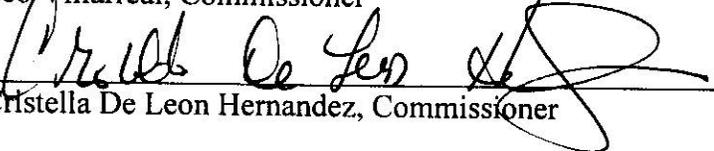
Mayor Hinojosa made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Wade seconded the motion which passed unanimously. Meeting was adjourned at 7:57 P.M.

  
Henry Hinojosa, Mayor

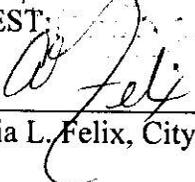
  
Ruben Guajardo, Mayor Pro-Tem

  
James Howard Wade, Jr., Commissioner

  
Leo Villarreal, Commissioner

  
Cristella De Leon Hernandez, Commissioner

ATTEST:

  
Arcelia L. Felix, City Secretary