

**MERCEDES CITY COMMISSION
REGULR MEETING
JULY 18, 2017 – 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
Cristella De Leon Hernandez	Commissioner
Daniel Tijerina	Interim City Manager
Juan R. Molina	City Attorney

MEMBERS ABSENT: NONE

Staff: Arturo Garcia, Marisol Vidales, Tommy Ureste, Sergio Zavala, Joselynn Castillo and Melissa Ramirez from EDC.

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.

Daniel Tijerina said the invocation.

4.) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

Commissioner Hernandez led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Tijerina took a moment to recognize Judge Jaime Tijerina, Attorney Daniel Martinez, and Mr. Tijerina's sister Belinda Tijerina.

Mayor Hinojosa made a motion to continue with item 7. Mayor Pro-Tem Guajardo seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

7.) DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPOINT DANIEL TIJERINA, INTERIM CITY MANAGER AS CITY MANAGER.

Mayor Hinojosa commended Mr. Tijerina for taking on the task of Interim City Manager and then proceeded to make a motion to appoint Daniel Tijerina as City Manager. Mayor Pro-Tem Guajardo seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

5.) OPEN FORUM-

- Refugio Garces expressed his concerns on returned letters for weedy lots. Mr. Tijerina scheduled an appointment to meet with Mr. Garces.
- Miguel Loya expressed a concern to the Commission about Mr. Loya's neighbor encroaching on his property. Mr. Loya gave a handout to the Commission for their review.
- Armando Garcia with Gallegher insurance benefits gave a presentation.
- Esmer Guerrero addressed the Commission on the forensic audit for the EDC.
- Dalia Pena addressed the Commission on items in executive session on the City agenda and items already on the EDC agenda.

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

- A.) APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR CITY COMMISSION MEETING (S) HELD JULY 5, 2017. B.) APPROVAL OF REQUEST TO DECLARE SURPLUS INVENTORY AND AUTHORIZE DISPOSAL. C.) APPROVAL OF AMENDMENT TO INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT WITH COUNTY OF HIDALGO FOR TAX ASSESSMENT AND COLLECTION. (#2017/07/18)**

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

8.) DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO ESTABLISH GARAGE SALE PERMIT FEE.

Mr. Zavala addressed the Commission saying that Mercedes does not have a permit fee for garage sale and recommends a \$10.00 fee for 4 days. Mayor Pro-Tem Guajardo made a motion to establish a \$5 garage sale fee for the 4 consecutive days. Commissioner Hernandez seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

9.) DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION OF REQUEST BY BLANCA L. GONZALEZ TO WAIVER ALL MOWING LIENS AND ASSOCIATED FEES AGAINST LOTS 6, 7, BLOCK 53, MERCEDES ORIGINAL TOWNSITE – 324 N. VIRGINIA.

Mr. Zavala addressed the Commission about Ms. Gonzalez' request to waive all mowing liens and fees for the lots she purchased in 2015. Mayor Pro-Tem Guajardo made a motion that Ms. Gonzalez pay \$3,868.23 for the out of pocket cost from the city. Commissioner Wade seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

10.) DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION OF REQUEST BY OUR LADY OF MERCY CATHOLIC CHURCH TO INSTALL GATED FENCING TO THE NORTH AND SOUTH ALLEY ENTRANCES ONTO BLOCK 105, MERCEDES ORIGINAL TOWNSITE.

Mr. Zavala addressed the Commission reporting that Our Lady of Mercy Catholic Church would like to maximize security for the children with the installation of the fence. Mr. Zavala mentioned that the gate will be open during the day and there will be 5 extra keys for emergencies when the gate is closed at night. Commissioner Wade made a motion to approve the fencing to the north and south of the alley entrances as requested by Our Lady of Mercy Catholic Church. Mayor Pro-Tem Guajardo seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

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

Ms. Vidales addressed the Commission on Ms. Marissa L. Wallace's application for the Mercedes Historic Preservation Commission for a vacancy that was left in 2016. Mayor Pro-Tem Guajardo made a motion to appoint Ms. Wallace to the Historical Board to serve until 2018. Commissioner Villarreal seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

12.) PRESENTAION OF DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORTS.

The monthly reports were included for the City Commission's information.

Mayor Hinojosa called the meeting into executive session at 6:34 P.M.

13.) EXECUTIVE SESSION:

- DISCUSSION REGARDING DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITES OF THE CITY MANAGER. – SECTION 551.074, TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODES ANNOTATED. – PERSONNEL.
- DISCUSSION CONCERNING PROJECT STVT. – SECTION 551.087, TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODES ANNOTATED. – ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.
- DISCUSSION CONCERNING PROJECT KAPAL. - SECTION 551.087, TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODES ANNOTATED – ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.
- DISCUSSION REGARDING ANNEXATION. – SECTION 551.071, TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODES ANNOTATED. – POSSIBLE LITIGATION.
- DISCUSSION CONCERNING KAMEL INVESTMENTS. – SECTION 551.087, TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODES ANNOTATED. – ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.
- DISCUSSION REGARDING CONTRACT WITH PIETRA CONSTRUCTION ON AMPHITHEATER. – SECTION 551.071, TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODES ANNOTATED. – POTENTIAL LITIGATION.
- DISCUSSION CONCERNING PROJECT LM – SECTION 551.087, TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODES ANNOTATED – ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.
- DISCUSSION CONCERNING PROJECT TAYLOR – SECTION 551.087, TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODES ANNOTATED – ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.
- DISCUSSION CONCERINING CH2MHILL MANAGEMENT CONTRACT – AMENDMENT NO. 13 – TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE, SECTION 551.071 – POTENTIAL LITIGATION.
- ATTORNEY CONSULTATION PURSUANT TO SECTION 551.071, TEXAS LOCAL GOV'T CODE TO PROVIDE LEGAL ADVICE IN CONNECTION WITH PENDING LITIGATION STYLED AND NUMBERED AS FOLLOWS: RICARDO GARCIA V CITY OF MERCEDES, ET. AL., CAUSE NO. C-2093-17-A (92ND JUD. DIST. COURT – HIDALGO COUNTY, TEXAS)

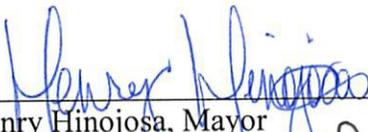
Mayor Hinojosa called meeting back to order at 10:08 P.M.

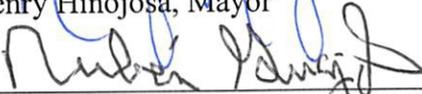
14.) DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING ITEM(S) DISCUSSED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION.

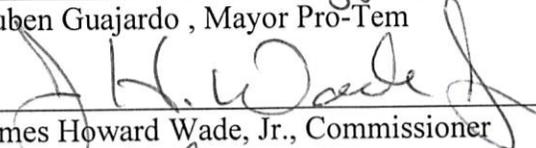
No action will be taken on Project STVT, Project Kapal, Project LM and Project Taylor. Mayor Hinojosa made a motion to proceed as discussed in executive session on the items regarding the Annexation, Kamel Investments, and Pietra Construction. Mayor Pro-Tem Guajardo seconded the motion which passed unanimously. Mayor Pro-Tem Guajardo made a motion to approve amendment No. 13 concerning CH2MHill management contract. Commissioner Wade seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

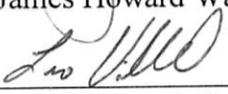
15.) ADJOURN.

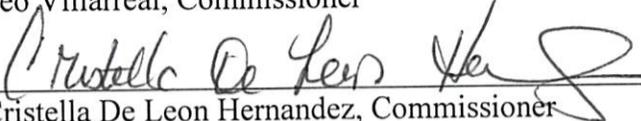
Mayor Hinojosa made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Wade seconded the motion which passed unanimously. Meeting was adjourned at 10:10 P.M.


Henry Hinojosa, Mayor

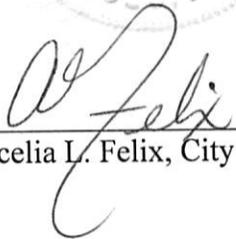

Ruben Guajardo, Mayor Pro-Tem


James Howard Wade, Jr., Commissioner


Leo Villarreal, Commissioner


Cristella De Leon Hernandez, Commissioner

ATTEST:


Arcelia L. Felix, City Secretary

