

MERCEDES CITY COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
JANUARY 5, 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, 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.

Commissioner Lopez led the invocation.

4.) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

Commissioner Wade led the pledge of allegiance.

5.) OPEN FORUM

Petra Vidales spoke about the demolition of the H&H property and the location of the new dome shelter. Hernan Gonzalez, Executive Director of the Mercedes EDC spoke about a publication featuring Mercedes. Armando Garcia gave the Commission some information about the dental and vision insurance available to City employees. Esmer Guerrero spoke about the city spending too much on salaries for employees and grant writers and encouraged the commission to hire more Mercedes citizens. Leonel Benavides spoke about the city's electric bills and the bidding process for professional services.

6.) Consent Agenda (Ordinance No. 98-21):

A.) Approval of Minutes for City Commission meeting (s) held December 15, 2015.

Commissioner Lopez noted a correction to item 7 of the minutes. Mayor Pro-Tem Guajardo made a motion to approve the minutes for City Commission meeting(s) held December 15, 2015 with the correction to item 7. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lopez and passed unanimously.

7.) Public Hearing to rezone property located at 2402 East West Blvd., described as Lot 2216, being a 2.11 acre tract of land, more or less out of Lot 131, South Campacuas Subdivision, Mercedes, Hidalgo County, Texas from "RMH" to "A-Business" for wine and beer license for Hynes Event Center. The applicant making the request is Llano Grande Lake Park Resort.

Mayor Hinojosa opened the public hearing at 6:13 p.m. Assistant City Manager Jaime Sandoval explained that the rezoning would only affect the new Hynes Event Center located in Llano Grande Lake Park Resort. The change will allow for the sale of alcohol during events as required by TABC regulations. There were no comments from the public and the public hearing was closed at 6:19 p.m.

-First Reading of Ordinance No. 2016-01 -rezoning from "RMH" to "A-Business" for wine and beer license for Hynes Event Center located at 2402 East West Blvd., described as Lot 2216, being a 2.11 acre tract of land, more or less out of Lot 131, South Campacuas Subdivision, Mercedes, Hidalgo County, Texas.

Mayor Pro-Tem Guajardo made a motion to approve the first reading of Ordinance No. 2016-01 rezoning rezoning from "RMH" to "A-Business" for wine and beer license for Hynes Event Center located at 2402 East West Blvd., described as Lot 2216, being a 2.11 acre tract of land, more or less out of Lot 131, South Campacuas Subdivision, Mercedes, Hidalgo County, Texas. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lopez and passed unanimously.

8.) Presentation by Jay Doegey.

Jay Doegey, Executive Director of Texas Coalition for Affordable Power made a presentation regarding the City's current contract for electric service and offered new options for continued savings. There was no action taken on this item.

9.) Discussion and possible action on Procurement Procedures for the City of Mercedes.

Commissioner Gomez made a motion to table this item. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lopez. Commissioner Gomez and Commissioner Lopez voted in favor; Mayor Hinojosa, Mayor Pro-Tem Guajardo and Commissioner Wade against it. The motion did not pass.

Commissioner Wade made a motion to approve the procurement procedures for the City of Mercedes. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Guajardo and passed by the following vote. Mayor Hinojosa, Mayor Pro-Tem Guajardo, Commissioner Wade and Commissioner Lopez in favor and Commissioner Gomez against.

10.) Discussion and possible action on appointment or reappointment of members to the Mercedes Industrial Foundation.

Mayor Hinojosa made a motion to reappoint Heriberto Martinez, Jose I. Flores, Pete Guajardo and Alfredo Hinojosa, Jr. to serve two year terms. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Guajardo and passed unanimously.

11.) Discussion and possible action on appointment or reappointment of members to the Development Corporation of Mercedes, Inc.

Mayor Hinojosa made a motion to reappoint Joel Quintanilla, Rafael Lorenzana and Oscar Montoya to serve on the Development Corporation of Mercedes, Inc. Board of Directors. The motion was seconded by Mayor-Pro Tem Guajardo and passed unanimously.

Mayor Hinojosa called the meeting into Executive session at 7:01 p.m.

12.) EXECUTIVE SESSION:

-Discussion regarding duties and responsibilities of the City Manager. -Texas Government Code, Section 551.074 -Personnel.

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-Discussion regarding HHG Mercedes Hotel, Ltd. -Section SSL087, Texas Government Codes Annotated. - Economic Development.

-Discussion regarding LaserLux property .- Section 551.072, Texas Government Codes Annotated. - Real Estate

-Discussion regarding Project "M" - Section S S 1.087 and Section 551.072, Texas Government Codes Annotated. - Economic Development and Real Estate.

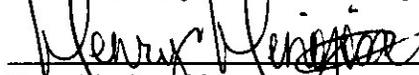
There was no action taken during Executive Session.

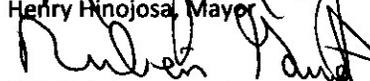
13.) Discussion and possible action regarding item(s) discussed in Executive Session.

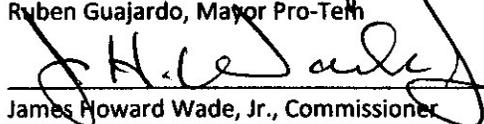
Mayor Hinojosa made a motion to proceed as discussed in Executive Session. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Wade and passed unanimously.

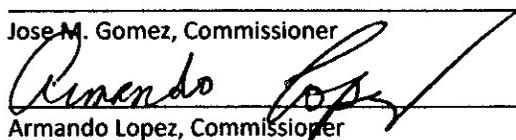
14.) Adjourn.

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

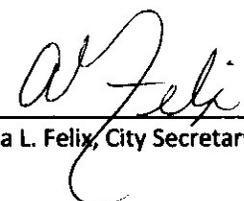

Henry Hinojosa, Mayor


Ruben Guajardo, Mayor Pro-Tem


James Howard Wade, Jr., Commissioner

Jose M. Gomez, Commissioner

Armando Lopez, Commissioner

ATTEST:


Arcelia L. Felix, City Secretary