

MERCEDES CITY COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
DECEMBER 17, 2013 - 6:00 P.M.
MERCEDES CITY HALL - COMMISSION CHAMBERS

MEMBERS PRESENT:	Henry Hinojosa	Mayor
	Jose M. Gomez	Mayor Pro-Tem
	Ruben Guajardo	Commissioner
	James Howard Wade, Jr.	Commissioner
	Rodolfo Z. Rodriguez	Commissioner
	Ricardo Garcia	City Manager
	Juan Molina	City Attorney

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

Staff: Michelle Leftwich, Amanda Morales, Marisol Vidales, Jesse Villarreal, Chief Maldonado, Hernan Gonzalez and Tony Aguilar.

1.) CALL MEETING TO ORDER.

Mayor Hinojosa called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

2.) ESTABLISH QUORUM.

A Quorum of the Commission was present.

3.) INVOCATION.

Commissioner Rodriguez made the invocation.

4.) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

Commissioner Wade led the pledge of allegiance.

5.) OPEN FORUM-

Mayor Pro-Tem Gomez asked that the Commission be more specific when taking action on Executive Session items. Ramon Mejia said that he wanted to clarify some comments he made at the last Commission Meeting. He also asked that the Commissioners listen more to what citizens are saying about them and the City.

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

A.) APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR CITY COMMISSION MEETING (S) HELD DECEMBER 3 AND DECEMBER 10, 2013. B.) PRESENTATION OF FINANCIAL REPORT. C.) REQUEST APPROVAL FOR USE OF CIVIC CENTER ON FEB. 1ST BY MERCEDES TIGER BAND BOOSTERS. D.) REQUEST APPROVAL FOR USE OF CIVIC CENTER ON DECEMBER 21 BY VALLEY METRO.

At a question from Commissioner Wade, Finance Director Antonio Aguilar said that a budget amendment will be needed later in the year for costs associated with the Mile 1 East and street paving projects. Mayor Pro-Tem Gomez noted a correction to the minutes for the meeting held December 3, 2013. Commissioner Rodriguez made a motion to approve the items presented under Consent Agenda as noted. Commissioner Wade seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

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

Mercedes EDC Executive Director Hernan Gonzalez updated the Commission on some of the projects they are working on and presented some plans for the future. Currently, the EDC is placing several large Cowboy boots decorated with different college logos throughout the city. They also have plans for small street festivals throughout the year with the first being "A Cowboy Christmas" on December 18th. There was no action taken on this item.

8.) DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION AMENDING FY 2013-14 INVESTMENT POLICY. (#2013/12/17A)

Commissioner Guajardo made a motion to amend FY 2013-14 investment policy. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Rodriguez and passed unanimously.

9.) DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR THE STRATEGIC WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN.

Commissioner Guajardo made a motion to approve a letter of support for the Strategic Water Management Plan. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Wade and passed unanimously.

10.) DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION OF AMENDMENT NO. 12 TO CONTRACT WITH CH2MHILL OML (#2013/12/17B).

This item will amend the contract to include the amounts approved during the budget process for water and waste water services. The City will now also pay for all of the Lift Stations to be serviced by OML. Commissioner Rodriguez made a motion to approve amendment No. 12 to contract with CH2Mhill OML. (#2013/12/17B) The motion was seconded by Commissioner Guajardo and passed unanimously.

11.) DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION OF FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE NO. 2013-28 REQUEST TO VOLUNTARILY ANNEX INTO THE CITY OF MERCEDES, EXTRATERRITORIAL JURISDICTION

CERTAIN IRRIGATION CANAL RIGHT-OF-WAYS BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT INCLUDING THOSE NORTH OF CURRENT CITY LIMITS UP TO MILE 13 1/2 NORTH, WEST TO MILE 3 WEST (FMI015), AND EAST TO THE CAMERON COUNTY LINE APPROXIMATELY MILE 3 EAST.

Commissioner Rodriguez Made a motion to approve the first reading of Ordinance No. 2013-28 – to voluntarily annex into the City Of Mercedes, extraterritorial jurisdiction certain irrigation canal right-of-ways belonging to The District including those north of current city limits up to Mile 13 1/2 North, West To Mile 3 West (FM 1015), and east to the Cameron County line approximately Mile 3 East. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Guajardo and passed unanimously. Mayor Hinojosa called the meeting into Executive Session at 6:27 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 ANNEXATION. (CAUSE NO. C-5929-L3-H- SECTION 551.071 TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODES ANNOTATED. - LITIGATION.

-DISCUSSION REGARDING CLAIM BY FORMER MUNICIPAL JUDGE ROGELIO GARCIA. - SECTION 551.071 TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODES ANNOTATED. - POTENTIAL LITIGATION.

-DISCUSSION REGARDING G.A.S. ENTERPRISES. - SECTION 551.071 TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODES ANNOTATED. - POTENTIAL LITIGATION.

There was no action taken during Executive Session. Mayor Hinojosa called the meeting back to order at 9:00p.m.

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

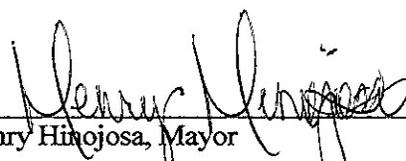
Mayor Hinojosa made a motion to authorize the City Attorney to contact Attorney Frank Rodriguez and proceed as discussed on the item regarding former Municipal Judge Rogelio Garcia. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Guajardo and passed unanimously.

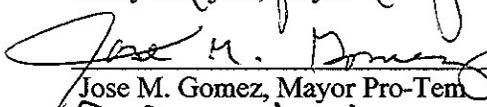
Mayor Hinojosa also moved to authorize staff and the City Attorney to file a claim with the bonding agency against G.A.S. Enterprises. Commissioner Wade seconded that motion and it passed unanimously.

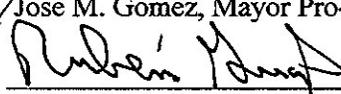
There was no action taken on the other items discussed in Executive Session.

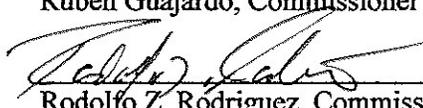
14.) ADJOURN.

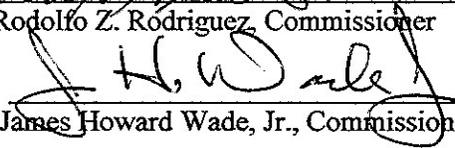
There being no other business to discuss, Mayor Hinojosa adjourned the meeting at 9:03 p.m.


Henry Hinojosa, Mayor

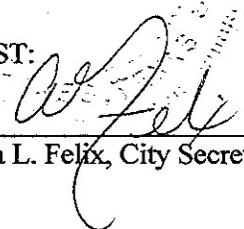

Jose M. Gomez, Mayor Pro-Tem


Ruben Guajardo, Commissioner


Rodolfo Z. Rodriguez, Commissioner


James Howard Wade, Jr., Commissioner

ATTEST:


Arcelia L. Felix, City Secretary