

MERCEDES CITY COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
DECEMBER 15, 2015 -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.

Reverend Roland Jaques led the invocation.

4.) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

Commissioner Lopez led the pledge of allegiance.

5.) OPEN FORUM

Julia Garza spoke about flooding in her neighborhood. Julian Valdez spoke about a problem with the City Inspector. Jose Perez spoke about an item that he wanted to be on the agenda of a past City Commission meeting. Leonel Benavides spoke about the cost of insurance for city employees and asked that the Commission consider entering into contract with him for electricity for city buildings.

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

A.) APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR CITY COMMISSION MEETING (S) HELD DECEMBER 1, 2015. B.) APPROVAL OF CHANGE ORDER NO. 4 TO CONTRACT WITH PIETRA CONSTRUCTION FOR RENOVATIONS TO LIBRARY AND CIVIC CENTER. C.) APPROVAL OF REQUEST FOR USE OF CIVIC CENTER ON FEBRUARY 5, 2016 BY MERCEDES TIGER BAND BOOSTERS. D.) APPROVAL OF RURAL EMERGENCY SERVICE INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT. (#2015/12/15A).

Mayor Pro-Tem Guajardo made a motion to approve all items under consent agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lopez and passed unanimously.

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

EDC Executive Director Hernan Gonzalez spoke of several ongoing projects in the city including the renovation of the Bagdad Apartments, the construction of a new nursing home, family practice residency clinic and multi-tenant industrial space. He also noted several new businesses opening in Mercedes including Protech Security and Aguilar foods. There was no action taken on this item.

8.) DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON RESOLUTION #2015 -20 AUTHORIZING THE RESALE OF FORECLOSED REAL ESTATE PROPERTIES FOR FAILURE TO PAY AD VALOREM TAXES.

A tax resale auction was held Commissioner Gomez made a motion to reject the bids received for the properties. The motion was seconded by Mayor Hinojosa and passed unanimously.

9.) DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION OF CONTRACT WITH NEGRETE & KOLAR ARCHITECTS, LLP. (#2015/12/15B)

Mayor Hinojosa made a motion to approve the contract with Negrete & Kolar Architects, LLP (#2015/12/15B). The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Guajardo and passed with Mayor Hinojosa, Mayor Pro-Tem Guajardo, Commissioner Lopez, and Commissioner Wade voting in favor and Commissioner Gomez voting against it.

10.) PRESENTATION OF EDA GRANT FOR COMMERCIAL PARK DEVELOPMENT.

Petra Reyna explained that the city's grant application to EDA was approved in the amount of one million dollars.

11.) PRESENTATION OF DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORTS.

There was no action taken on this item.

Mayor Hinojosa called the meeting into executive session at 6:40 p.m.

12.) EXECUTIVE SESSION:

-ATTORNEY CONSULTATION PURSUANT TO SECTION 551.071(2), TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE, TO PROVIDE LEGAL ADVICE AND COUNSEL IN CONNECTION WITH THE CITY'S LEGAL OBLIGATIONS, RIGHTS, DUTIES, PRIVILEGES, AND OBLIGATIONS RELATING TO THE ADOPTION OF A PERSONNEL POLICY MANUAL GOVERNING THE EMPLOYER -EMPLOYEE RELATIONSHIP IN THE CITY OF MERCEDES. ATTORNEY CONSULTATION.
-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.
-DISCUSSION REGARDING COMMERCIAL PARK. - SECTION 551.072, TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODES ANNOTATED. -REAL ESTATE
-DISCUSSION REGARDING HHG MERCEDES HOTEL, LTD. - SECTION 551.087, TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODES ANNOTATED. - ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.
There was no action taken during Executive Session.

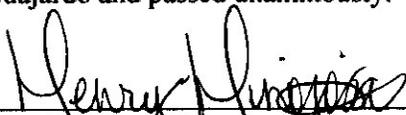
Mayor Hinojosa called the meeting back to order at 8:21 p.m.

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

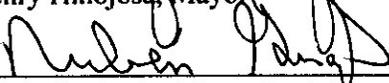
There was no action taken on this item.

14.) ADJOURN.

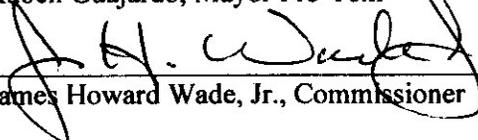
There being no further business to discuss, Mayor Hinojosa made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Guajardo and passed unanimously.



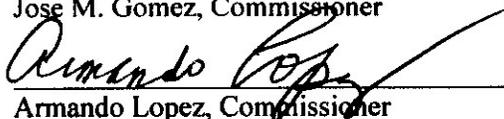
Henry Hinojosa, Mayor



Ruben Guajardo, Mayor Pro-Tem

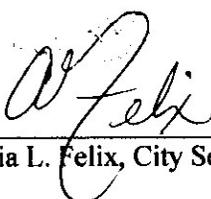


James Howard Wade, Jr., Commissioner

Jose M. Gomez, Commissioner


Armando Lopez, Commissioner

ATTEST:



Arcelia L. Felix, City Secretary