

**MERCEDES CITY COMMISSION
SPECIAL MEETING
MARCH 23, 2021 – 9:00 A.M.
MERCEDES CITY HALL – COMMISSION CHAMBERS**

MEMBERS PRESENT:	Oscar D. Montoya Sr.	Mayor
	Joe Martinez	Mayor Pro-Tem
	Jacob Howell	Commissioner
	Leonel Benavidez	Commissioner
	Jose M. Gomez	Commissioner

STAFF PRESENT:	Mark Sossi	City Attorney
	Joselynn Castillo	City Secretary

1.) CALL MEETING TO ORDER.

Mayor Montoya welcomed everyone to the meeting and called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M. Mayor Pro-Tem Martinez was present via webex and arrived in person during executive session.

Commissioner Benavidez expressed his concern regarding alternative candidates. Mayor Montoya stated there was a process and the process was followed. Commissioner Howell stated that all the Commission was made aware of the situation and all agreed on the process. Mr. Sossi stated that the process was agreed and implemented the process to the best of their ability. Commissioner Gomez stated that three candidates were selected and the Commission did not agree to move another candidate forward.

Commissioner Howell motioned to go into executive session. Commissioner Gomez seconded the motion. Upon a called vote, the motion passed unanimously. The meeting went into executive session at 6:09 PM.

2.) EXECUTIVE SESSION: CONSULTATION AND DISCUSSION REGARDING CITY MANAGER HIRING PROCESS, INCLUDING INTERVIEWS WITH APPLICANTS. (T.G.C 551.074)

Mayor Montoya called the meeting back to order at 10:58 P.M.

3.) DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON EXECUTIVE SESSION ITEM(S).

Commissioner Benavidez made a motion to move forward on a contract negotiation with the candidate Commissioner Gomez and Commissioner Benavidez had. Commissioner Benavidez stated there were issues that were admitted to by another candidate. Commissioner Gomez seconded the motion. Upon a called vote, the motion failed. Mayor Montoya, Mayor Pro-Tem Martinez and Commissioner Howell voted against.

Mayor Pro-Tem Martinez made a motion to proceed as instructed to negotiate a contract as discussed in executive session. Commissioner Howell seconded the motion. Upon a called vote, the motion passed, Commissioner Benavidez and Commissioner Gomez voted against.

4.) ADJOURN.

Commissioner Benavidez made a motion to adjourn. Mayor Pro-Tem Martinez seconded the motion. Upon a called vote, the motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 11:00 P.M.