

**MERCEDES CITY COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
OCTOBER 16, 2023 – 6:30 P.M.
MERCEDES CITY HALL – COMMISSION CHAMBERS**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Oscar D. Montoya Sr. Mayor
Dr. Ruben Saldana Mayor Pro-Tem
Armando Garcia Commissioner
Joe Martinez Commissioner
Dr. Jacob Howell Commissioner

STAFF PRESENT: Alberto Perez City Manager
Martie Garcia-Vela City Attorney
Javier Ramirez Asst. City Manager
Nereida R. Perez Finance Director
David Jimenez I.T Manager
Marisol Vidales Library Director

OTHERS PRESENT: Ruth Valdez

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Mayor Montoya welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M.

2. ESTABLISH QUORUM

All members of the Commission were present which constitutes a full quorum.

3. INVOCATION

Commissioner Howell said the invocation.

4. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Pro-Tem Saldana led in the pledge of allegiance.

5. PRESENTATIONS:

a. Proclamation in memory of Master Sergeant Juan Moya Sr.

Postponed to the next meeting.

6. OPEN FORUM:

No one signed up.

Commissioner Garcia motioned to go into executive session. Commissioner Howell 6:32 PM

7. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

a. Discussion with City Manager regarding personnel matters – Section 551.074

b. Consultation with Attorney regarding update on litigation – Section 551.071

c. Consultation with Attorney regarding contract for services – Section 551.071

8. OPEN SESSION: Mayor Montoya called the meeting back to order at 8:01 P.M.

a. Item A from Executive Session

No action

b. Item B from Executive Session

No action

c. Item C from Executive Session

Commissioner Martinez motion to approve the renewal for administrator of record. Commissioner Howell seconded. Upon a called vote, the motion passed unanimously. Commissioner Martinez motioned to renew the Education Resource officers Agreement with Mercedes ISD. Commissioner Howell seconded. Upon a called vote, the motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Martinez motioned to move to Item 11A. Commissioner Howell seconded. Upon a called vote, the motion passed unanimously. At this time, the Commission moved to item 11A.

9. CONSENT AGENDA:

- a. Approval of Minutes for Meeting(s) held September 19, 2023.
Commissioner Martinez motioned to approve item 9A. Commissioner Garcia seconded. Upon a called vote, the motion passed unanimously.

10. MANAGEMENT ITEMS:

a. Public Hearing: Fiscal Year 37 (2024) Needs Assessment for the County of Hidalgo Urban County Program

Mayor Montoya opened the public hearing at 8:04 P.M.

Mr. Rolando with Area Agency on Aging stated they have a waitlist of 4 months to 10 months as opposed to 1 year in previous years. They offer homemaking services, health maintenance and residential repairs. At a question from Mayor Pro-Tem Saldana, Mr. Rolando stated that the residents must be 62 and above, resident of Mercedes, and low income. CDBG funding has limitations and requirement residents need to meet. This will assist residents of Mercedes inside and outside city limits.

Mayor Closed the public hearing at 8:09 P.M.

b. Approval to renew member terms to the Mercedes Historic Preservation Commission.

Ms. Vidales stated 3 members terms expire in October. Pedro Ayala, Architect, Tracy White, Broker, and Lorri Merchant. Commissioner Martinez motioned to renew. Commissioner Garcia seconded. At a question, Ms. Vidales stated there are a total of 7 members and 2 alternates. They are currently missing 2 members and 1 alternate. Upon a called vote, the motion assed unanimously.

c. Approval of appointment/reappointment of member to the Keep Mercedes Beautiful Committee.

Commissioner Martinez motioned to appoint Mr. Cruz Lopez. Mayor Pro-Tem Saldana seconded. Upon a called vote, the motion passed unanimously.

11. BIDS/CONTRACTS:

- a. **Authorizing the City Manager and City Attorney to proceed with selecting and contracting an Agent of Record based on the Health Insurance proposals.**

Commissioner Martinez motioned to approve Ortegon Agency as Agent of Record. Mayor Pro-Tem Saldana seconded. Commissioner Garcia abstained from the Vote. Upon a called vote, the motion passed. Four voted for and one Abstained.

At this time, the Commission proceeded with the order of the agenda and moved to item 9A.

12. MONTHLY REPORTS

Monthly reports were provided for the Commission to review. No action required.

13. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Martinez motioned to adjourn. Commissioner Garcia seconded. Upon a called vote, the motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:12 P.M.