

MERCEDES CITY COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
JANUARY 15, 2013 - 6:00 P.M.
MERCEDES CITY HALL - COMMISSION CHAMBERS

MEMBERS PRESENT:	Henry Hinojosa	Mayor
	Leonardo Garcia	Mayor Pro-Tem
	Rodolfo Z. Rodriguez	Commissioner
	Jose M. Gomez	Commissioner
	Dianna G. Tovar	Commissioner
	Ricardo Garcia	City Manager
	Juan Molina	City Attorney

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Staff: Amanda Morales, Tony Aguilar, Jesse Villarreal, Marisol Vidales, Chief Olga Maldonado, Hortencia De La Fuente, and Michelle Leftwich.

1.) CALL MEETING TO ORDER.

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

2.) ESTABLISH QUORUM.

All members of the commission were present.

3.) INVOCATION.

Commissioner Gomez led the Invocation

4.) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

Commissioner Tovar led the Pledge of allegiance.

5.) OPEN FORUM-

Carlos Figueroa of Waste Connections of Texas addressed the commission regarding complaints about the solid waste service during the transition from another company. Petra Vidales spoke about a rude comment she overheard on a recording of a previous Commission meeting and the lack of work being done to fix damaged roads in her neighborhood. City Manager Ricardo Garcia informed the Commission of the results of a federal audit conducted at the Mercedes Police Department. He said the staff should be commended for all of their hard work in making sure the department was in complete compliance. Brian Acosta of the Mercedes Little League addressed the Commission about the need for more fences around the baseball fields to ensure the safety of all the children and families that participate in the youth baseball and softball leagues. Jesus Noriega of TxDot updated the Commission on the progress of several projects in and around Mercedes.

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

A.) APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR CITY COMMISSION MEETING (S) HELD JANUARY 2, 2013. B.) APPROVAL OF MUNICIPAL MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT WITH TXDOT. (RESOLUTION #2013-01) C.) APPROVAL OF CONTRACT WITH REIM CONSTRUCTION FOR BUSINESS 83 UTILITY RELOCATION. (#2013/01/15A).

Commissioner Tovar made a motion to approve all items under consent as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Rodriguez and passed unanimously.

7.) DISCUSSION AND FORMAL ACTION APPROVING CONTRACT WITH GIGNAC FOR ENGINEER/ARCHITECT SERVICES FOR THE DOME SAFE SHELTER PROJECT. (#2013/01/15B)

Commissioner Tovar made a motion to approve the contract with Gignac for Engineer/Architect services for the dome safe shelter project (#2013/01/15B). The motion was seconded by Commissioner Rodriguez and passed with Mayor Pro-Tem Garcia voting against.

8.) DISCUSSION AND FORMAL ACTION APPROVING REQUEST TO SOLICIT BIDS FOR TWO RECYCLING TRAILERS WITH FUNDING FROM LOWER RIO GRANDE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL SOLID WASTE GRANT # 13-21-G03.

The City Received a grant in the amount of \$19,970 to help fund the purchase of the new recycling trailers. The city has had great success with the single recycling trailer currently in use. Commissioner

Rodriguez made a motion to solicit bids for two recycling trailers with funding from Lower Rio Grande Development Council solid waste grant #13-21-G03. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Garcia and passed unanimously.

9.) DISCUSSION AND FORMAL ACTION APPROVING REQUEST TO ADVERTISE FOR CONSTRUCTION BIDS FOR 17TH STREET UTILITY RELOCATION.

Commissioner Rodriguez made a motion to approve advertising for construction bids for 17th street utility relocation. Commissioner Tovar seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Mayor Hinojosa called the meeting into executive session at 6:35 PM.

10.) EXECUTIVE SESSION

- DISCUSSION REGARDING RAD PROJECT - ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT. - SECTION 551.087, TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODES ANNOTATED - ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.

- DISCUSSION REGARDING DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE CITY MANAGER. - TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE, SECTION 551.074 - PERSONNEL

- DISCUSSION REGARDING PERSONNEL. - TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE, SECTION 55L.074 - PERSONNEL.

There was no action taken during executive session.

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

Commissioner Tovar made a motion to proceed as discussed in executive session regarding requiring signatures and dates on policy manuals and to instruct staff to continue working with the original timeline on RAD project. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Rodriguez and passed unanimously.

12.) ADJOURN.

Commissioner Rodriguez made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Garcia and passed unanimously.

Henry Hinojosa, Mayor

Leonard Garcia, Jr., Mayor Pro-Tem

Dianna G. Tovar, Commissioner

Rodolfo Z. Rodriguez, Commissioner

Jose M. Gomez, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Arcelia L. Felix, City Secretary