

**MERCEDES CITY COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING  
NOVEMBER 5, 2013 - 6:00 P.M.  
MERCEDES CITY HALL - COMMISSION CHAMBERS**

<b>MEMBERS PRESENT:</b>	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.**

Mayor Pro-Tem Gomez led the invocation.

**4.) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.**

Commissioner Wade led the pledge of allegiance.

**5.) OPEN FORUM-**

Joe Perez addressed the Commission regarding the Historical preservation designation areas and his support of a Target store going up in Mercedes. He also had a complaint about his utility bill and the newspapers that public notices are published in.

Jesus Noriega of TxDot gave the Commission an update on the street expansion on Mile 2 West and other projects around the city.

Commissioner Rodriguez recognized Chief Maldonado for all of her work on the Halloween carnival.

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

**A.) APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR CITY COMMISSION MEETING (S) HELD OCTOBER 15 AND OCTOBER 30, 2013. B.) APPROVAL OF CONTRACT WITH PROJECT VIDA. (#2013/11/05). C.) REQUEST APPROVAL FOR USE OF CIVIC CENTER ON NOVEMBER 16 FOR ESTER DUENAS MEDICAL FUNDRAISER. D.) APPROVAL OF REQUEST FOR USE OF CIVIC CENTER ON NOVEMBER 17<sup>TH</sup> BY MERCEDES POP WARNER. E.) APPROVAL OF QUARTERLY INVESTMENT REPORT. F.) APPROVAL OF CONTRACT WITH O.G. CONSTRUCTION COMPANY FOR 2013 STREET, DRAINAGE AND UTILITY IMPROVEMENTS. G.) APPROVAL FOR USE OF CIVIC CENTER ON NOVEMBER 23<sup>RD</sup> BY TEACHING & MENTORING COMMUNITIES.**

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

**7.) REPORT BY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR.**

EDC Executive Director Hernan Gonzalez presented his plans for marketing the city and gave an update on the work he has done so far. There was no action taken on this item.

**8.) PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION ON PROPOSED URBAN COUNTY WORK PLAN FOR FISCAL YEAR 27 (2014).**

City Manager Ricardo Garcia informed the Commission that one of the recipients of Urban County funds has yet to submit their formal request for funding. If they don't submit a request, that money will be re-allocated to the Library. There was no action taken on this item.

**9.) DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION OF RESOLUTION #2013-09 CASTING VOTES FOR HIDALGO COUNTY APPRAISAL DISTRICT BOARD.**

Commissioner Rodriguez made a motion to approve Resolution #2013-09 Casting votes for David Hernandez for Hidalgo County appraisal District Board. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Guajardo and passed unanimously.

**10.) DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING ADOPTION OF A HISTORICAL PRESERVATION GRANT PROGRAM FOR LOCAL HISTORIC DISTRICTS DESIGNATED THROUGH THE CITY OF MERCEDES.**

Assistant City Manager Michelle Leftwich informed the Commission that the Historical preservation Commission has developed a policy for an incentive program for a historic district. The plan will allow homeowners in the Historic district to apply for grants to help pay for roofing and façade repairs. Commissioner Rodriguez made a motion to approve the policy as presented and allow homeowners to apply for up to three grants in a year. The motion was seconded by Mayor Hinojosa and passed unanimously.

**11.) DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO ADOPT A SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY.**

Several City Boards and departments are starting to maintain an online presence and this social media policy will help give some guidelines for online behavior on behalf of the city. Commissioner Rodriguez made a motion to adopt a social media policy. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Guajardo and passed unanimously.

**12.) DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON HIDALGO STREET BETWEEN OHIO STREET AND ILLINOIS STREET.**

Mayor Pro-Tem Gomez made a motion to rescind the resolution that closed Hidalgo Street between Ohio and Illinois Streets. The motion died for lack of a second. There was no further action taken on this item.

**13.) DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON SENDING A DELEGATION TO: TARGET CORPORATION, 1000 NICOLLET MALL, MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA 55403.**

Mayor Pro-Tem Gomez made a motion to approve sending a delegation to Target Corporation, 1000 Nicollet Mall, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55403 pending some reports and materials to be produced by the EDC and only after a request for an appointment has been accepted. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Rodriguez and passed unanimously.

Mayor Hinojosa called the meeting into Executive Session at 7:00 P.M.

**14.) EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

**-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 LLANO GRANDE WATERLINE EXTENSION PROJECT. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT- SECTION 551.087, TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE ANNOTATED - ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

**-DISCUSSION REGARDING ANNEXATION. (CAUSE NO. C-5929-13-H- SECTION 551.071 TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODES ANNOTATED. - LITIGATION.**

There was no action taken during Executive Session.

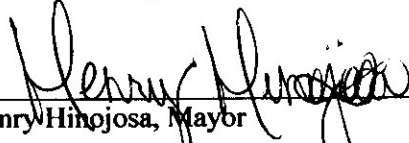
Mayor Hinojosa called the meeting back to order at 8:33 P.M.

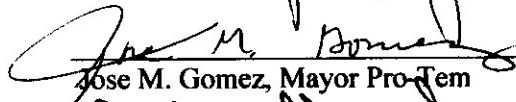
**15.) DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING ITEM(S) DISCUSSED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION.**

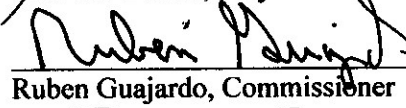
Mayor Hinojosa made a motion to proceed as discussed in executive session regarding Llano Grande waterline extension. Commissioner Wade seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**16.) ADJOURN.**

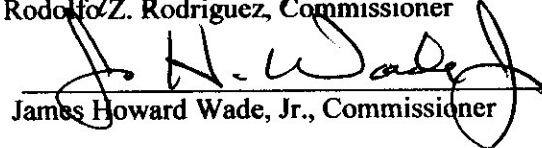
There being no further business, Mayor Hinojosa adjourned the meeting at 8:34 P.M.

  
Henry Hinojosa, Mayor

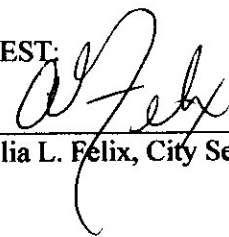
  
Jose M. Gomez, Mayor Pro-Tem

  
Ruben Guajardo, Commissioner

  
Rodolfo Z. Rodriguez, Commissioner

  
James Howard Wade, Jr., Commissioner

ATTEST:

  
Arcelia L. Felix, City Secretary