

MERCEDES CITY COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
JULY 1, 2014 -6:00 P.M.
MERCEDES CITY HALL - COMMISSION CHAMBERS

MEMBERS PRESENT:	Henry Hinojosa	Mayor
	James Howard Wade, Jr.	Mayor Pro-Tem
	Jose M. Gomez	Commissioner
	Armando Lopez	Commissioner
	Ruben Guajardo	Commissioner
	Ricardo Garcia	City Manager
	Juan Molina	City Attorney

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

Staff: Michelle Leftwich, Amanda Morales, Marisol Vidales, Hernan Gonzalez and David Lopez.

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.

Commissioner Lopez gave the invocation.

4.) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

Mayor Pro-Tem Wade led the pledge of allegiance.

5.) OPEN FORUM.

City Manager Ricardo Garcia wished Assistant City Manager Michelle Leftwich luck in her new position as Assistant City Manager for the city of McAllen. Several Commissioners and Mayor Hinojosa also thanked her for her service to the City of Mercedes and wished her well in her new endeavor.

Lawrence Serna also spoke to the commission about his experience working with Ms. Leftwich. Mr. Serna praised Ms. Leftwich and her staff for their work in helping him through the process of opening a new business.

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

- A.) APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR CITY COMMISSION MEETING (S) HELD JUNE 17, 2014.**
B.) RATIFY REQUEST FOR USE OF CIVIC CENTER AND PAVILION AREA ON JUNE 23-27, 2014 FOR VACATION BIBLE PROGRAM. C.) SECOND AND FINAL READING OF ORDINANCE NO. 2014-07 ESTABLISHING PROPERTY LOCATED AT 949 S. OHIO AVE. AS HISTORIC OVERLAY DISTRICT #2. D.) SECOND AND FINAL READING OF ORDINANCE NO. 2014- 08 RE-ZONING PROPERTY LOCATED ON THE SW CORNER OF MILE 3 EAST AND US 83 FRONTAGE, DESCRIBED AS BIXBY S735.5' – W 862.43' IRR TR – S. OF HWY 83, EXC. E 200' – W. 862.43' – N. 216.96' – S. 735.5' LOT 5, 10.78 AC GR. 9.72 AC. NET; BIXBY AN IRR TR E202.58' – S 665.51' LOT 6 3.08 AC. NET; BIXBY E 200' – W. 862.43'– N 216.96' – S 735.5' IRR TR – S. OF HWY 83, LOT 5, 1.06 AC, MERCEDES, HIDALGO COUNTY, TEXAS FROM "N-NEWLY ANNEXED" TO "B-BUSINESS". E.) APPROVAL OF REQUEST TO DECLARE SURPLUS INVENTORY AND AUTHORIZE DISPOSAL.

Mayor Pro-Tem Wade made a motion to approve all items under consent agenda with a correction being made to the Minutes for the Meeting held June 17, 2014. Commissioner Wade stated that Item #7 of those minutes did not include a second to a motion made by Mayor Pro-Tem Wade. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Gomez and passed unanimously.

7.) PRESENTATION BY KEEP MERCEDES BEAUTIFUL COMMITTEE.

Keep Mercedes Beautiful Committee members Joe Martinez, Amenda Martinez, Gilbert Anzaldua, and Armando Garcia presented the Gold Star Affiliate award that the Committee won at the annual Keep Texas Beautiful awards. Keep Mercedes Beautiful was recognized for their hard work on several different beautification and public service projects throughout the year.

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

EDC Executive Director Hernan Gonzalez updated the Commission on several projects and events including Movies in the Park, Texas Street Festival and Little Nashville in Mercedes. Mr. Gonzalez also noted that construction on the new fire station and Mid Valley Dental offices would be completed by the end of the month. There was no action taken on this item

9.) DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON BIDS RECEIVED ON THE STRUCK-OFF PROPERTIES DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:

- TR 1: LOTS 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 AND 8, BLOCK 32, ORIGINAL TOWNSITE ADDITION, CITY OF MERCEDES
- TR 2: THE SOUTH 40 FT. OF LOT 8, BLOCK 33, ORIGINAL TOWNSITE ADDITION, CITY OF MERCEDES
- THE NORTH 8.9 FT. OF LOT 16 AND THE SOUTH 47.3 FT. OF LOT 17, WEST LIBERTY DRIVE, QUEEN CITY ANNEX, CITY OF MERCEDES
- LOT 5, BLOCK 150, RIGHT SUBD. OF ACRE BLOCK 150, ORIGINAL TOWNSITE ADDITION, CITY OF MERCEDES
- THE SOUTH 8.10 ACRES, MORE OR LESS, OUT OF LOT 4, BLOCK 66, CAPISALLO SUBD.
- 0.34 OF AN ACRE, MORE OR LESS, OUT OF A 3.33 ACRE TRACT OUT OF LOTS 7 AND 8, BLOCK 66, CAPISALLO DISTRICT SUBD., SAVE & EXCEPT 2.99 ACRES, MORE OR LESS IN VARIOUS TRACTS, LEAVING A RESIDUE OF 0.33 ACRE, MORE OR LESS AND ALSO KNOWN AS LOTS 10, 11 AND 12, UNRECORDED GREEN TREE SUBD.

The above listed properties were listed in a tax resale and bids were received for all of the properties. Commissioner Lopez made a motion to approve the resale of all properties except Tract 1: lots 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8, block 32, original townsite addition, City of Mercedes. The motion was seconded by Mayor Hinojosa and passed unanimously.

10.) DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON LETTER OF INTENT WITH AIR WIND SOLAR.

Air Wind and Solar Inc. is proposing to do a study of the city's electricity consumption and offer solutions to help the city save up to 15% on electricity. Mayor Pro-Tem Wade made a motion to approve a letter of intent with Air Wind and Solar Inc. Commissioner Lopez seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

11.) DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE NO. 2014-09 AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 2012-12.

This ordinance would change the checklist of items required to get a building permit. The new checklist simplifies the process for potential builders and staff. Commissioner Lopez made a motion to approve the first reading of Ordinance No. 2014-09 amending Ordinance No. 2012-12. The motion was seconded by Mayor Hinojosa.

12.) DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION OF FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE NO. 2014-10 PROHIBITING USE OF CITY STREETS BY VEHICLES WHOSE BODY WEIGHT EXCEEDS 15,000 POUNDS, PROVIDING SPECIFIC ROUTES FOR TRUCKS OF SUCH SIZE AND EXEMPTIONS FOR DELIVERY TRUCKS GOING TO COMMERCIAL ESTABLISHMENTS NOT ON THOSE SPECIFIED ROUTES.

Mayor pro-Tem Wade made a motion to approve the first reading of Ordinance No. 2014-10 prohibiting use of City streets by vehicles whose body weight exceeds 15,000 pounds, providing specific routes for trucks of such size and exemptions for delivery trucks going to commercial establishments not on those specified routes. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lopez and passed unanimously.

13.) DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON SERVICE AGREEMENT WITH CODERED NEXT SERVICES FOR EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION SYSTEM.

CodeRed services would allow the City to send out emergency notices to citizens by text message and over the phone. Mayor Pro-Tem Wade made a motion to approve a service agreement with CodeRed Next Services for emergency notification system. Commissioner Gomez seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Mayor Hinojosa called the meeting into Executive Session at 6:44 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 annexation. (Cause No. C-5929-13-H- Section 551.071 Texas Government Codes Annotated. – Litigation.

-Discussion regarding Project X and Project Hospitality. – Section 551.087, Texas Government Codes Annotated – Economic Development and possible land acquisition. - Section 551.072, Texas Government Codes Annotated. – Real Estate.

There was no action taken during Executive Session

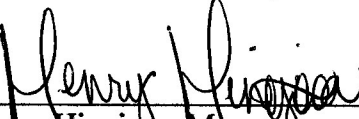
Mayor Hinojosa called the meeting back to order at 8:00p.m.

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


Mayor Pro-Tem Wade made a motion to approve a Project Hospitality land acquisition loan to the EDC in the amount of \$292,000. The loan will be for a term of seven years and payments will be made on a quarterly basis. Mayor Hinojosa seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

16.) ADJOURN.

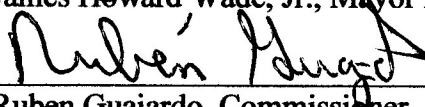
There being no further business to discuss, Mayor Pro-Tem Wade made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:11 p.m. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lopez and passed unanimously.



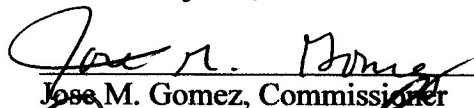
Henry Hinojosa, Mayor



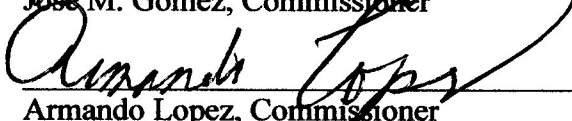
James Howard Wade, Jr., Mayor Pro-Tem



Ruben Guajardo, Commissioner

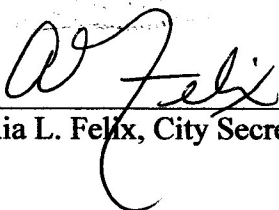


Jose M. Gomez, Commissioner



Armando Lopez, Commissioner

ATTEST:



Arcelia L. Felix, City Secretary