

MERCEDES CITY COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
APRIL 19, 2016 -6:00 P.M.
MERCEDES CITY HALL - COMMISSION CHAMBERS

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: Mayor Henry Hinojosa

Staff: Amanda Morales, Hernan Gonzalez, Jaime Sandoval, Frank Rios, and Arturo Garcia.

1.) CALL MEETING TO ORDER.

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

2.) ESTABLISH QUORUM.

A quorum of the commission was present. Mayor Hinojosa was unable to attend the meeting because he was representing the city at a Texas Street Festival planning committee meeting.

3.) INVOCATION.

Rev. Juan Jaquez led the invocation.

4.) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

Commissioner Wade led the pledge of allegiance.

5.) OPEN FORUM.

Petra Vidales spoke about comments made at a candidate forum and the budget for the safe dome. Alonzo Calvillo spoke about upcoming Veterans events and thanked the Commission and City staff for all of their help with planning events to celebrate and recognize veterans in the city.

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

A.) APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR CITY COMMISSION MEETING (S) HELD APRIL 5, 2016. B.) APPROVAL OF REQUEST FOR USE OF CIVIC CENTER BY MERCEDES BAND. C.) APPROVAL OF REQUEST TO DECLARE SURPLUS INVENTORY AND AUTHORIZE DISPOSAL. D.) RATIFY REQUEST BY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE FOR USE OF CIVIC CENTER ON APRIL 18, 2016.

Commissioner Wade noted a correction to item #12 on the minutes for the City Commission meeting held April 5, 2016. Commissioner Gomez also asked that comments he made regarding the Safe Dome budget be added to the minutes for that meeting. Commissioner Gomez made a motion to approve all items under Consent Agenda with the corrections noted above. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lopez and passed unanimously.

7.) Presentation of Development Corporation of Mercedes, Inc. monthly report.

EDC Executive Director Hernan Gonzalez spoke about several projects. There was no action taken on this item.

8.) Discussion and possible action of budget amendments for fiscal year 2015-2016 -First reading of Ordinance No. 2016-05.

City Manager Ricardo Garcia explained that the budget amendments were to include \$30 thousand generated from the sale of surplus items. The funds will be used to replace deficiencies in other parts of the budget. Mr. Garcia also shared with the Commission that he had received notice from FEMA that the City would be getting an additional grant in the amount of \$1,043,457 for the Safe Dome shelter. Commissioner Lopez made a motion to approve the first reading of Ordinance NO. 2016-05 regarding budget amendments for fiscal year 2015-2016. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Wade and passed unanimously.

9.) Presentation and discussion regarding amending Ordinance Nos. 2007-23 (Outdoor Sales) and Ordinance No. 82-36 (Conditional Use).

Commissioner Lopez made a motion to table this item. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Wade and passed unanimously.

10.) Discussion and possible action of preliminary and final plat for Castro Olguin Subdivision being the South 9.17 acre tract calc.(South 8.93 Acre tract deed) out of Lot 5, Bixby Subdivision, Mercedes, Hidalgo County, Texas.

Assistant City Manager Jaime Sandoval explained that the subdivision would require fire hydrants but the water pressure would not be guaranteed because the water will be supplied by North Alamo Water Supply Corp. The subdivision is located outside the City limits and still needs to be approved by the County Commissioners Court. Commissioner Lopez made a motion to approve the preliminary and final plat for Castro Olguin Subdivision being the South 9.17 acre tract cal. (South 8.93 Acre tract deed) out of Lot 5, Bixby Subdivision, Mercedes, Hidalgo County, Texas. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Wade and passed unanimously.

11.) Discussion and possible action of Resolution #2016-07 regarding AEP.

AEP has filed an application for approval of a Distribution Cost Recovery Factor which would give them an increase in distribution revenues of \$54,012,978. As part of an Electric Cooperative the city will be represented by Lloyd Gosselink Attorneys at law to review the filing. Commissioner Wade made a motion to approve Resolution #2016-07 regarding AEP. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lopez and passed unanimously.

12.) PRESENTATION OF DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORTS.

There was no action taken on this item.

Mayor Pro-Tem Guajardo called the meeting into Executive Session at 6:47 p.m.

13.) 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 Project Carwash. - Section 551.087, Texas Government Codes Annotated. - Economic Development

There was no action taken during Executive Session.

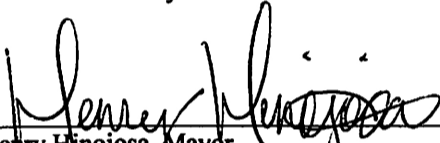
Mayor Pro-Tem Guajardo called the meeting back to order at 8:18 p.m.

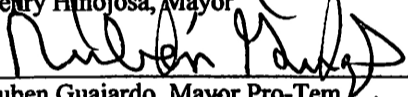
14.) Discussion and possible action regarding item(s) discussed in Executive Session.

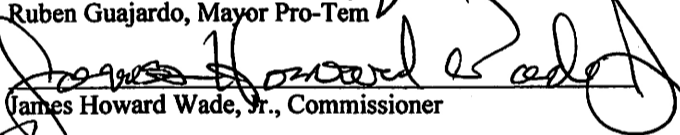
Commissioner Lopez made a motion to approve Project Carwash as discussed in Executive Session, including issuing a \$60,000 grant. The first payment of \$30,000 will be issued once demolition of the current site is complete. The remaining \$30,000 will be released once a Certificate of Occupancy has been issued. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Wade and passed unanimously.

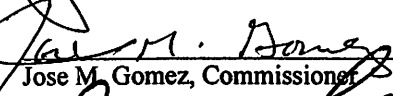
15.) Adjourn.


There being no further business to discuss, Commissioner Lopez made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Wade and passed unanimously.


Henry Hinojosa, Mayor


Ruben Guajardo, Mayor Pro-Tem


James Howard Wade, Jr., Commissioner


Jose M. Gomez, Commissioner


Armando Lopez, Commissioner




Arcelia L. Felix, City Secretary