

**MERCEDES CITY COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING  
NOVEMBER 1, 2016 -6:00 P.M.  
MERCEDES CITY HALL - COMMISSION CHAMBERS**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Henry Hinojosa	Mayor
Armando Lopez	Mayor Pro-Tem
Howard Wade, Jr.	Commissioner
Ruben Guajardo	Commissioner
Jose M. Gomez	Commissioner
Ricardo Garcia	City Manager
Juan Molina	City Attorney
Arcelia L. Felix	City Secretary

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** None

**Staff:** Arturo Garcia, Marisol Vidales, Olga Maldonado and Hernan Gonzales from EDC.

**1.) CALL MEETING TO ORDER.**

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

**2.) ESTABLISH QUORUM.**

All members of the Commission were present after Commissioner Guajardo entered during item #5, which constituted a quorum.

**3.) INVOCATION.**

Mayor Pro-Tem Lopez said the invocation.

**4.) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.**

Commissioner Gomez led in the pledge of allegiance.

**5.) OPEN FORUM.**

Mr. Jose Perez addressed the Commission regarding a bar owned by his family saying that another owner of a bar was not required to have hot water. At this point, City Manager Garcia stated that the business had been checked out and there was hot water. Mr. Todd Breland addressed the Commission regarding the noise made by the fire department call out system. He asked about the possibility of pursuing another method of calling out for fire alarms. City Manager Garcia reported that he was already working on this.

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

**A.) APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR CITY COMMISSION MEETING HELD OCTOBER 18, 2016. B.) APPROVAL OF CHANGE ORDER NO. 2 TO THE CONTRACT WITH TEXAS CORDIA FOR WALKING TRAIL (#2016/11/10); C. APPROVAL OF REQUEST FOR USE OF CIVIC CENTER ON DECEMBER 9<sup>TH</sup> BY MERCEDES TIGER BAND BOOSTERS D.) APPROVAL OF GRANT APPLICATION SUBMITTAL TO LEGACY FOUNDATION FOR EXERCISE STATIONS AT HEB PARK.**

At the request by Commissioner Gomez, City Manager Garcia stated that the City had obtained funding from the Care Foundation for the exercise stations for which the change order was required. At another question by Commissioner Gomez, Mr. Garcia stated that Public Works had done some water and sewer in-house work, but it was not part of the grant. Commissioner Wade noted that the word on item # 11 was TIRZ board. Mayor Pro-tem noted that Pastor Usvaldo Jacques had given the invocation. Mayor Pro-Tem Lopez made a motion to approve the items under consent with the corrections to the minutes as stated. Commissioner Guajardo seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

**7.) DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO THE HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION.**

Library Director, Marisol Vidales reported that the term of office for Mercedes Historic Preservation Commission members Jodie Oliver Martinez, Jose Luis Muniz and Hilda Y. Thompson expired October 4<sup>th</sup>. All three members would like to be reappointed. Commissioner Guajardo made a motion to re-appoint Jodie Oliver Martinez, Jose Luis Muniz and Hilda Y. Thompson to the Historic Preservation Commission. Mayor Pro-Tem Lopez seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

**8.) DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO KEEP MERCEDES BEAUTIFUL BOARD.**

Mr. Mark Garcia and Mr. Bernie Saenz have resigned from the Keep Mercedes Beautiful board. Two appointments will fill those terms. Mayor Pro-Tem Lopez made a motion to accept the resignation of Mark Garcia and Bernie Saenz from the Keep Mercedes Beautiful board. Commissioner Guajardo seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. Mayor Pro-Tem Lopez made a motion to appoint Lillie Dominguez and Enrique Longoria to replace Mark Garcia and Bernie Saenz on the Keep Mercedes Beautiful board. Commissioner Wade seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

**9.) DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON ADOPTING THE WORKPLAN AND BUDGET FOR URBAN COUNTY PROGRAM YEAR 30 (2017).**

City Manager Garcia informed the Commission that staff was recommending the following workplan budget for program year 30 (2017) with the allocated amount being \$251,975 and include the following: street improvements bond payment (\$143,266), Senior Services -Amigos Del Valle (\$10,000); Senior services Senior Community Outreach (\$7,500); Abused and Neglected Children - Children's Advocacy Center of Hidalgo County(\$5,000); Health Services - Nuestra Clinica del Valle (\$13,000); Public Service – General –( Library ) (\$20,000); fire station equipment (\$20,000) Parks, Recreational facility

improvements (\$31,409) & general administration (\$1,800). Commissioner Wade moved to adopt the proposed Urban County FY 30 (2017) Workplan as presented. Mayor Pro-Tem . Lopez seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Mayor Hinojosa called the meeting into Executive Session at 6:18 p.m. No action will be taken during Executive Session.

**10.) EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

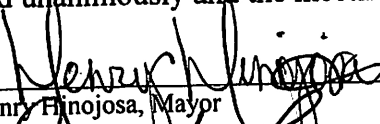
- DISCUSSION REGARDING DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE CITY MANAGER. -TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE, SECTION 551.074 -PERSONNEL.
- DISCUSSION REGARDING PERSONNEL. -TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE, SECTION 551.074 - PERSONNEL.
- DISCUSSION CONCERNING ON-GOING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS INCLUDING PROJECT GOLF, PROJECT PATE & PATE AND DR. RENE MARTINEZ. SECTION 551.087 AND SECTION 551.072, TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODES ANNOTATED ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND REAL ESTATE AND FINDERS AGREEMENT .

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

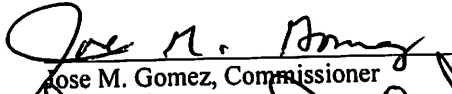
Mayor Hinojosa called the meeting back to order at 7:11 PM. Commissioner Wade made a motion to solicit proposals for feasibility study for family entertainment venues in the community. Mayor Pro-Tem Lopez seconded the motion which passed unanimously. There was no action on the other items.

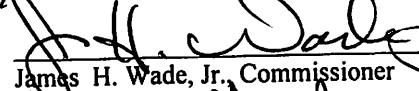
**12.) ADJOURN.**

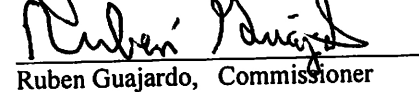
There being no further items to be discussed, Commissioner Guajardo made a motion to adjourn. Mayor Pro-Tem Lopez seconded the motion which passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 7:13 PM.

  
Henry Hinojosa, Mayor

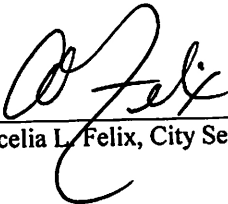
  
Armando Lopez, Mayor Pro-Tem

  
Jose M. Gomez, Commissioner

  
James H. Wade, Jr., Commissioner

  
Ruben Guajardo, Commissioner

ATTEST:

  
Arcelia L. Felix, City Secretary