

**MERCEDES CITY COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
JUNE 19, 2018 – 6:00 P.M.
MERCEDES CITY HALL – COMMISSION CHAMBERS**

MEMBERS PRESENT:	Henry Hinojosa	Mayor
	Ruben Guajardo	Mayor Pro-Tem
	Howard Wade	Commissioner
	Leandro Villarreal	Commissioner
	Cristella De Leon Hernandez	Commissioner
	Sergio Zavala	Assistant City Manager
	Juan Molina	City Attorney
	Arcelia L. Felix	City Secretary

MEMBERS ABSENT: NONE

Staff: Nereida Perez, Marisol Vidales, Salvador Hernandez, Martin Johnson, and Joselynn Castillo.

1.) CALL MEETING TO ORDER.

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

2.) ESTABLISH QUORUM.

All members of the Commission were present which constituted a full quorum.

3.) INVOCATION.

Assistant City Manager Sergio Zavala said the invocation.

4.) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

Commissioner Wade led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

A.) APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR CITY COMMISSION MEETING (S) HELD JUNE 5, AND JUNE 11, 2018. B.) APPROVAL OF REQUEST TO SUBMIT AND ACCEPT GRANT NO. 3365301 FOR VEHICLE MONITORS FOR 2018 FISCAL YEAR. (#2018/06/19A). C.) APPROVAL OF REQUEST TO SUBMIT AND ACCEPT GRANT NO. 2999904 FOR LOCAL BORDER SECURITY PROGRAM FOR 2019 FISCAL YEAR. (#2018/06/19B). D.) SECOND AND FINAL READING OF ORDINANCE NO. 2018-21 AMENDING BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2017-2018 TO REPLACE AC EQUIPMENT IN REC CENTER. E.) SECOND AND FINAL READING OF ORDINANCE NO. 2018-22 AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 201-01 ON NOT IMPOSING MANDATORY PAVEMENT ON EXISTING LAND USE CIRCUMSTANCES DESIRING PERMITS. F.) APPROVAL OF A BUDGET AMENDMENT ORDINANCE TO RATIFY INTERIM CITY MANAGER'S ACTION TO PLACE FULL-TIME EMPLOYEE FROM THE LIBRARY FUND TO THE FIRE DEPARTMENT FUND.

Commissioner Villarreal made a motion to approve all items under consent agenda. Mayor Pro-Tem Guajardo seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

6.) PRESENTATION BY KEEP MERCEDES BEAUTIFUL (KMB) TO THE "GIVE THE PARK A SPARK" EVENT.

Armando Garcia, member of KMB committee, presented updates on what the Keep Mercedes Beautiful Committee has done. Mr. Garcia stated KMB received an award from the Keep Texas Beautiful Commission and came in 3rd overall for a grant and will be applying again next year for a grant. He informed the Commission about the "Give the Park a Spark" event which will be held June 30, 2018. The committee will be using recycled tires and invited the Commission and community to the event. Commissioner Wade commended the KMB's efforts.

7.) DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO SOLICIT RFQS FOR GENERAL CITY GOVERNMENT CONSULTING SERVICES WITH SPECIAL EMPHASIS ON CITY FINANCES & BUDGETING.

Mr. Zavala addressed the Commission regarding requests for statement of qualifications for Government Consulting services. Mr. Zavala stated it would be for FY 2018-19 and help save money and maximize resources. At comments from Commissioner Hernandez, Mr. Zavala stated the person hired would not have the ability to make changes that will affect city employees. The recommendations will be brought before the Commission. After some discussion about cost and time period of the opening and closing of the RFQ's, there were no further comments about any other duties to include on the RFQ. Mayor Pro-Tem Guajardo made a motion to approve soliciting for RFQ's for General City Government Consulting Services. Mayor Hinojosa seconded the motion which passed with Commissioner Hernandez voting nay.

8.) DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION OF AN ORDINANCE TO VOID EASEMENT INSTRUMENT NO. 1404416, AS IT PERTAINS TO LOT 1, BLOCK 2, MERCEDES LIGHT INDUSTRIAL PARK SUBDIVISION PHASE ONE.

Mr. Zavala addressed the Commission about an easement recorded at the Mercedes Light Industrial. Mr. Zavala informed the Commission that he had asked Public Works to do a dig test report and nothing was found. Mr. Zavala recommends voiding the easement. Commissioner Wade made a motion to approve the Ordinance to void easement instrument no. 1404416. Mayor Pro-Tem Guajardo seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

9.) DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON APPOINTMENT/REAPPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO THE MERCEDES LIBRARY BOARD.

Marisol Vidales, Library Director, addressed the Commission saying that the terms for board members Mirta Flores, Dalia De la Cerda and Roy de Leon expired and they expressed interest in remaining board members for another three year term. Commissioner Wade made a motion to reappoint the three members, Ms. Flores, Ms. De la Cerda, and Mr. De Leon to the Library Board. Mayor Pro-Tem Guajardo seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

10) DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO ENTER INTO A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH HIDALGO COUNTY COMMUNITY SERVICES AGENCY AND THE MERCEDES RECREATION CENTER.

Mr. Zavala addressed the Commission that the Community Service Agency will be paying for families that have a hardship paying membership fees at the Recreation Center, with there being no cost to the City. Mayor Pro-Tem Guajardo made a motion to approve a memorandum of understanding with Hidalgo County Community Service Agency and the Mercedes Recreation Center. Commissioner Villarreal seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

11) DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON BUDGET AMENDMENT ORDINANCE TO FUND A 10-TON AC UNIT AT THE POLICE DEPARTMENT.

Mr. Zavala informed the Commission that the AC unit at the Police Department needs to be upgraded. The City received the following 3 bids for a 10 ton unit: All-Valley Plumbing & AC with a Daikin Unit for the amount of \$14,100; Polar Air with a Carrier Unit for the amount of \$11,698 and Optimum Cooling & Heating with a Daikin Unit for the amount of \$11,789. A budget amendment will be required due to the cost not being anticipated. Mr. Zavala recommended the lowest bidder who was Polar Air with a Carrier 10 Ton Unit at \$11,698. Purchasing Agent, Salvador Hernandez, was present to answer questions from the Commission. At a question, Mr. Hernandez stated the unit is for the North side of the Police Department and the south side unit is currently working properly. Commissioner Wade made a motion to approve Polar Air's bid and to also add the Hail Guard for \$496.90. Mayor Pro-Tem Guajardo seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

12) PRESENTATION BY CONSULTANT ISRAEL PEREZ REGARDING MARKETING MEASURE UPDATES.

Mr. Israel Perez updated the Commission about his Marketing measures. Mr. Perez has been meeting with representatives from the Outlet Mall, tour bus representatives, La Quinta representatives and trucking companies. His goal is marketing into Mexico. Commissioner Hernandez asked him questions about a grant he was looking into, a community assessment survey, solar panels, parks, a golf tournament that he attended, and the sprinkler system for the baseball field. At a question by Mayor Pro Tem Guajardo, Mr. Zavala said he had contacted the grantwriter with Sigler, Winston & Greenwood. Commissioner Wade commented about getting quotes for a sprinkler system.

13) PRESENTATION BY CPA LUIS C. OROZCO OF CITY OF MERCEDES FINANCIAL AUDIT FOR FY 2016-2017.

Luis Orozco provided the Commission with a revised Audit Report for the Commission to follow along. Mr. Orozco stated that he was giving an unmodified opinion which is the cleanest opinion we can get. He went over the revenues and expenditures, depreciation, and long term debt items. Commissioner Hernandez stated that she had been at a meeting where he had said that the audit would be ready by May 21st at which Mr. Orozco responded that the retirement and the general entries had required more work. He also added that he had to look at the operations of the City as to who does what and had met with a lot of employees. Mr. Orozco concluded by saying that there was a letter for management with a section for responses to the items.

Mayor Hinojosa stated that they audit would be reviewed and brought back.

Mayor Hinojosa called the meeting into Executive Session at 7:06 P.M.

14) EXECUTIVE SESSION:

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

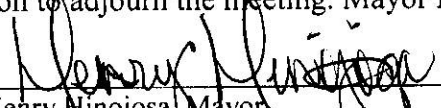
Mayor Hinojosa called the meeting back to order at 7:52 P.M.

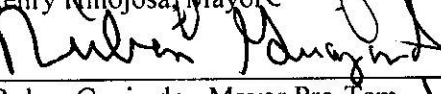
15) DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING ITEM(S) DISCUSSION IN EXECUTIVE SESSION.

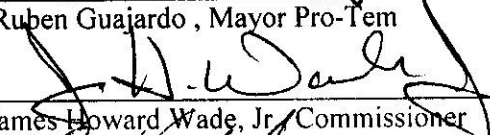
No action was taken on the items discussed in Executive Session.

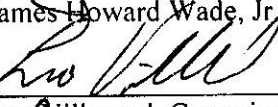
16) ADJOURN.

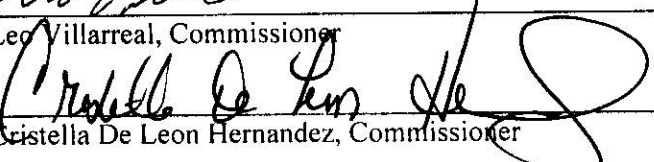
Mayor Hinojosa made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mayor Pro-Tem Guajardo seconded the motion which passed unanimously.


Henry Hinojosa, Mayor



Ruben Guajardo, Mayor Pro-Tem


James Howard Wade, Jr., Commissioner


Leo Villarreal, Commissioner


Cristella De Leon Hernandez, Commissioner

ATTEST:


Arcelia L. Felix, City Secretary