

MERCEDES CITY COMMISSION
SPECIAL MEETING
September 25, 2020 – 1:00 P.M.
MERCEDES CITY HALL – COMMISSION CHAMBERS

MEMBERS PRESENT:	Henry Hinojosa	Mayor
	Leandro Villarreal	Mayor Pro-Tem
	Leonel Benavidez	Commissioner
	Cristella De Leon Hernandez	Commissioner via Webex
	Jose M. Gomez	Commissioner

STAFF PRESENT:	Sergio Zavala	City Manager
	Dagoberto Chavez	ACM/Chief of Police
	Anthony Troiani	City Attorney via Webex
	Kristine Longoria	City Secretary Clerk
	Hugo Perales	I.T Director
	Nereida Perez	Finance Director
	Marisio Vidales	Library Director

1) CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Mayor Hinojosa called the meeting to order at 1:00 PM

2) ESTABLISH QUORUM

All members of the Commission were present which constitutes a quorum. Commissioner De Leon Hernandez was present via Webex.

3) INVOCATION

City Manager Zavala said the invocation.

4) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Gomez led in the pledge of allegiance.

5) SECOND AND FINAL READING OF ORDINANCE NO. 2020-14 ADOPTING THE BUDGET FOR FY 2020-2021.

City Attorney Troiani recommended that the Commission come back with a Special Meeting on Monday September 28, 2020 due to issues regarding the verbiage of this item.

6) SECOND AND FINAL READING OF ORDINANCE NO. 2020-15 ADOPTING THE 2020 TAX RATE.

City Attorney Troiani recommended that the Commission come back with a Special Meeting on Monday September 28, 2020 due to issues regarding the verbiage of this item.

7) DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE ACCEPTANCE OF OPIE FUND GRANT FOR USE TOWARD SAVANNAH SOFTWARE FOR THE DR. HECTOR P. GARCIA MEMORIAL LIBRARY

Marisol presented commission with a new found software that would be helpful with specific statistics and reports. The Opie grant would allow for Dr. Hector P. Garcia Memorial Library to be recipients and receive \$2,000 for 18 months. Mayor Pro-Tem Villarreal made a motion to approve Item 7. Commissioner Benavidez seconded the motion. Upon a called vote, the motion passed unanimously

8) DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO SEEK REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR CITY EMPLOYEE HEALTH INSURANCE SERVICES.

City Manager Zavala is authoring request to seek RFPs due to increased rates on current Humana policy. No Agent of Records would be put into place. Mr. Zavala informed the commission that the Agent of Records duties would be handled by staff to minimize cost to the city. Commissioner Benavidez made a motion to approve Item 8. Mayor Pro-Tem Villarreal second the motion. Upon a called vote, the motion passed unanimously.

9) TABLED: DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON PROPOSED INDIVIDUAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM, AS FUNDED FROM CARES MONIES.

Mayor Pro-Tem Villarreal made a motion to un-table Item 9. Commissioner Benavidez second the motion. Upon called vote, the motion passed unanimously. Mr. Zavala provided 2 options on the individual assistance program. Option 1 provided a one-time \$1,000.00 award to recipient's mortgage or lease for those who have eligible property. Option 2 provided a one-time \$100.00 award gift card to recipient's utility payments for those who are eligible. Commissioner Benavidez made a motion to approve \$100.00 gift cards. Commissioner Gomez seconded the motion. Upon a called vote, the motion was passed unanimously.

10) ADJOURN

Commissioner Benavidez made a motion to adjourn. Mayor Pro-Tem Villarreal seconded the motion. Upon a called vote, the motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 1:35 PM.