



Mayor Oscar D. Montoya
Mayor Pro-Tem Joe Martinez
Commissioner Leonel Benavidez

Commissioner Jacob Howell
Commissioner Jose M. Gomez
City Manager Alberto Perez

MERCEDES CITY COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
SEPTEMBER 21, 2021 – 6:30 P.M.
MERCEDES CITY HALL – COMMISSION CHAMBERS
400 S. OHIO AVE., MERCEDES, TX 78570

“At any time during the course of this meeting, the City Commission may retire to Executive Session under Texas Government Code 551.071(2) to confer with its legal counsel on any subject matter on this agenda in which the duty of the attorney to the City Commission under the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct of the State Bar of Texas clearly conflicts with Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code. Further, at any time during the course of this meeting, the City Commission may retire to Executive Session to deliberate on any subject slated for discussion at this meeting, as may be permitted under one or more of the exceptions to the Open Meetings Act set forth in Title 5, Subtitle A, Chapter 551, Subchapter D of the Texas Government Code.”

- 1.) **Call Meeting to Order**
- 2.) **Establish Quorum**
- 3.) **Invocation**
- 4.) **Pledge of Allegiance**
- 5.) **Open Forum-**

Maximum length of time of forum is forty-five minutes with individual presentations limited to a maximum of five minutes. The City Commission can take no formal action on any city related matter discussed during the open forum. Persons who wish to participate in this portion of the meeting shall sign up as they arrive, indicating the topic about which they wish to speak. No one will be able to sign up **AFTER 6:20 PM**. The information required for signing up must be completed by that time. No public comments will be allowed during any agenda item unless recognized by the Mayor or if the item requires a public hearing. State your name and address before beginning your presentation.

There can be no comments about specific employees. By Charter, the City Manager is exclusively given authority over personnel matters, including complaints against city personnel. All complaints against city personnel will be addressed pursuant to Mercedes Personnel Policies.

Comments must not be repeated and the Commission is not required to answer any question from the public. Any person who decides to directly question any member of the City Commission will be asked to discontinue their comments. The City Secretary’s office representative will be responsible for notifying each presenter that their five-minute time limit has expired.

- 6.) **Items on the Regular Agenda**

City Commission encourages members of the public to address items on the Regular Agenda posted for discussion and action. On the day of the meeting by 6:15 p.m., persons wishing to speak may sign up at the City Secretary’s table outside the Council chambers. The City Secretary also will accept e-mail or faxed requests in advance of the meeting. Speakers will be limited to 5 minutes each. Members of the public will be allowed to speak on the specific agenda items that they sign up for a total of 5 minutes at the beginning of the meeting.

Please call the City Secretary’s Office at (956) 565-3114 ext. 138 if we may assist you in participating in the City Commission meetings.

- 7.) **Presentations:**

A.) Presentation on the Railroad Crossing on Mile 1 ½ East, update on the maintenance of ditches and inlets, Status update on street potholes, street improvements, and street equipment

- 8.) **Consent Agenda:**

A.) Approval of Budget amendment for the Mercedes Police Department vehicles.

B.) Approval of items for surplus for auction.

C.) Acceptance of the grant award of \$ 442,612 for the United States Department of the Interior, Bureau of Reclamation Funding Opportunity No. BOR-DO-20-F003 – WaterSMART Drought Response Program: New Water Well for Drought Resiliency.

D.) Discussion and Possible action on the proposed MOU with the Hidalgo County Sheriff’s Office for Officer Training. (Police Chief)

- 9.) **City Manager Comments:**

A.) Update on City Projects B.) Status on process to determine costs associated with both the Water and Waste Water Treatment plants and associated components. (Benavidez/Gomez)

- 10.) **Ordinance/Resolutions:**

A.) Discussion and Possible action on Resolution 2021-27 regarding a Global Opioid Settlement. (City Manager)

B.) Discussion and Possible Action on Resolution 2021-28 for the preparation and submission of the application for funding of the Proposed Water Reservoir under Funding Opportunity No. R22AS00020- WaterSMART Drought Response Program; Drought Resiliency Projects for FY2022.


- 11.) **Action Item(s):**

- A.) Discussion and Possible Action on Sponsorship request for 2021 Fiesta del Rio by SOTR for \$12,500. (Mayor)
 - B.) PREVIOUSLY TABLED: Discussion and action to appoint members to the Mercedes Historic Preservation Commission (MHPC)
 - C.) Discussion and Possible Action to authorize the City Manager to go out for RFQ/RFP's for Professional Services for the abatement of asbestos, mold and lead in the police department building.
 - D.) Discussion and Possible Action to direct City Manager to work with Parks and Recreation and Legal on developing/maintaining a schedule of all city parks, limit use of city fields, and ensuring the city is absolved of all liability. (City Manager)
- 12.) **Bids/Contracts:**
- A.) Discussion and Possible Action to approve directing City Manager and Legal to contract Terracon to perform professional services involving the Police Department Building.
 - B.) Discussion and Possible Action on Interlocal Agreement between Hidalgo County Precinct 1 and the City of Mercedes for Mile 1 East Project.
- 13.) **Monthly Department Reports**
- 14.) **Executive Session: Chapter 551, Texas Government Code, Section 551.071 (Consultation with Attorney), Section 551.072 (Deliberation regarding Real Property), Section 551.074 (Personnel Matters) and Section 551.087 (Economic Development)**
- A.) Discussion regarding Project Travel Center – Performance Agreement between DCM and Aradi Holdings, LLC for Reimbursement of Investment for Capital Infrastructure within City of Mercedes TIRZ No. 1 pursuant to Texas Gov't Code 551.087 Economic Development.
 - B.) Discussion regarding Project Travel Center Tenant pursuant to Texas Gov't Code 551.087 Economic Development.
- 15.) **Open Session:**
- A.) Discussion and Possible Action on executive session item A.
 - B.) Discussion and Possible Action on executive session item B.
- 16.) **Future Agenda Items**
- 17.) **Adjournment**

Notice is hereby given that the City Commissioners of the City of Mercedes, Texas will meet in a **Regular Meeting** on Tuesday, September 21, 2021 at 6:30 P.M. Said meeting will be conducted in the Commission Chambers of the City Hall located at 400 S. Ohio, Mercedes, Texas for the purpose of considering and taking formal action regarding the items listed above. This notice is given in accordance with Vernon's Texas Codes Annotated, Texas Government Code, Section 551.001 et. Seq.

WITNESS MY HAND AND SEAL OF THE CITY THIS THE 17TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2021.

ATTEST:


 Joselynn Castillo, City Secretary
 Time of Posting: 5:15 P.M.

ACCESSIBILITY STATEMENT

The City of Mercedes recognizes its obligations under the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 to provide equal access to individuals with disabilities. Please contact the City Manager's Office at (956) 565-3114 at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting with requests for reasonable accommodations, including requests for a sign language interpreter.

