



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  
NOVEMBER 16, 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.) **Presentation:**

- A.) Recognition of Mercedes Early College Academy

7.) **Consent Agenda:**

- A.) Approval of Minutes for Meeting(s) held August 31, 2021.
- B.) Approval of Resolution for Local Border Security Program and designating and authorized official.
- C.) Second and Final Reading of Ordinance No. 2021-15 approving the Personnel Policy Manual.

8.) **City Manager Comments**

- A.) Tree Lighting Ceremony B.) Update on City Parks Maintenance

9.) **Action Item(s):**

- A.) Discussion and Possible Action to solicit RFP/RFQ’s for Energy Consultants for potential savings.
- B.) Discussion and Possible Action to select a firm to conduct the TCEQ Self-Audit.
- C.) Discussion and Possible Action to approve the purchase of Gorman Rupp Pumps for Lift Stations.
- D.) Discussion and Possible Action to approve the purchase of used equipment using 2018 Certificates of Obligation.
- E.) Discussion and Possible Action on Annual approval of the City of Mercedes Investment Policy and Strategy
- F.) Discussion and Possible Action on Approval of Mobile Mini Storage Rental.
- G.) Discussion and Possible Action to move forward with the City accepting Cryptocurrency for payment of Utilities using bit pay.
- H.) Discussion and Possible Action to accept the request from Genesis Presbyterian Church regarding the use of their parking lot.

10.) **Bids/Contracts:**

- A.) Discussion and Possible Action on approval of Interlocal Cooperation Agreement between Hidalgo County and the City of Mercedes for public safety vehicles

11.) **Monthly Departmental Reports**

- 12.) **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 duties and responsibilities of the City Manager with regards to the Police Department– Texas Gov't Code 551.074 – Personnel Matters.
- B.) Legal consultation on all ongoing litigation or pending litigation and potential litigation with the City of Mercedes – Texas Gov't Code 551.071 – Attorney Communication
- C.) Consultation regarding the City Attorney billing report and contractual obligations. – Texas Gov't Code 551.071 – Consultation with Attorney
- D.) Tabled: Consultation and Discussion regarding role of City Commission (interfering with City Manager responsibilities). Texas Gov't Code 551.074 – Personnel Matters

**13.) Open Session:**

Discussion and Possible action on items discussed in executive session.

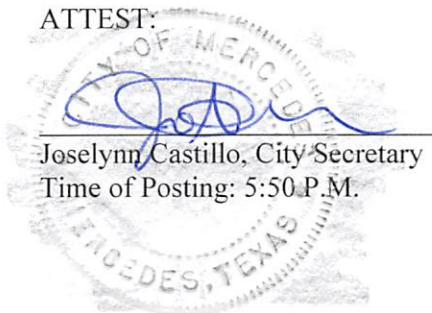
**14.) Future Agenda Items**

**15.) Adjournment**

Notice is hereby given that the City Commissioners of the City of Mercedes, Texas will meet in a **Regular Meeting** on Tuesday, November 16, 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 12<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2021.

ATTEST:



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Joselynn Castillo, City Secretary  
Time of Posting: 5:50 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.**