



Mayor Oscar D. Montoya  
 Mayor Pro-Tem Joe Martinez  
 Commissioner Armando Garcia

Commissioner Jacob Howell  
 Commissioner Ruben Saldana  
 City Manager Alberto Perez

MERCEDES CITY COMMISSION  
 SPECIAL MEETING  
 MAY 15, 2023 – 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**

Mayor Montoya welcomed everyone to the meeting and called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M.

**2. Establish Quorum**

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

**3. Invocation**

Mayor's wife said the invocation.

**4. Pledge of Allegiance**

Commissioner Saldana's wife led in the pledge of allegiance.

**5. Open Forum-**

No citizen signed up for open forum.

**6. Presentations:**

- a. Canvass the Returns of the 2023 City Officer's Election for Mayor, Commissioner Place 1 and Commissioner Place 3 and Declaring the Results

**MAYOR**

NAME	Mail	Early Voting	Election Day	Total
Oscar Montoya	10	545	244	799
Cristella 'Cris De Leon' Hernandez	5	172	79	256
Joaquin Hernandez	2	304	71	377

**COMMISSIONER PLACE 1**

NAME	Mail	Early Voting	Election Day	Total
Jacob Casi Howell	10	770	311	1,091

**COMMISSIONER PLACE 3**

NAME	Mail	Early Voting	Election Day	Total
Leonel Benavidez	2	287	147	436
Leo Villarreal	5	294	73	372
Joe Martinez		8	422	170
				600

396 votes were cast on election day; 1,026 votes were cast during early voting, 17 absentee ballots and no provisional votes were cast.

Oscar Montoya received the majority of the votes for Mayor.

Jacob Casi Howell received the majority of the votes for Commissioner Place 1.

No candidate received the majority of the votes for Commissioner Place 3, therefore, a runoff between Leonel Benavidez and Joe Martinez will be held for Place 3. Election day for the runoffs is scheduled for June 10th at the Mercedes Civic Center.

MPT Martinez made a motion to accept the votes. AG seconded. PU. Mayor Montoya thanked everyone that came out to vote, everyone involved in the elections and the candidates for exercising their rights.

MPT made a motion to move to item 7 and then Administer the oath.

b. Administer Oath of Office to Newly Elected Mayor and Commissioner Place 1

Mr. Marcos Garcia administered the Oath of Office for Commissioner Place 1 Jacob Howell.

County Commissioner David Fuentes administered the Oath of Office for Mayor Oscar Montoya. Commissioner Fuentes said a few words of thanks and family. Commissioner Howell thanked everyone and Mr. Marcos Garcia and said a few words of appreciation. Mayor Montoya said a few words of appreciation and thanked his family and friends.

**7. Ordinances/Resolutions:** *Present, Discuss, Consider and Possibly Take Action Regarding:*

a. Approval of First Reading of Ordinance 2023-06 Calling for a Runoff Election for Commissioner Place 3.

MPT approve. JH seconded. PU. MPT motioned to forego the reading of the ordinance. RS seconded. PU.

**8. Adjournment**

**MPT motion to adjourn. AG seconded. PU. Meeting adjourned at 6:48 p.m.**

Notice is hereby given that the City Commissioners of the City of Mercedes, Texas will meet in a *Special Meeting* on Monday, May 15, 2023 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 MAY, 2023.

ATTEST:

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Joselynn Castillo, City Secretary  
Time of Posting: 5:00 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.**