

**MINUTES**  
**REGULAR MEETING OF THE VALDOSTA CITY COUNCIL**  
**5:30 P.M., THURSDAY, JANUARY 11, 2007**  
**COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CITY HALL**

**OPENING CEREMONIES**

Mayor John J. Fretti called the regular meeting of the Valdosta City Council to order at 5:30 p.m. Council members present were: Willie Head, Jr., Sonny Vickers, David Sumner, John Eunice, Robert Yost, and James Wright. Councilman Alvin Payton, Jr. was absent. The invocation was given by Dr. Ronnie Mathis of Crossing Jordan Missionary Baptist Church, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

**AWARDS AND PRESENTATIONS**

**PRESENTATION OF THE JANUARY EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH**

Mayor Fretti presented the January Employee of the Month Award to Justin Ply, Fire Department.

A **MOTION** by Councilman Eunice, seconded by Councilman Vickers, was unanimously adopted (6-0) to approve the January, 2007 Employee of the Month Award.

Justin Ply began his employment with the City of Valdosta Fire Department in November, 1998 as a Firefighter which is the position he currently holds. He is assigned to Fire Station One where he is also a relief driver, a position of considerable responsibility. Accepting challenges and responsibility is something that Justin has never shied away from. Prior to his employment with the City, Justin completed Basic Firefighter Coursework and obtained First Responder Certification on his own while serving as a volunteer Firefighter. This training proved valuable when he volunteered to conduct CPR Training for City employees whose certifications were expiring. In the past, this required training had been contracted out at considerable expense. Employees were also required to attend classes on Saturdays which often conflicted with work schedules. By working with the Parks and Recreation Staff, they were able to obtain the certifications in the most cost effective and time efficient manner. As the great American industrialist Andrew Carnegie once stated, "Teamwork is the ability to work together toward a common vision...the ability to direct individual accomplishments toward organizational objectives." This is evident in Justin's efforts which have opened up a new era in interdepartmental cooperation. Since then, Justin has been asked to provide first aid certification classes and he continues to be a valuable resource for safety and first responder skills training for City employees. For these reasons and many others, the Employee Relations Committee nominated Justin Ply as Employee of the Month.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes of the December 7, 2006 Regular Meeting of the Valdosta City Council were approved by unanimous consent (6-0) of the Council.

**CITIZENS TO BE HEARD**

Gary Amiot, 202 Jennifer Circle, stated that he has been self-employed in the sign industry for 30 years. Mr. Amiot stated that the permitting process has gotten out of hand and many of those employed in the sign industry feel that it takes too long to obtain a permit for a sign which is costing them money. There are many extra trips to the Zoning Department which makes them look unprofessional to their customers. Mr. Amiot stated that the customer will let them know what they want for a sign, but because the zoning for signs is very erratic, they are unable to tell the customer if the sign is within the regulations. Many people do not even know how their property is zoned and the only way they can get the information is to speak with the Zoning Department. Mr. Amiot stated that many of the signs he makes are within the \$100-\$500 range and they have to charge the customer for the permit. Many times it will exceed the price of the sign. Also, the permit is now required to be notarized which was not required in the past. Mr. Amiot stated that he had an opportunity to make approximately \$1,000 on a sign this

past week at 1881 Clay Road which belongs to N. L. Bassford. Mr. Bassford wanted to place a community sign in front of his property for all of the businesses renting his ten warehouses. Mr. Amiot applied for the permit on January 2, 2007 and told the Zoning Office that he was not sure if it was in the City or County. After speaking with Anne-Marie Wolff, Planning and Zoning Administrator, he was told that the property was in the City. Mr. Amiot then had the permit signed and notarized. On January 10, 2007, Mr. Amiot called Ms. Wolff and was told the permit was not ready because they had been short-handed even though there is a five-day waiting period. Mr. Amiot had already called people to come to the site to make sure it was safe to dig. Ms. Wolff went out to the job site that evening to look at the sign and told Mr. Amiot that there was a problem because the property was in limbo. It was not in the City and not in the County. Mr. Amiot stated that the property was in the County the first of the year and he was informed by Mr. Bassford that the property was going to be zoned into the City. Mr. Amiot will now have to wait until February before he can get a permit in the City. Ms. Wolff had informed Mr. Amiot that he could try to get a permit with the County which is what he was doing but he still has not heard back from the County. Councilman Vickers inquired as to what Mr. Amiot thought should be changed. Mr. Amiot stated that self-policing would be a good idea. They are professional and usually know what to do in this situation, what type of sign the customer wants, and whether it is legal. They have read the ordinances and most of it is self-explanatory. They would like to get the permit, build the sign, and place it on the property. Larry Hanson, City Manager, stated that the property is in limbo because it is in the process of being annexed and will not be brought before Council until February. The application was made in November, 2006 but at the request of Mr. Bassford, he did not want it to be acted upon until January. The request went before the County Commission this week and they approved it. It will then go before the Planning Commission and will come before Council at the first meeting in February. In terms of the sign ordinance, it is a public document and anyone can request it and receive a copy. The ordinance does outline what signs are eligible in certain zoning districts and that is the same in every community. Mayor Fretti stated that we are working on a very technical web site which will allow more citizens to see how different areas are zoned and the types of signs that would be allowed in that area. Mayor Fretti asked that Mr. Amiot work with Anne-Marie Wolff, Planning and Zoning Administrator, and either the Director of Inspections or the Community Development Director. Larry Hanson stated that the zoning information is also available on the South Georgia Regional Development Center's web site. The City will also be working on placing the new Code of Ordinances on the City's web site and citizens will be able to search by key words. Council will also be appointing a representative to serve on a committee to update all of the Codes including the sign ordinance to insure that the City of Valdosta is consistent with communities our size and caliber. Mr. Amiot inquired as to whether the regulations would be changed for the smaller signs. Larry Hanson stated that some would possibly be changed but there are some that cannot be changed. For example, some signs are required to be a certain distance from the City's right-of-way from property lines so there has to be a permitting process to insure that it is done. Even with a permitting process in place, signs are often installed on the City's right-of-way so it is not possible to have an honor system. Mr. Amiot stated that he could not wait on this particular job on Clay Road because it is within all of the requirements in the Code. Larry Hanson stated that until the City annexes it in February it is in Lowndes County and they can issue a permit. It would be illegal for the City to issue a permit for a piece of property in the County. Mayor Fretti stated that if the County standards are more relaxed than the City's then Mr. Amiot would have to bring that up to Code so he may want to wait since the City may have some sign ordinances that are more restrictive than the County. Larry Hanson stated that he thought the County's new Codes were similar to Valdosta's Codes.

Simione (S. M.) Washington, 1409 Leone Avenue, stated that he is a Minister and has owned a small barber shop for 42 years. Mr. Washington stated that Deborah Drive was resurfaced approximately two weeks ago and they did not pave Leone Avenue which is the street in front of his house. Mr. Washington stated that Leone Avenue has been patched so much that there are patches over patches. Mr. Washington asked Council's consideration in paving the street in front of 1409 Leone Avenue.

## **ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS**

### **ORDINANCE NO. 2007-1, AN ORDINANCE FOR THE CITY OF VALDOSTA SPEED ZONES AND SPEED LIMITS TO COMPLY WITH REQUIREMENTS FOR A STATE RADAR PERMIT**

Consideration of an ordinance for City of Valdosta speed zones and speed limits to comply with requirements for a State radar permit.

Von Shipman, City Engineer, stated that the Georgia Department of Public Safety radar permit for the City of Valdosta Police Department expires at the end of 2007. Over the last six months, Engineering Department and Police Department personnel have worked together to produce a new list that has been submitted to the Georgia Department of Transportation (DOT) for review. A professional engineering study is required when an existing speed limit is to be lowered. The speed limit will be decreased on five streets and increased on one. The DOT completed their review and forwarded an ordinance for consideration by the Mayor and Council. Once it is approved, the City can make the necessary changes on the off-system streets and enforce the new speed limits while the new radar permit is being prepared by the Georgia Department of Public Safety. The major changes are as follows: (1) All school zones will activate in the A.M. from 45 minutes prior to commencement time to 15 minutes after commencement time. In the P.M., the zones will activate from 15 minutes prior to dismissal time to 45 minutes after dismissal time, (2) Baytree Road from Gornto Road to Oak Street will decrease from 40 to 35, (3) Gornto Road from St. Augustine to Baytree Road will decrease from 40 to 35, (4) Lakeland Avenue from Bemiss Road to Forrest Street will decrease from 35 to 30, (5) Old Statenville Road from Troup Street to Ulmer Avenue will decrease from 35 to 30, (6) Clay Road from Bethune Street to Hill Avenue will decrease from 40 to 35, (7) Woodrow Wilson Drive from Ashley Street to Patterson Street will increase from 30 to 35, (8) Add Berkley Drive School Zone, (9) Add Howell Road School Zone, and (10) Add 35 new streets including 10 in recently annexed islands. Von Shipman recommended that Council approve the ordinance.

**A MOTION** by Councilman Head, seconded by Councilman Vickers, was unanimously adopted (6-0) to enact Ordinance 2007-1 for City of Valdosta speed zones and speed limits to comply with requirements for a State radar permit, the complete text of which will be found in Ordinance Book X.

## **BIDS, CONTRACTS, AGREEMENTS, AND EXPENDITURES**

Consideration of bids for 3M sign materials for the Engineering Department (Bid No. 25-06-07).

Greg Brown, Purchasing Agent, stated that the Engineering Department needs to purchase sign material to make the signs posted throughout the City. This material is the reflective sheeting that is applied to blanks after being cut from rolls that are kept on hand for this use. Sealed bids were received on December 27, 2006 with the low bid meeting specification submitted by Vulcan in the amount of \$19,818.82. Greg Brown recommended that Council approve the low bid meeting specification of Vulcan in the amount of \$19,818.82 and allow the Engineering Department to proceed with the purchase.

**A MOTION** by Councilman Vickers, seconded by Councilman Wright, was unanimously adopted (6-0) to approve the recommendation of the Purchasing Agent and approve the low bid meeting specification submitted by Vulcan in the amount of \$19,818.82 and allow the Engineering Department to proceed with the purchase 3M sign materials.

Consideration of bids for one Skid Steer Loader for the Utilities Department (Bid No. 26-06-07).

Greg Brown, Purchasing Agent, stated that the Utilities Department is in need of a new skid steer loader (bobcat) to assist with their duties at the Mud Creek Waste Water Treatment Plant. The new machine will replace an older machine that needs to be downed. This is a Council-approved budget item for this fiscal year. Sealed bids were received on December 27, 2006 with the low bid submitted by Bobcat of North Florida in the amount of \$18,240.74. Greg Brown recommended that Council approve the low bid of Bobcat of North Florida in the amount of \$18,240.74 and allow the Utilities Department to proceed with the purchase.

**A MOTION** by Councilman Yost, seconded by Councilman Head, was unanimously adopted (6-0) to approve the recommendation of the Purchasing Agent and approve the low bid submitted by Bobcat of North Florida in the amount of \$18,240.74 and allow the Utilities Department to proceed with the purchase of one skid steer loader.

Consideration of bids for Drug/Gang Trak Software for the Police Department (Bid No. 27-06-07).

Greg Brown, Purchasing Agent, stated that the Police Department would like to purchase Drug/Gang Trak Software offered by the Institute of Police Technology and Management as outlined and approved in the U. S.

Attorney's grant. This will be funded from a reimbursable gang grant. The software is designed toward entering and sharing gang and drug information for later retrieval. The U. S. Attorney's General Office has approved this software as a sole source purchase. Greg Brown recommended that Council approve the sole source purchase from the Institute of Police Technology and Management in the amount of \$16,000 and allow the Police Department to proceed with the purchase.

**A MOTION** by Councilman Head, seconded by Councilman Vickers, was unanimously adopted (6-0) to approve the recommendation of the Purchasing Agent and approve the sole source purchase of the Drug/Gang Trak Software from the Institute of Police Technology and Management in the amount of \$16,000 and allow the Police Department to proceed with the purchase.

Consideration of an interim agreement with Malcolm Pirnie for professional services for software selection.

Steve Carter, Information Technology (IT) Manager, informed Council that the City of Valdosta concluded an IT Hardware and Software Assessment last year. Based upon the recommendations of the IT Assessment, an Information Technology Manager was hired in this fiscal year and it is now time to initiate Phase II of the technology plan which will include the selection process of qualified software applications that meet the needs of the City of Valdosta. Red Oak Consultants have selected seven software vendors for consideration. It was also determined that an initial budget of 100 hours be established and utilized on a time and materials basis using the existing rate structure for the previous contract. The Interim Agreement for Professional Services – FIS Selection outlines Red Oak's procedures and processes in regard to their services. Steve Carter recommended that Council approve contract extension with Red Oak Consultants to implement Phase II of the software technology project not to exceed 100 hours. Councilman Vickers inquired about the hourly rate for this project. Larry Hanson stated that the rate is dependent upon which Staff person is working on the project and the estimated lump sum is approximately \$20,000 for this fiscal year.

**A MOTION** by Councilman Head, seconded by Councilman Wright, was unanimously adopted (6-0) to follow the recommendation of the Information Technology Manager and approve the interim agreement with Malcolm Pirnie for professional services for software selection not to exceed 100 hours.

Consideration of a Change Order for professional fees for the Martin Luther King, Jr. Corridor Project.

Von Shipman, City Engineer, stated that the original contract with Jackson Person & Associates for planning and design professional services was \$100,000 plus \$6,000 for additional reimbursable fees. Due to the fact that \$1,000,000 was originally available for the project, the professional fee was calculated to be 11.2% of the available construction budget. Following the initial planning meetings, it was evident the original scope of services changed due to input from City Staff and the Committee that was formed to help guide this project. To provide required additional survey information to accomplish the revised scope of work, the City Council approved a Change Order in the amount of \$53,450 in late 2005. During this time, the City sought and received commitments for additional funding that brings the available project fund to \$1,975,000. The firm has requested additional professional fees to provide additional design development and construction documents for the project in the amount of \$39,000 plus \$3,825 for additional reimbursable fees. If approved, the professional fee percentage would be 7.6% for the project. Mr. John Jackson provided an update on the project and presented a set of plans showing the project in considerable detail at the City Council Work Session on December 5, 2006. The plans have been reviewed by Mara Register, Community Development Director, and the City Engineer and they will contact select advisory team members for opinions and comments. Mr. Jackson has also provided a written commitment to pay all sub-consultants any outstanding monies owed to date. A procedure has been established to accomplish this task and Mr. Jackson has acknowledged that there will be no additional Change Orders to complete the terms of his contract with the City. Von Shipman recommended that Council approve the Change Order in the amount of \$39,000 plus \$3,825 for additional reimbursable expenses. Councilman Vickers inquired as to when this would go to bid. Von Shipman stated that it would take approximately four to six weeks to incorporate changes to the plans and then it would be sent out for agency review. Once the Georgia Department of Transportation gives approval, it will be sent out for bid.

A **MOTION** by Councilman Wright, seconded by Councilman Head, was unanimously adopted (6-0) to approve the Change Order in the amount of \$39,000 plus \$3,825 for additional reimbursable expenses for professional fees for the Martin Luther King, Jr. Corridor Project.

## LOCAL FUNDING AND REQUESTS

Consideration of a revision to the Policies and Procedures for Tax Credit Projects.

Mara Register, Community Development Director, stated that the City of Valdosta adopted the original Tax Credit Project Requests Policies and Procedures on August 24, 2006. Since that time, Staff has determined that two modifications need to be made in order to reflect the requirements of the Georgia Department of Community Affairs (DCA) regarding their review of the proposed project applications. The first proposed modification involves market/feasibility studies which are required of new construction projects. These studies for projects involving rehabilitation of an existing property are conducted by the State after submission of the application. The second proposed change reflects the timeframe for submission of the complete application to the City and DCA. There were also some changes discussed at the Work Session which calls for a duplicate copy of the complete package being submitted to the City Manager at the time it is submitted to the Georgia Department of Community Affairs or by the required application deadline, whichever comes first. Mara Register recommended that Council approve the revision to the Policies and Procedures for Tax Credit Projects.

A **MOTION** by Councilman Head, seconded by Councilman Vickers, was unanimously adopted (6-0) to approve the revision to the Policies and Procedures for Tax Credit Projects.

Consideration of a request for funds to complete the runway extension project at the Valdosta Regional Airport.

Larry Hanson, City Manager, stated that the runway extension project is complete with the exception of installation of new FAA-funded approach lights and relocation of the glide slope transmitter for the instrument landing system. The City and County previously funded \$300,000 for this project. The installation of the approach lights and relocation of the glide slope were not included by the Airport Consulting Engineer in the original design for the runway extension; therefore, a Change Order has been submitted to the contractor to finish the work. The bid for this work is \$695,999.30. Utilizing the funds that were originally allocated by the FAA, State, City, County, and Airport Authority, there was estimated shortfall of approximately \$225,000. The Airport Authority has proposed that the City, County, and Airport Authority each pay up to \$75,000 to complete the project. The runway extension project is complete with the exception of installation of new FAA-funded approach lights and relocation of the glide slope transmitter for the instrument landing system. The County has approved the amount requested with the condition that this be matched by the City of Valdosta and by the Airport Authority. Larry Hanson recommended that Council approve up to \$75,000 in funding from Contingency SPLOST funds for the Airport Authority in order to complete the runway extension project.

A **MOTION** by Councilman Sumner, seconded by Councilman Vickers, was unanimously adopted (6-0) to follow the County and the Airport Authority and approve up to \$75,000 in funding for the Airport Authority in order to complete the runway extension project at the Valdosta Regional Airport.

Consideration of a request from Lowndes County to accept or reject a proposal on House Bill 489.

Larry Hanson, City Manager, stated that Lowndes County requested in a letter of January 5, 2007 from Joe Pritchard, County Manager, that Council consider their proposal on House Bill 489. The County asked that Council take action on their proposal or agree to mediation. Larry Hanson prepared a memorandum for the Mayor and Council summarizing the points of concern in the County's proposal. Councilman Vickers inquired as to the recommendation of the City Manager. Larry Hanson stated that there were several concerns about Water/Sewer that the City cannot agree to. It would also be financially difficult to agree to find another \$900,000 for Parks and Recreation when the City has already agreed to commit to raising taxes by \$1.2 million. This would put the City back to where it was pre-1999 with the City funding all of the Countywide program. This was not deemed to be fair in 1999 and it is not fair now. Also, for funding of the authorities, it appears that from reading the law that if

you have a Countywide jointly funded service, then the County's half is required to come from the unincorporated digest. The County has proposed that it come from the General Fund which is all taxpayers of the County so that would be double-taxation. For example, if the Industrial Authority has a \$1 million dollar budget and the City pays \$500,000 out of its revenues and the County pays \$500,000 out of the County digest, the City makes up 53% of the County's digest so City residents would be paying all of their half and half of the County's half which would be 75% of a jointly funded service. Larry Hanson stated that it is difficult to recommend approval of that particular proposal based on that. Mayor Fretti stated that after the County's proposal to the City, we called the County and asked them to float the idea of a shift in the percentage of the L.O.S.T. tax which would then give the City some additional income to help supplement the Parks and Recreation budget. The Lowndes County Board of Commissioners declined that idea.

Councilman Yost inquired as to the definition of the Countywide digest and the General Fund Revenue and the difference between both. Larry Hanson, City Manager, stated that the Countywide digest would be unique only to the County and this is the digest of all of the cities and the unincorporated area combined so it would be all taxpayers and property of the entire County including cities. Councilman Yost noted that everyone who resides within the boundaries of the County would pay those taxes. Larry Hanson stated that was correct based upon multiplying the County's millage rate by the value of the property. The definition of General Fund Revenue is revenues that are not specified for a particular thing. This would include revenues such as sales tax, property tax, business license fees, alcohol license fees, and the basic fees that are very flexible. The literal definition of General Fund Revenue for the County would be any revenue Countywide and that was why it was important that the language specifically state unincorporated revenues. Councilman Yost stated that when the County states the City would fund half from our General Revenue it would only come from residents within the City of Valdosta. Larry Hanson stated that the City's General Fund can only come from one set of taxpayers and that is the taxpayers in the City. Councilman Yost stated that when the County states they will fund half of it from their General Revenues then it comes from taxes paid by every resident within the boundaries of Lowndes County. Larry Hanson stated that was correct unless they specified otherwise. Councilman Sumner stated that the City's last proposal to the County was fair and equitable and in the best interest of the taxpayers.

**A MOTION** was made by Councilman Sumner to follow the recommendation of Joe Pritchard, County Manager, based on the letter he sent and move forward into mediation. Councilman Vickers seconded the motion. Councilman Eunice inquired as to how soon the mediation would begin. Larry Hanson stated that the City Attorney received a letter today stating that the Judge is ready to proceed and since the parties have already previously agreed on a mediator, mediation should begin within the next 30 days. Councilman Eunice inquired as to whether the City would still be able to hold negotiations with the County during the next 30 days. Larry Hanson stated they could continue to have discussions all through the mediation up until the date that the case goes to Court. If the parties do not agree, the mediator is required to submit a report of his findings to the Judge which forces the parties to be reasonable in their position. Mayor Fretti stated that there have been several proposals between the City and County and that is a lot for a mediator to take into consideration and for the two bodies to try to negotiate. It has been difficult for the Board of Commissioners and the Council to agree among themselves let alone the two bodies agree together. Mayor Fretti stated that, hopefully, once this happens everyone will get serious. Councilman Yost stated that we as a City and the people selected to negotiate this agreement have been very serious from the start. The City has have offered several proposals and have tried to accommodate the County on practically giving up the Department to an Authority. This goes above and beyond and the City has been very serious in the negotiations. The City has offered good solutions to some of the problems with the past agreement. Councilman Yost stated that he was at the County's meeting in December when the proposal was on their agenda and they went into Executive Session for two to three hours. If the County really believes they have offered the City something and Council can agree to double taxation of the citizens and to throw away their money, then he was not sure that what they discussed in the three-hour meeting made any sense or that this was a serious proposal to bring back to the City. Councilman Yost stated that it is time to move on because the County is not serious enough about it or care enough about the citizens in this County. They represent everyone in this County and Council only represents the citizens of the City and you would think the County would be willing to work a little harder on a proposal that would benefit everyone whereas the proposal they have offered punishes the citizens of the City. Councilman Yost stated this it all comes down to the hotel/motel tax. The County has stated that they do not have a problem with the City taking the hotel/motel tax but with every proposal the County has presented to Council they have tried to punish the City because we are thinking of our own hotel/motel tax. Every proposal they

have made offsets the cost to them by putting the burden back on the City because we want the hotel/motel tax or to change the way it is today. Until the County gets serious and offers some solutions that benefit the citizens the City does not have a choice but to do what Councilman Sumner has stated with his motion and go to mediation. The motion was unanimously adopted (6-0).

**CITY MANAGER'S REPORT**

Larry Hanson, City Manger, stated the Chamber's Annual Dinner will be held on January 30, 2007 at the James H. Rainwater Conference Center and we will need to get a headcount from Council as to who will be attending the event.

Larry Hanson thanked Steve Carter, Information Technology Manager, and John Whitehead, Public Works Director, for their efforts in making the changes to Council Chambers with some very strict timelines.

Larry Hanson stated that the Georgia Department of Transportation Board Members have to be voted upon every two years and the election was held this afternoon. Due to the new redistricting, there were several Board members pitted against one another. Mr. Billy Langdale was running against another Department of Transportation Board Member from another district and Mr. Langdale prevailed 14-10 so he will continue to represent Valdosta on the Board.

**COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Mayor Fretti stated that there are two Committees which need appointees from Council. The first appointment is for two Council members to serve on the Long Range 20-Year Transportation Plan. Councilman Sumner nominated Councilman Willie Head to serve on the Committee. Councilman Yost volunteered to fill the second appointment to this Committee.

Mayor Fretti stated that there is one appointment needed for the Development Standards and Codes Committee which will work closely with Anne-Marie Wolff, Planning and Zoning Administrator and Mara Register, Community Development Director. Councilman Eunice nominated Mayor Fretti to serve on the Committee. Mayor Fretti agreed to serve on the Development Standards and Codes Committee.

Councilman Vickers inquired about the status of one-waying Ashley Street and Patterson Street. Larry Hanson stated that he and Von Shipman, City Engineer, will prepare a report for Council and summarize the issues and recommendations as part of the Mayor/Council Retreat Agenda.

Councilman Eunice inquired as to when Council would need to submit issues for the Mayor/Council Retreat. Larry Hanson stated that he would be sending a memorandum to Council next week.

Mayor Fretti stated that the State of the City speech will not be presented at the second Council meeting in January due to the Mayor being in Washington, D.C. with Mara Register, Community Development Director, to accept a National Award. Mayor Pro Tem Head will preside at the next Council meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor Fretti entertained a motion to adjourn the Council meeting and enter into an Executive Session for the purpose of discussing real estate.

**A MOTION** by Councilman Vickers, seconded by Councilman Head, was unanimously adopted (6-0) to adjourn the January 11, 2007 meeting of the Valdosta City Council at 6:39 p.m. and enter into Executive Session.

Mayor Fretti reconvened the regular City Council meeting at 7:09 p.m. Mayor Fretti stated that there was no action necessary in relation to the discussion about real estate in Executive Session.

Mayor Fretti entertained a motion for adjournment.

A **MOTION** by Councilman Vickers, seconded by Councilman Eunice was unanimously adopted (6-0) to adjourn the January 11, 2007 meeting of the Valdosta City Council at 7:09 p.m. to meet again in regular session on Thursday, January 25, 2007.

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City Clerk, City of Valdosta

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Mayor, City of Valdosta