

**MINUTES**  
**REGULAR MEETING OF THE VALDOSTA CITY COUNCIL**  
**5:30 P.M., THURSDAY, APRIL 25, 2013**  
**COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CITY HALL**

**OPENING CEREMONIES**

Mayor John Gayle called the regular meeting of the Valdosta City Council to order at 5:30 p.m. Council members present were: Joseph "Sonny" Vickers, Tim Carroll, Ben Norton, Deidra White, and Robert Yost. Councilman Alvin Payton, Jr. and Councilman James Wright were absent. The invocation was given by Sr. Pastor Willie Flowers, All Nations Deliverance, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

**AWARDS AND PRESENTATIONS**

**SPECIAL PRESENTATION FOR THE WINNERS OF THE GEORGIA MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATION'S "IF I WERE MAYOR" ESSAY CONTEST**

Special Presentation for the winners of the Georgia Municipal Association's "If I Were Mayor" Essay Contest.

Mayor John Gayle stated that cities across our State will celebrate Georgia Cities Week April 20-27, 2013, with activities that highlight the programs and services that enhance the quality of life for our citizens. In Valdosta, we have planned several activities for citizens to participate in such as the Great American Clean Up, Customer Service Day, the Employee Blood Drive, a community Art Project, Job Shadow Day for Valdosta High School students, among a few others. One of the most popular activities during Georgia Cities Week, however, is the "If I Were Mayor" 6<sup>th</sup> grade essay contest. This contest challenges sixth grade students in our community to use their grade-level writing skills and civic knowledge to express in 350 words or less what they would do if they had the top elected position in the City. Over the years, the City has received some incredible and thought-provoking work from our local students, and this year's winners are no exception. The City is pleased to announce this year's winners: (1) 3<sup>rd</sup> Place Winner - Laneigh Alford, Valdosta Early College Academy; Educator - Jessica LeFiles; School Principal - Ms. Ingrid Hall, (2) 2<sup>nd</sup> Place Winner - Malcolm Alvarado, Valdosta Middle School; Educator - Nadine Whitfield; School Principal - Dr. David Cole, and (3) 1<sup>st</sup> Place Winner - Kaylee McCutchan, Valdosta Middle School; Educator - Marilyn Johnson; School Principal - Dr. David Cole. Though Valdosta did not produce a Statewide winner this year, the three local winners were among the top and were praised for their exceptional efforts. All of these students are to be commended. They are wonderful representatives of our City and we are very proud of each of them.

**SPECIAL PRESENTATION OF THE 2012 DISTINGUISHED BUDGET PRESENTATION AWARD FROM THE GOVERNMENT FINANCE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION (GFOA)**

Special Presentation of the 2012 Distinguished Budget Presentation Award from the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA).

Mayor John Gayle stated that the City of Valdosta Finance Department received the 2012 Distinguished Budget Presentation Award from the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) for meeting nationally recognized guidelines for effective budget presentation. This is the 17th consecutive year that the City has achieved the significant award, which also recognized Mark Barber, Deputy City Manager of Administration, for his instrumental role in preparing the City's budget that adheres to GFOA's high standards. The GFOA Distinguished Budget Presentation Award is the highest form of recognition in governmental budgeting. In order to receive the honor, the Finance Department had to publish a budget document that meets program criteria as a policy document, an operations guide, a financial plan, and a communication device. Last year, the City was also awarded the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for the 26th consecutive year and expects to receive the award again later this year. In addition to the GFOA award, the City recently received an unqualified or "clean" opinion on the presentation of its financial statements for Fiscal Year 2012.

**SPECIAL PRESENTATION OF THE WATER TREATMENT PLANT OF THE YEAR AWARD BY THE GEORGIA ASSOCIATION OF WATER PROFESSIONALS (GAWP)**

Special Presentation of the Water Treatment Plant of the Year Award by the Georgia Association of Water Professionals (GAWP).

Mayor John Gayle stated that the City of Valdosta Water Treatment Plant has been recognized as the 2013 Water Treatment Plant of the Year by the Georgia Association of Water Professionals (GAWP). The Georgia Association of Water Professionals (GAWP) is a not-for-profit Association founded in 1932 with membership of over 4,000 water and wastewater treatment plant operators and managers, municipal and industrial officials and environmental managers, civil engineers, environmental engineers, scientists, manufacturers and their representatives, contractors, elected officials and others concerned with Georgia's water resources. The organization's main purpose is to educate and assist those who have an interest in the proper management and protection of Georgia's water resources. The Plant was recently evaluated by GAWP inspectors on its well field operations, chemical processes, and documentation, and scored 90% or better in all areas. City Staff accepted the Award in the category for groundwater systems that pump over 10 million gallons daily (MGD), at the GAWP Conference on Tuesday, April 16, 2013 in Macon, Georgia. The City's Water Treatment Plant, located on Guest Road, processes over 3.5 billion gallons of drinking water for its residential, business and industrial customers annually. The state-of-the-art facility obtains the City's water supply from seven wells that are drilled into an underground layer of porous, water-bearing limestone known as the Upper Floridian Aquifer. Originally built in 1992, the Plant's major treatment systems were upgraded in 2007 to maintain quality water services while keeping up with City growth. The Plant uses ozone as the primary treatment process and was the first Municipal Plant in Georgia to use this technology. It has many innovative features, including on-site generation of sodium hypochlorite for disinfection and computer monitoring and control of treatment processes and a Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) system to monitor the distribution system pressure and water levels in all elevated tanks in the system. The system is permitted for an average daily flow capacity of 14 MGD and a maximum daily flow of 22.5 MGD and flows through over 300 miles of mains throughout the City. Considerations were also given during the 2007 upgrade to allow for a future expansion of the Water Treatment Plant to 45 MGD to meet the City's expected growth needs.

Mayor John Gayle recognized a Political Science Class from Valdosta State University and their teacher, Von Shipman, former City Engineer for the City of Valdosta.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes of the April 11, 2013 Regular Meeting were approved by unanimous consent (5-0) of the Council.

**ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS**

**ORDINANCE NO. 2013-7, AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE BUSINESS AND OCCUPATIONS LICENSING REGULATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS AS IT PERTAINS TO LICENSE REVOCATION**

Consideration of an Ordinance to amend the business and occupations licensing regulations and requirements as it pertains to license revocation.

George Talley, City Attorney, stated the City has in place certain requirements that must be met in order to receive and maintain business and occupational licenses. In recent years, activities at some businesses and establishments have negatively impacted other businesses and the community at large. Under the present Code of Ordinances, the City has very limited power to address such issues as it relates to the license of the business responsible for the problems. The purpose of this proposed revision is to add a section to the Ordinance to allow the City the right to suspend or revoke business licenses based upon criminal or misdemeanor acts that occur on the premises of the business and the surrounding area. This revision allows the City more authority to effectively deal with businesses that continually cause or allow specific activities such as fighting, indecent conduct, excessive noise, gang activity, littering, etc., to occur on their property or adjacent properties. The City Attorney's Office has

worked with the Chief of Police to develop an amendment to the Ordinance to address problems that have and are occurring at some businesses in the City which the current Ordinance does not adequately address.

A **MOTION** by Councilman Carroll, seconded by Councilman Yost, was unanimously adopted (5-0) to enact Ordinance No. 2013-7, an Ordinance to amend the business and occupations licensing regulations and requirements as it pertains to license revocation, the complete text of which will be found in Ordinance Book XII.

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

Consideration of bids for a four wheel drive rubber tire backhoe for the Stormwater Division of the Engineering Department.

Greg Brown, Purchasing Agent, stated that the Stormwater Division of the Engineering Department needs to replace an existing backhoe that is approximately 10 years old. Council approved for this machine to be replaced in the current year budget due to the age and rising maintenance cost. Sealed bids were received on April 16, 2013. Yancey Brothers submitted the low bid and buy back as follows: (1) Sale Price - \$99,967.00 (2) Buy Back (-) - \$52,000.00, (3) Trade In (-) - \$23,500.00, (4) Coupler (+) - No Charge, (5) Bucket (+) - \$2,500.00, (6) Net Price - \$26,967.00, and (7) Monthly Cost - \$449.45. The prices are a net price offered after taking the bid price less the five-year buy back and trade in offered for the existing machine and adding a universal coupler and ditch bucket to the package. Greg Brown recommended that Council approve the bid of Yancey Brothers as presented above and surplus inventory item #4412 so that it can be traded in towards the purchase of the new machine.

A **MOTION** by Councilman Yost, seconded by Councilman Norton, was unanimously adopted (5-0) to approve the bid of Yancey Brothers as presented above and surplus inventory item #4412 so that it can be traded in towards the purchase of a four wheel drive rubber tire backhoe for the Stormwater Division of the Engineering Department.

Consideration of bids for Tasers for the Police Department.

Greg Brown, Purchasing Agent, stated that the Valdosta Police Department has roughly 30 Taser units within the Patrol Division. This is not a sufficient number to cover all of the Officers which creates an Officer safety issue. The Taser unit is listed in the Department's response to resistance policy as an option for less-lethal force when confronted by individuals resisting our Officers. Tasers are used to incapacitate offenders to allow officers to properly restrain the offender. Taser International is the industry standard and the same brand currently in use at the Department. The current units have worked extremely well for the Department. Officers must be trained by certified instructors before using the Tasers initially and then recertified on an annual basis. DGG Taser and Tactical Supply is the only authorized dealer to sell Taser X26E units in the State of Georgia. The Department would like to purchase 46 new units at \$831.00 each (\$38,226.00) and the necessary supplies such as holsters, cartridges, and holders for an additional \$11,142.00 and \$448.40 in freight costs which we will try and have waived if approved. Greg Brown recommended that Council approve the bid as presented and allow the Police Department to proceed with the purchase for Tasers from DGG Taser and Tactical Supply in the amount of \$49,816.40. Councilman Norton inquired as to whether the funding source was SPLOST VI OR VII. Greg Brown stated that it was SPLOST VI.

A **MOTION** by Councilman Norton, seconded by Councilman Vickers, was unanimously adopted (5-0) to approve the bid from DGG Taser and Tactical Supply in the amount of \$49,816.40 and allow the Police Department to proceed with the purchase of Tasers.

Consideration of bids for extension of utilities for Phase 1 of the annexed Island 56, 59, 63.

Pat Collins, City Engineer, stated that Council approved contracts with three local engineers to design water and sewer improvements to serve the property in former unincorporated islands that were annexed into the City in 2006. Island 56, 59, 63 includes Springhill Drive and Baytree Road. Bids were received and opened publicly at 2:00 p.m. on April 11, 2013 in the Engineering Department's Conference Room. Radney Plumbing submitted the low bid in the amount \$270,819 plus a 10% contingency. The Engineer's estimate was \$323,411. Pat

Collins recommended that Council approve the low bid submitted by Radney Plumbing low bid in the amount \$270,819.00 plus a 10% contingency.

**A MOTION** by Councilman Yost, seconded by Councilman Carroll, was unanimously adopted (5-0) to approve the bid submitted by Radney Plumbing in the amount \$270,819 plus a 10% contingency for extension of utilities for Phase 1 of the annexed Island 56, 59, 63.

Consideration of bids for a gymnasium roof for the Valdosta-Lowndes County Parks and Recreation Authority.

Pat Collins, City Engineer, stated that in June, 2008, the City purchased the Abundant Life Church of God located at 1901 North Forrest Street in order to renovate and use it as a Community Center as well as house the Valdosta-Lowndes County Parks and Recreation Authority. The renovations to the Community Center and gymnasium were completed in October, 2010. During the gymnasium renovations, there was no indication of any roof leaks and therefore renovations were focused on the interior. The current roof has met its life expectancy and is in need of replacement. Bids were received and opened publicly on April 16, 2013. The low bid was submitted by S. C. Barker Construction in the amount of \$43,500. Pat Collins recommended that Council approve the low bid submitted by S. C. Barker Construction in the amount of \$43,500 plus a 10% contingency.

**A MOTION** by Councilman Vickers, seconded by Councilman Carroll, was unanimously adopted (5-0) to approve the bid submitted by S. C. Barker Construction in the amount of \$43,500 plus a 10% contingency for a gymnasium roof for the Valdosta-Lowndes County Parks and Recreation Authority.

Consideration of a request to approve an Agreement for collection of Municipal Court fines.

Larry Hanson, City Manager, stated that the City of Valdosta's Police Department has cases where the fines have been assessed but not collected. These are usually traffic offenses and in these cases if the offender does not appear in Court, the Court typically issues a failure to appear and informs the Georgia Department of Driver Services (DDS). The Georgia DDS takes steps that have ramifications on the offender's driving privileges; however, this mechanism does not result in the City of Valdosta being paid the fines due. Pioneer Credit Recovery is a collection agency for Municipal Court fines. State law allows the company to charge 40% over and beyond what the fine is. There is no financial risk to the City as the accounts are delinquent. Municipal Court would receive a pro rata share of whatever is received from the delinquent payee. Pioneer Credit is seeking to recoup these fines at no cost to the City. Pioneer's fee is in addition to our fine. Upon full payment, the full amount due the City will be forwarded to the City. Upon partial payment, 60% will be forwarded to the City. While the overall collection rate may be low 10%-20%, this is more than the City is getting currently which is 0%. Larry Hanson recommended that Council approve the Agreement with Pioneer Credit for collection of Municipal Court fines. Councilman Vickers stated that they could evaluate the effectiveness of the collections after the one year contract term is up. Larry Hanson stated that there are a number of other municipalities utilizing the services of Pioneer Credit.

**A MOTION** was made by Councilwoman White to approve the Agreement with Pioneer Credit for collection of Municipal Court fines. Councilman Norton seconded the motion. Councilman Vickers stated that he would like for the City to evaluate the program after one year. Councilwoman White stated that she was in agreement with Councilman Vickers' request. The motion was unanimously adopted (5-0).

## **CITY MANAGER'S REPORT**

Larry Hanson, City Manager, stated that this week is Georgia Cities Week and we are very proud of our employees and the great job that they do in serving the citizens of this community. We often hear and acknowledge the work of Police and Fire but we also have many other Departments that are very important to the City. He also thanked the Mayor and Council for serving the employees at the Employee Appreciation Luncheon today because it means a lot to them to have an opportunity to interact with you. One of the best events of Georgia Cities Week is the Job Shadow Day and we had approximately 30 students from Valdosta High School that spent half a day with our Department Heads. At the end of their time with each Department, the students then gave a report on what they learned and it was very rewarding to hear what they had to say.

Larry Hanson, City Manager, stated that there was a meeting on April 16, 2013 at the Wood Valley Community Center with some of the residents of Meadowbrook Drive and other areas that have been affected by flooding. There were approximately 30 people in attendance as well as Councilman Yost, Councilman Carroll, and Councilman Norton. Also, Emily Davenport, Stormwater Superintendent, made a presentation about the stormwater issues and the regional flooding issues, and Henry Hicks, Utilities Director, made a presentation about the wastewater issues and sewer overflows. It was a very good meeting and they had a lot of good feedback.

Larry Hanson, City Manager, stated that on April 11, 2013, the City hosted a meeting with the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, Federal Emergency Management Association (FEMA), Georgia Emergency Management Association (GEMA), the Environmental Protection Division (EPD), the Georgia Department of Natural Resources (DNR), the U. S. Geological Survey (USGS), the Regional Water Council, and National Weather Service in order to address the regional flooding issues. They also had representatives from all three of our Congressmen's Office and both of our Senator's Offices. The U. S. Army Corps of Engineers acknowledged that they need to be part of the solution and that a study needs to be conducted as far north as Cordele and going all the way to the Gulf of Mexico. The City of Valdosta is committed to address the issues and work with all of these agencies. This was a great first step in resolving the flooding problems. The USGS has committed to come here within two months and bring the National Weather Service to look at updating some of their forecasting and models. The day after the meeting, the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers contacted Emily Davenport regarding a \$75,000 grant and if the City can match it, they can begin to do some planning. They want us to make a commitment right now to do a 50% match with them on initiating a study which is the first step toward becoming eligible for Federal funding to help address these regional stormwater flooding issues. Larry Hanson asked Council's consideration in giving him the authorization to commit to the U. S. Army Corp of Engineers about being a participant in this study and then place it on the next Agenda. Councilman Carroll inquired as to how much the County would contribute. Larry Hanson stated that the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers wants to focus on the most flooded areas first and it will predominately be areas in the City which is why we are making the majority of the match. There was no objection from Council.

Larry Hanson, City Manager, stated that Sementha Mathews, Public Information Officer, won the Loyce Turner Award for the MPA Program at Valdosta State University. We are very proud of her accomplishments. She does a lot of hard work for the City of Valdosta and is very deserving of this Award.

Larry Hanson, City Manager, asked Henry Hicks to make a presentation to the Mayor and Council about a five-year action plan for the Withlacoochee Wastewater Treatment Plant. At the end of the presentation, Council will be asked to vote and adopt this as a five-year action plan.

Henry Hicks, Utilities Director, stated that since 1992, the City has received \$179 million in SPLOST funding and over the same time period has invested nearly \$168 million in capital projects for the Water and Wastewater system. This includes SPLOST funding, system revenues, bonds, and GEFA loans. Since 2009, the Utilities Department has expended over \$49 million on sewer system improvement with approximately \$5.6 million spent on the Withlacoochee Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP). Upon completion of the following projects by December, 2018, the City will have invested approximately \$230 million in capital projects for its Utilities system from 1992 to 2018, a 26-year period: (1) Pump Station, Force Main, Headworks, and Equalization Basin Project – (a) Design and construct two new master pump stations and two smaller pump stations along with a new force main to a new headworks structure with grit removal and bar screens at the same location for the new Withlacoochee WWTP. In addition a 6.0 MG equalization basin will be included at this site for initial wet weather flows and future flow equalization through the new Treatment Plant. The flow from this project will be gravity fed to the existing WWTP for final treatment and discharge utilizing the existing Plant outfall. This project will replace an existing 54-inch gravity sewer main to the current Plant as well as the existing influent pump station, both of which are highly prone to severe inflow and flooding from the Withlacoochee River. (b) Design of three construction packages to be bid simultaneously (Pump Stations – Major stations at Gornto Road and Remer Lane with two minor pump stations at Valdosta State Prison and the Trailer Park located on Highway 133, Force mains – six miles of 30" and 42", and Headworks and Equalization Tank). (c) Project removes over 50% of sewer flow from Meadowbrook sewer trunk line. (2) Relocation of the Withlacoochee WWTP to New Location 60 Feet Above the Current Flood Level - (a) This project is planned for use of design build approach to expedite design and construction in the shortest possible time frame. A Request for Proposal (RFP) for design build is expected to be

advertised in the summer of 2013 following approval of the RFP by both Georgia EPD and GEFA. Upon completion, the discharge will continue to use the existing WWTP outfall on the Withlacoochee River. (b) Design to meet current permit limits (12 million gallons per day average day flow, 22 million gallons per day peak hydraulic capacity, designed to allow future expansion, and maintains current discharge point), (c) Dual power feeds, (d) Site above flood plain on City property, (e) Estimated cost - \$20 million, (f) Design/build to accelerate project completion. (3) Collection System Evaluation Program – (a) Continue implementation of and complete a five-year system wide plan to evaluate the entire sanitary sewer collection system (300 miles of lines with 75 miles completed) and develop schedule for repairs. (b) The evaluation will include the inspection of all manholes and collection system lines using smoke testing first to be followed by Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) Inspections of high priority areas. (c) The evaluation will be utilized to prioritize and schedule major point repairs and also to plan and prioritize major rehabilitation projects for the future. (d) A schedule to complete major rehabilitation projects identified during the evaluation will be submitted for EPD approval by December, 2018. (4) Manhole Replacement/Rehabilitation Program - Continue existing program completing inspection of approximately 3,390 remaining manholes (2,610 inspected to date) and prioritizing replacement or rehabilitation of the most deteriorated manholes. Complete the replacement or rehabilitation of a minimum of 60 manholes each year until all priority 1 manholes are completed. A schedule will be submitted to EPD for ongoing rehabilitation to address priority 2 and all remaining manholes on an annual basis. (5) Lift Station Rehabilitation/Replacement Program - Continue with existing rehabilitation/replacement program until all existing older lift stations are completed. This will include connection to SCADA and/or auto-dialer systems along with emergency power capabilities for connection to portable generators should power to station be lost. (6) Purchase Portable Generators for Lift Stations - The purchase of three portable generators will be completed (1per year) so that any existing lift station, not wired with two independent electric feeds, can be quickly connected to a portable generator for emergency power needs. In addition to the generators, the City has worked with Godwin Pumps to meet emergency bypass pumping needs at each of our lift stations whenever needed.

Henry Hicks stated that following are Parson's recommendations for repairs to the existing Withlacoochee WWTP: (1) Following a thorough review of Plant operations with Staff and completion of Plant processes modeling, Parsons has submitted a list of immediate work to ensure the Withlacoochee Plant meets permit requirements until such time as a new Treatment Plant can be completed. (2) Parson's listed six specific projects to be undertaken at a total cost of \$2.5 million including contingencies. To expedite this work in the shortest possible time frame, the Utilities Department will bring before City Council at the next scheduled meeting a contract amendment to Parsons existing contract to perform engineering, construction and oversight of those six projects using the Design/Build concept. (3) EPD has reviewed the proposed plan and approved it. This work should significantly improve treatment capabilities and help to reduce the frequency and amounts of sewer overflows in the Meadowbrook area until the new treatment plant is online. Councilman Carroll inquired about the cost of these six projects. Larry Hanson, City Manager, stated that it would cost approximately \$2.4 million including a contingency. These projects are in the early phases and not designed yet so the contingency is approximately 30%. Henry Hicks stated that he anticipates completion of these projects within the next eight months to one year. Other system improvement considerations include the following: (1) Dewatering Building – Provide a mobile belt filter press, (2) Headworks – Install new screens on influent flow, (3) RAS Pump Station – Provide pump and piping to "De-Rag" secondary system, (4) Aeration System – Replace all air piping and add blower, (5) Aerobic Digester – Provide blowers for the Aerobic Digester, and (6) Secondary Clarifiers and Sand Filters – Remove hydraulic bottlenecks. Larry Hanson stated that it is important to make a statement to the community that this is our plan, timeline, and the funding to address the issues we are having now as well as the long term solutions of the new Plant. This is the work that the City is planning to complete within the next five years as well as the next six to eight months.

Mayor Gayle entertained a motion to adopt this as the five-year plan for the Withlacoochee WWTP.

**A MOTION** was made by Councilman Carroll to approve a five-year action plan for the Withlacoochee Wastewater Treatment Plant as presented. Councilman Norton seconded the motion. Councilman Yost stated that he wanted to make sure that the funding from the previous SPLOST was included in the motion. Larry Hanson, City Manager, stated that this will actually be on the next Agenda because Henry Hicks will have an Agenda Item asking Council's approval for the design build contract with Parson's. The motion was unanimously adopted (5-0).

Councilman Vickers inquired as to whether there was any long term plan for looping of the City's water system. Larry Hanson, City Manager, stated that there are several looping projects that have been taking place and there are plans for additional looping and chlorination on the west and east side of the City. Henry Hicks, Utilities Director, stated that the Miller Business Park has been tied into Clay Road and the new elevated storage tank will help. They are working on a short loop on Baytree Road to tie in two dead ends that are on the other side of the railroad tracks. They have placed the looping project around the Airport on hold for now due to funding, and there are several other smaller ones they are currently working on. They are waiting on the final design for the re-chlorination station that will go over near Gil Harbin Industrial Avenue and Madison Highway. Councilman Vickers inquired as to the number of places that need to be looped. Henry Hicks stated that every cul-de-sac that is in the City is a potential loop because it is a dead end. Larry Hanson stated that a lot of these will help with the flushing and the chlorination but part of the problem with flushing is that the Plant is seven miles north of Valdosta and then you get to the southern end so you are talking about 12 miles from the Plant where the chlorination chemicals are added. At certain times of the year the chlorine residuals are not where it needs to be so they are boosting chlorine which will help reduce the flushing even without doing all the looping.

Councilman Vickers also inquired about the Probation Office and the audit that was conducted. Larry Hanson stated that they just received the final audit last week and he would have it sent to Council. Everything was found to be in compliance and there were no irregularities.

Councilman Yost thanked the Staff and Council members who attended the Wood Valley Community Center Meeting because it was a very good meeting. The citizens got a good overview of what happened, why it happened, how we are going to fix it, and where we are going from here. The second meeting with all of the Agencies was excellent and there was a great turnout from all the State and Federal agencies. Councilman Yost stated that he appreciated Henry Hicks and his Staff and hoped that they will have the tools they need to fix some of the problems at the Withlacoochee WWTP. He appreciated the sense of urgency to make this happen, especially for those people who live in the flood prone areas.

Councilwoman White inquired as to whether any of the Council members had received an invitation to attend the Dedication Ceremony for the F-86 Aircraft at Moody Air Force Base on Saturday, April 27, 2013. Larry Hanson, City Manager, stated that he did receive an invitation to the event.

Councilman Carroll thanked Staff for their assistance in arranging and participating in the two big meetings that were held recently as well as the Job Shadow Day and the Employee Appreciation Luncheon.

Mayor Gayle inquired as to whether Henry Hicks had an update on the ruptured sewer line. Henry Hicks stated that it was a County force main that runs parallel to the City's line. The City is allowing the County to pump their sewage into our 54 inch main line to the Withlacoochee WWTP until the repairs are made. Larry Hanson stated that we have a line in that area and one of Henry's Staff members was on his way to work when he smelled an unpleasant odor. Upon investigation, it was thought to be the City's line but it was later determined to be the County's line.

## **CITIZENS TO BE HEARD**

There were no citizens to be heard.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor Gayle entertained a motion for adjournment.

**A MOTION** by Councilman Vickers, seconded by Councilman Yost, was unanimously adopted (5-0) to adjourn the April 25, 2013 Meeting of the Valdosta City Council at 7:09 p.m. to meet again in Regular Session on Thursday, May 9, 2013.