MINUTES REGULAR MEETING OF THE VALDOSTA CITY COUNCIL 5:30 P.M., THURSDAY, MAY 5, 2011 COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CITY HALL

OPENING CEREMONIES

Mayor John Fretti called the regular meeting of the Valdosta City Council to order at 5:30 p.m. Council members present were: Tim Carroll, Ben Norton, Alvin Payton, Jr., Deidra White, Robert Yost, and James Wright. Councilman Sonny Vickers arrived late at 6:25 p.m. The invocation was given by Minister Eric Cureton, River Street Church of Christ, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

AWARDS AND PRESENTATIONS

Mayor Fretti entertained a motion for Awards and Presentations.

A MOTION by Councilman Carroll, seconded by Councilman Norton, was unanimously adopted (6-0) for the May Awards and Presentations.

PRESENTATION OF THE MAY, 2011 EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH AWARD

Mayor Fretti presented the May, 2011 Employee of the Month Award (Monica Nelson, Utilities Department).

Monica Nelson began her employment with the City of Valdosta's Utilities Department in November, 1999 as a Meter Reader. In July, 2001, Monica was promoted to the position of Sr. Meter Service Worker which is the job she currently holds. In this position, she is responsible for reviewing meter readings, connecting and disconnecting services, and working directly with meter readers in the field. Since December, 2010, Monica has filled in for both her supervisors while they were hospitalized. During this entire period, the division was also short-handed by two meter readers. Under Monica's leadership, this division not only regularly met all meter reading requirements, but meter reading errors were the lowest in years. In addition, employee morale improved significantly even when other employees were absent due to an illness or other pressing family matters. These accomplishments speak highly of a dedicated, team-oriented, and can do approach taken by Monica. Her efforts are an outstanding example of an individual going beyond what is expected and the positive effect it had on her coworkers. She exemplifies the high quality of employees serving our citizens and is worthy of recognition by her peers and City Council. It has been said that a leader is someone who "knows the way, goes the way, and shows the way." Such is the case with Monica and her efforts in the Meter Reading Division. For these reasons and many others, the Employee Relations Committee nominated Monica Nelson as Employee of the Month.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the April 21, 2011 Regular Meeting were approved by unanimous consent (6-0) of the Council.

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

Dan Davis, 1001 Cherry Creek Drive, stated that he wanted to discuss possible changes to the Travel Policy for the Mayor and Council and City of Valdosta employees. He does realize that some travel is required to conduct City business, but in the past travel expenses have been excessive. With the current budget shortfall, Department Heads being told to watch their spending, and the possibility of the City having to furlough or lay off employees, Council should restrict unnecessary travel and expenses. Mr. Davis stated that following are some suggestions he would like to see in the Travel Policy: (1) Any travel requiring an overnight hotel for the Mayor, Council members, or City employees must be voted on and approved by Council. This will prevent Council from saying they have no control over travel. The Mayor does and when travel abuses are made public then everyone will share in the blame. Mr. Davis stated that he did realize the City has 191 Police Officers that require 120 hours of training to be certified and that is done every six weeks in Forsyth. Similar training is required for the 105 Firefighters, Water Department personnel, and Waste Treatment personnel. This can be planned ahead of time and presented on

a monthly basis. Each person does not have to be retrained each year because this is usually a one-time certification for the extensive training. (2) In order to be reimbursed, a detailed Travel Report must be filed that lists the purpose of travel, the people who were involved with the meetings, and include detailed receipts and not just a charge receipt. (3) Room service charges will not be allowed. (4) Dry cleaning or laundry charges will not be allowed. (5) Mini-bar charges will not be allowed. (6) No in-room movie charges will be allowed. (7) The IRS Tax Code for 2011 only allows \$.51 per mile and the City should only reimburse current allowed IRS mileage deduction and not the \$.55 per mile that the City currently pays. (8) Tips will be limited to 15% except when a group tip is pre-figured into the bill, and in this event, no additional tip will be allowed for reimbursement. If you feel that service was extremely good, then by all means feel free to reach into your own pocket and add an additional \$500 tip. (9) The City should have one person who is in charge of travel arrangements and they should be encouraged to use the Internet to search for the lowest hotel rates. Search sites such as Travelzoo.com, Hotels.com, and Kayak.com are very easy to use and yield great rates. Government rates could also be requested. A special rate with an Atlanta hotel could be pre-negotiated. (10) Travel expenses should be for the elected person only and no spouses or children. Taxpayers should not be paying for family vacations. (11) No detailed receipt, no reimbursement. (12) No reimbursement for alcohol. Mr. Davis stated that he did not have a problem with someone having glass of wine with a meal but he does have a problem with his tax dollars paying for someone's bar bill. Drink as much as you want but pay for it yourself. (13) Follow the County's lead and keep travel to a minimum. (14) Reinstate the lame duck travel restrictions that were struck during the last attempt to change the Travel Policy. This will save the taxpayers money as there is likely to be several lame ducks after the next election. (15) Use common sense when traveling or spending taxpayers' money. If you would not spend \$2,000 of your own money on a meal then don't expect the taxpayers to do so. On a personal trip, if you would not spend your own money to stay at the Ritz then don't ask the taxpayers to pay for it. Ask yourself, "Would I do this if I was paying for it myself?" (16) Do not pay a monthly vehicle allowance and also mileage to an elected official or City employee. That is double dipping. If you get a mileage reimbursement of \$.55 per mile then you should not receive a vehicle allowance. (17) List all travel reimbursements on the City's web site so that everyone can see how their tax dollars are being spent. If expenses are posted for everyone to see then this alone will make our elected officials use better judgment when spending tax dollars. Mr. Davis stated we are in some tight economic and challenging times and the City is going to have to make some tough budget calls very soon. One of the things that we can do to help alleviate the possibility of layoffs or furloughs is to get travel expenses under control. Mr. Davis stated that he did realize that travel is required as part of conducting City business, but it needs to be kept reasonable.

Roy Taylor, 2209 Bridlewood Drive, stated that he wanted to challenge Council to look at their hearts and the people who are having tough times in Valdosta. There were over 600 people evicted from their apartments and homes two weeks ago because they could not pay their rent. There were approximately 84-100 homes repossessed by the banks because people cannot live on unemployment and make their mortgage payments. We have young children today who are going to jail and there are more children in a Judge's office than there are in church. Mr. Taylor stated that Council is the leader of our community and as a concerned citizen he asked Council members to live as an example of what they were elected to do. Council has expense accounts and it is a license to steal legally. If Council members feel comfortable doing that then they do not need to be sitting there and helping us raise our children in this community. In Afghanistan, 30 miles from the border, a man was found who was responsible for killing 5,900 people. We have been giving them \$50 billion a year of our tax dollars and that is politicians who are doing that. If they want to balance a budget then they have got to start taking care of the dollars that are being taken in rather than taxing citizens for more money. If City employees are not being given raises because you are throwing away money then that is wrong. Mr. Taylor stated that it is hard for Council to do something about the expense thing. The Mayor has to sign Council members' expense vouchers and then the Mayor Pro Tem has to sign his and that is wrong. Mr. Taylor asked Council to do something about the expenses and if they do not want to do that then they need to lose their jobs. There will be some lame ducks this year unless Council decides to take better care of taxpayers' money and live the kind of life with moral values in our City. His father taught him that if you steal a nickel you might as well steal a million dollars because it is just as much of a sin. Mr. Taylor stated that he would be looking at every expense account issued since 2004 and he hoped that Council would do something about it.

Phyllis Stallworth, 4363 Dockside Drive, stated that she is first Vice President of the NAACP and wanted to mimic what Mr. Taylor said concerning our youth. It goes back to ethics and our City has been certified as a City of Ethics. Something is wrong because she does not see the ethics there when we are allowing different things

to happen. When the people voted, they voted that Council would serve the citizens and not serve themselves. It mimics what the City of Ethics is about. When Council members took an Oath of Office they vowed that. When people voted, they voted that Council would use the resources and would be able to bring things into the community. The young men who are on the street selling drugs are there because nothing has been put into the community. There is no infrastructure to bring opportunity for those young men not to be on the street trying to rob or steal. When the people voted, they voted that Council would treat every one of them fairly. Fairness is when money can be allocated for their community and when you look at what will be brought into the City it is not infrastructure but mass destruction. When you could agree and accept the opportunity for that type of destruction to come into our City and you should take a position on that or not, the people did not vote for that. The people voted for their agenda. Ms. Stallworth stated that she was disappointed that Council would take the Burger King mentality, "Having it your way." We cannot do that and we do not let our children do that. When the people voted, they voted that Council would use their power and position for them. Council would take the position of the people and not if it comes to you for a vote, but whatever the people voted and how they feel. When the people voted, they voted for integrity and honesty and that Council would look upon their fines and their money that they are giving to the City and that Council would give back to them; however, the misconception is that Council thought that they voted for you. The people voted for the agenda of the people and that is for Council to take care of them. They entrusted you and believe in you. Ms. Stallworth stated that she believes in the City Council and the City of Valdosta. It is a beautiful City and when visitors come into Valdosta our azaleas welcome them. Even though they are different colors, the people feel welcome in our community and our City should always exemplify that. Ms. Stallworth asked each Council member to revisit their ethics.

Dr. Michael Noll, 2305 Glynndale Drive, stated that he is the President of the Wiregrass Activists for Clean Energy (WACE) and he wanted to read a letter to the Mayor and Council. It seems that once you look behind to see the facts and realize that solar energy is the most logical energy to use, then that is what we should focus on; however, you are still officially supporting an energy form that is not renewable, is dirty, and threatens our health. That is Biomass and it seems we have an incredible amount of creative energy in the community with different voices. Dr. Noll stated that he and Council members may not always agree with each other but these voices contribute to the mosaic of the City of Valdosta. It is the policy of Council to not have individuals engage Council members in debate and to get back to them afterward. Unfortunately, the reality is that this blocks a creative exchange of ideas, particularly if they do not get the answers to the questions they have been asking. Council members do not do themselves a favor by having such a policy in place and he urged Council to find a way to improve this because it does not help the citizens. Dr. Noll stated that the letter he wanted to read could have been shared with Council in January, 2011 but he decided not to because there were some outspoken citizens who received threats, were discouraged, or felt uncomfortable to speak openly about what they felt regarding the Biomass Plant. They decided at one point early on that they would only use the kinds of statements that come from professional organizations in the United States, or in this case, more statements from the Georgia office of the American Lung Association. Dr. Noll stated that this person showed his courage early on and provided them with a letter to share. The letter was written by Dr. Craig Bishop, a doctor with a family practice in Valdosta. Dr. Bishop wrote in his letter the following: "Dear Dr. Noll, I am a physician practicing family medicine in Valdosta, Georgia. As both a physician and a concerned citizen of Lowndes County, I felt compelled and obligated to voice my opinion on behalf of my patients and the citizens of our community. I am opposed to the construction of the proposed Biomass Plant in Lowndes County. The Plant has many potential health concerns. This Plant would release chemicals and particles into the air that would affect the respiratory health of the citizens in our community. Those most affected would be our children, the elderly, and those suffering from lung disease such as emphysema and asthma. The long term health effects could be substantial with increased asthma attacks, cardiovascular harm, and shortened life expectancy. This would result in increased physician and emergency room visits adding to the burden of the already substantial health care costs in our State." Dr. Noll asked Council to show them the same kind of courage that others have shown before and to openly and publicly state where they stand on the Biomass issue, how Council envisions us to move ahead as a community, and how they would like to mind the sources and creative energies in this community instead of blocking this by having policies in place which ultimately encourage a dialog.

Ken Klanicki, 2208 Jerry Jones Drive, stated that many years ago, he had learned lessons from his mother, one of which is that if you don't have anything nice to say about a person then don't say anything. Mr. Klanicki stated that he was glad his mother was not here tonight. He had a lot of faith in the City Council until a year and a

half ago and there was a rezoning issue that came forward in February. It was to rezone the corner of North Oak Street and Gornto Road. All the professional staff ruled for it not to go forward; however, it was passed by this Council, other than Councilman Norton, with a vote of 5-2. His own Councilman came out very strongly that it should not pass. From that time forward, he has lost a lot of faith in Council. Two meetings ago, he watched as one of the Council members had construed the term "lame duck" as some sort of personal slur. He watched the conversation between the Council member and the Mayor and at that time, it was almost as if he was watching a skit on Saturday Night Live except that it was not funny. Last week he watched more back and forth conversations and he wanted to commend those who have come forward tonight because as far as what he could see we have trouble right here in River City. Mr. Klanicki commended Mayor Fretti, Councilman Norton, and Councilman Carroll for attending a meeting last week with the Preservation Committee who would like to restore the Roberts House on Wells Street. It is an icon in Valdosta and it is interesting that the Council member from District 1 was not there. Mr. Klanicki stated that he hoped they could move forward because we are going through some things right now that are not pleasant and as you succeed we all succeed. Whenever citizens come forward to make observations he hoped that all of the Council members could have a poker face. At the last meeting, Leigh Touchton came forward and cited two Council members who had come out for the Biomass Plant and one of those Councilmen had a smirk and that was not pleasant to see.

Floyd Rose, 4001 Foxborough Boulevard, stated that he was President of the Valdosta-Lowndes County Southern Christian Leadership Conference and senior servant of Serenity Christian Church. Six years ago today, he stood at this podium and asked the Mayor and Council to appoint a committee to review the Barber Park situation. At that time he did not ask that the name be changed but only that a committee be appointed. The Mayor said to him, "Reverend Rose, move away from the podium because somebody here might want to talk to me about a stray dog in the neighborhood." At that point, he chose, along with 14 others, to go to jail in dignity rather than to go back to his seat in shame. Mr. Rose stated that it was his understanding that this Mayor and Council spent upwards of \$35,000 of taxpayers money to prosecute that case. In his deposition, the Mayor stated that he was afraid of Mr. Rose and he had asked the Police Chief for added protection at his home. Mr. Rose stated that he does not even know where the Mayor lives and he has not been in a fight since he was 11 years old, which he lost, and he is now 72. There is no need for anybody in this town to ever be afraid of Floyd Rose. He is committed first to the gospel of Jesus Christ, and he takes his calling as a Minister seriously. He is also an ardent admirer and follower of the non-violent philosophy of Mohandas Ghanda and Martin Luther King, Jr. Mr. Rose stated that he had told Council that he would not be back before them but recent events have dictated a change of mind for him. He believes that non-cooperation with evil is just as much a moral obligation as is cooperation with good. In that context, he had one question that he wanted to pose to each of the Council members. The policy of not allowing the citizens of this City to speak to Council members individually is evil and he cannot continue to cooperate with it. Mr. Rose stated that he would simply like to ask one question and that was, "Do you believe that the policy helps the citizens of this City and if so, how?" Mr. Rose stated that he would begin with Councilman Yost who was the senior Council member since Councilman Vickers was not present. Councilman Yost stated that he would not speak for anyone else but they have been through this time and time again and they will attend to the business of the City and stick to the policy. Mr. Rose inquired as to whether Councilman Yost chose not to answer because he was not clear and the question was, "Do you believe that the policy is in the best interest of the citizens and if it is, how so and if not, why do you continue to support it?" Councilman Yost stated that they will stick with the policy as is. Mr. Rose asked Councilman Wright. Councilman Wright stated that he believed that it was. Mr. Rose inquired as to what way. Councilman Wright stated that it allows the City to conduct business. Mr. Rose inquired as to whether the citizens' concerns were not part of the City business. Mayor Fretti reminded Council that it is their policy not to engage in individual debate and they may nod their heads or answer if they would like, but by answering they are going against the policy and thus, in the future, they may have to consider changing the policy just by these actions. Mr. Rose asked Councilwoman White. Councilwoman White stated that each time she has been asked this question she has said that she is open and willing to speak with any citizen at any time and she has not turned down any requests to meet with anybody or speak with anyone. She has not been able to do it on everyone's timetable and she has not been the initiator of those meetings but she has not once, in a year and a half, turned down any requests to meet or speak with her. Out of respect for the policy that exists she would not break it tonight even though she was doing it now, but she hoped this was the last time she would have to answer this same question. It puts them all in a position that they should not be in. Councilwoman White stated that she did not know how to say any more honestly or clearly that she is here to speak with any citizen who lives in her District or not at any time. She is for engaging with citizens about any of their concerns at any time other than now because that is what is in the current

policy. She is not 100% for or 100% against the policy as it stands but it is the policy that she agreed to go by when she accepted this position. Mr. Rose asked Councilman Payton. Councilman Payton stated that he would not answer. Mr. Rose asked Councilman Norton. Councilman Norton stated that it is the policy that he accepted when he accepted the position through the kindness of the voters of Valdosta. They are concerned about that and are working toward a change or accommodation. Mr. Rose asked Councilman Carroll. Councilman Carroll stated that Mr. Rose could ask him outside of this meeting. Mr. Rose stated that none of the Council members answered the question that he asked. The question was, "Do you believe that this policy, as it is currently, helps the citizens?" If yes then they should have said yes and if no then they should have said no. That question was never answered. Mr. Rose stated that he forgot to ask Mayor Fretti. Mayor Fretti stated that Mr. Rose could ask him at another time. Mr. Rose stated that he had no need to ask him at another time. He hoped that Council would read at some time Article II, Section 2 of the Georgia Constitution which states, "All government originates with the people and it is founded upon their will only and is solely for the good of the whole. Public officials or trustees and servants of the people are at all times amendable to them." Finally, Valdosta is a member of the Georgia Municipal Association and subscribes to their Certified City of Ethics. Mr. Rose stated that Council members have committed themselves to serving others and not themselves, using resources with efficiency, treating all people fairly, using the power of their position for the well-being of their constituents, creating an environment of honesty, and integrity. Mr. Rose asked Council's consideration in taking another look at this policy. It is inconceivable to him that Council really believes what they are doing is in the best interest of the people who elected them. If Council really believes that then it is fine, but he was disappointed because the citizens may need to look for somebody who believes differently.

John Robinson, 3227 San Juline Circle, Lake Park, stated that someone had brought to his attention that when he was before Council at the last meeting he walked back and forth across the floor and that was rude. It was not his intention to be rude and if he was then he apologized. Mr. Robinson commended the citizens who spoke about issues pertaining to civil rights. He is really nobody but he does have 189 attorneys and a friend named Moses Baker who is in the 15th Judicial District serving as a Federal Judge in Palm Beach County. Mr. Robinson stated that he is also working with the Chief of Staff at the Whitehouse on the program pertaining to small businesses. They are trying to work with the administration here to get some jobs and money in order to change the ethics of our community in order to get some things done. Everyone does not have the answers and in the meantime there are young people being killed in places like Hudson Dockett and Ora Lee West. People have become dependent upon a social welfare system. They are being rejected and they work their up to the front just to be sent to the back again. Mr. Robinson stated that this was not about a race card but it is about actual facts. They need to come to some sort of conclusion to reach some form of resolution. Sometimes we get so caught up on issues and everything looks so bad and terrible; however, we need to come to a conclusion and do some things to come up with some answers. Mr. Robinson stated that it is about something greater than us and he was ready to put forth an effort. You do not have to like him and he does not have to like you, but they need to have to come together or it will be like this all the time.

Councilman Vickers arrived at the Council meeting at 6:25 p.m.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

A REQUEST TO CLOSE ALLEYS LOCATED WITHIN THE BOUNDARIES OF SUSTELLA AVENUE, MARY STREET, JOHNSON STREET, AND FORCE STREET

Consideration of a request to close alleys located within the boundaries of Sustella Avenue, Mary Street, Johnson Street, and Force Street as requested by Jim Sineath.

Pat Collins, City Engineer, stated that the City has received a request from Mr. Jim Sineath and property owners to close the alleys which fall within the boundaries of Sustella Avenue, Mary Street, Johnson Street, and Force Street. This does not include the eastern most alley that parallels Johnson Street from Force Street to Mary Street. A petition was presented to the Engineering Department on Wednesday, April 13, 2011 by Mr. Sineath and it was E-mailed in-house as well as to outside utility companies asking for comments and or approvals. It was recommended that Mr. Sineath would obtain all the required deeds and easement documents for all of the utilities surrounding these alleys at his own expense if the City should agree to the closures. Mr. Sineath would also

provide the City with copies of these documents. The Public Notice was run in the Valdosta Daily Times as well as being posted on the City's website. Two residents did not sign the petition and a door hanger was given to the resident of 422 West Force Street. The house located at 412 West Force Street has been condemned. Pat Collins recommended that Council approve the request to close alleys located within the boundaries of Sustella Avenue, Mary Street, Johnson Street, and Force Street.

No one spoke in favor of the request.

No one spoke in opposition to the request.

A MOTION by Councilman Vickers, seconded by Councilman Norton, was unanimously adopted (7-0) to approve the closure of alleys located within the boundaries of Sustella Avenue, Mary Street, Johnson Street, and Force Street as requested by Jim Sineath.

Mayor Fretti stated that he wanted to ask the City Attorney, George Talley, for purposes of accuracy, to speak briefly on the cost of what happened six years ago and where they were directed. George Talley, City Attorney, stated that the City did not prosecute any cases and the cases were prosecuted by the Solicitor of the State Court. There were 13 individuals, including Rev. Rose, who chose to file suit against the City of Valdosta. We defended that suit and won it in the U. S. District Court, Middle District of Georgia. That is where the City's money was spent in defense of that lawsuit. This was a civil suit and the criminal case was prosecuted by the Solicitor General's Office of the State Court.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

ORDINANCE NO. 2011-13, AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE LICENSE FEE ORDINANCE FOR INSURANCE COMPANIES

Consideration of an Ordinance to amend the License Fee Ordinance for insurance companies.

Mark Barber, Deputy City Manager of Administration, stated that the O.C.G.A. Section 33-8-8 permits Georgia municipalities to charge an annual flat fee to insurance companies transacting business within the municipal limits, the amount of which is determined by the population of each city. The figures from the 2010 Census have been published and the population of Valdosta increased from 43,724 to 54,518. Accordingly, under the authorizing statute, the City of Valdosta is authorized to charge an annual license fee to insurance companies in the amount of \$150.00. Upon approval of the amended Ordinance and in order for the change to be valid, the Ordinance must be filed with the Insurance Commissioner's Office within 45 days of enactment. Mark Barber recommended that Council approve the Ordinance to amend the License Fee Ordinance for insurance companies.

A MOTION by Councilman Wright, seconded by Councilman Yost, was unanimously adopted (7-0) to enact Ordinance No. 2011-13, and Ordinance to amend the License Fee Ordinance for insurance companies, the complete text of which will be found in Ordinance Book XII.

RESOLUTION NO. 2011-6, A RESOLUTION FOR THE CITY TO ACCEPT LOCAL ROAD IMPROVEMENTS AS PART OF THE WEST HILL OVERPASS PROJECT AS REQUESTED BY THE GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Consideration of a Resolution for the City to accept local road Improvements as part of the West Hill Avenue Overpass Project as requested by the Georgia Department of Transportation.

Pat Collins, City Engineer, stated that the City of Valdosta has been working with the Georgia Department of Transportation (DOT) on the West Hill Avenue Overpass Project for several years in order to alleviate traffic congestion and safety issues due to trains blocking West Hill Avenue. The DOT has requested that the City of Valdosta adopt a Resolution for local public road acceptance once the Overpass Project is completed. The City will then be responsible for maintenance of the roads and utility accommodation done to tie in existing City streets with the road improvements. Pat Collins recommended that Council approve the Resolution to accept local road

Improvements as part of the West Hill Avenue Overpass Project as requested by the Georgia Department of Transportation.

A MOTION by Councilman Vickers, seconded by Councilman Carroll, was unanimously adopted (7-0) to enact Resolution No. 2011-6, a Resolution to accept local road Improvements as part of the West Hill Avenue Overpass Project as requested by the Georgia Department of Transportation, the complete text of which will be found in Resolution Book V.

RESOLUTION NO. 2011-7, A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE FILING OF AN APPLICATION WITH THE GEORGIA FORESTRY COMMISSION TO FUND GIS MAPPING AND TREE INVENTORY IN THE CITY OF VALDOSTA

Consideration of a Resolution authorizing the filing of an application with the Georgia Forestry Commission to fund GIS mapping and tree inventory in the City of Valdosta.

Mara Register, Assistant to the City Manager, stated that the expanded forestry title of the 1990 Farm Bill included authorization of the Community Forestry Assistance Program. The U. S. Forest Service has allocated these funds to the Georgia Forestry Commission since 1990 for statewide distribution in partnership with the Georgia Urban Forest Council. The City of Valdosta had begun an inventory and mapping of trees within the City right-of-way; however, the entire City has not been mapped. This study was begun approximately six years ago and needs to be updated. The City also needs to complete the remaining sections that have not yet been mapped. The total cost of this project is \$40,000 and Staff is proposing to apply for a \$20,000 grant. The Tree Commission has committed a match of \$4,000 and there will be \$16,000 of in-kind or force account labor that will be documented by the City's Arborist to match with the Program. This funding would allow the City to complete this project and provide a valuable resource to the City Arborist in his duties. Mara Register recommended that Council approve the request to authorize the filing of an application with the Georgia Forestry Commission to fund GIS mapping and tree inventory in the City of Valdosta.

A MOTION by Councilman Carroll, seconded by Councilman Vickers, was unanimously adopted (7-0) to enact Resolution No. 2011-7, a Resolution authorizing the filing of an application with the Georgia Forestry Commission to fund GIS mapping and tree inventory in the City of Valdosta, the complete text of which will be found in Resolution Book V.

Councilman Alvin Payton, Jr. left the Council meeting at 6:40 p.m.

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE APPROVAL AND ACCEPTANCE OF THE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES, THE MBE/WBE PLAN, AND THE AFFIRMATIVELY FURTHERING FAIR HOUSING PLAN FOR THE COMMUNITY HOME IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (CHIP) POSTPONED

Consideration of a Resolution authorizing the approval and acceptance of the Policies and Procedures, the MBE/WBE Plan, and the Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing Plan for the Community Home Improvement Program (CHIP) Grant No. 2011-828.

Mara Register, Assistant to the City Manager stated that the City has been involved with the Community Home Improvement Program (CHIP) from the Georgia Department of Community Affairs (DCA) since 1998 and has successfully managed activities such as down-payment assistance, rehabilitation assistance, and reconstruction assistance. For each of these activities, the City developed policies and procedures that were approved by DCA and led to successful program implementation. As a special condition of grant award, DCA requires that the CHIP Program documents be approved by Resolution of the governing body of the grant recipient. Mara Register stated that there was an important question at the Work Session regarding the post-rehab or reconstruction value. Upon consideration, if Council chooses to approve this, an amendment needs to be added to the Fair Housing Marketing Plan. The reconstruction values of \$80,000 to \$100,000 were derived from the post construction values of the Jimmy Carter Work Project eight years ago. We are confident, along with DCA, that post reconstruction values will be comparable or even higher than what we saw with those values eight years ago. The line that needs to be inserted under the Application of Project Administration Section has to do with rehab. What applies to rehab is that

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE APPROVAL AND ACCEPTANCE OF THE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES (CON'T)

the value, post-rehab or repair, needs to exceed the amount of funds put into the project. For example, if we put \$10,500 of CHIP funds into repairing a home that does not need reconstruction, then the post repair value has to be higher than that amount injected into Federal funds. Mara Register recommended that Council approve the Resolution authorizing the approval and acceptance of the Policies and Procedures, the MBE/WBE Plan, and the Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing Plan for the Community Home Improvement Program (CHIP) Grant, and to add in on the front page of the Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing Plan as far as the price range of units when it comes to rehabilitation that the value needs to exceed the amount of the rehabilitation funds that are put into the project from the Federal funding source. Councilman Vickers inquired as to whether that was a Federal guideline. Mara Register stated that was a Federal guideline. Councilman Wright inquired as to the difference between rehabilitation and reconstruction. Mara Register stated that a rehab project is one that the existing unit is able to be repaired and all of the feasibility tests required by the Federal or State funding agencies goes through inspections by Richard Joyner, Rehabilitation Construction Coordinator. Also, the lead testing, asbestos testing, and the minimum code conditions must be addressed that it is feasible to repair. Reconstruction under those same guidelines is where it is not feasible to repair but must be brought all the way to the ground and rebuilt. Mara Register stated that reconstruction should remain at \$80,000 to \$100,000. Councilman Wright stated that he was concerned about the houses meeting the value of \$80,000 to \$100,000 in that area even if they are knocked down and built back. Mara Register stated that there was a vast difference in a lot of the existing units around them and what is actually a new unit; however, it is Federally-defined as a reconstructed unit. Councilman Wright stated that he did not want to delay the project but inquired about the timeline. Mara Register stated that they were not under any timeline but they cannot draw funds or do any rehabilitation or reconstruction work until these documents are approved. Councilman Wright stated that he would like to ask for a postponement in order to address his concerns until the next Council meeting. Mara Register stated that she would ask Council's consideration in postponing this until the first Council meeting in June since she would not be in attendance at the next Council meeting.

A MOTION was made by Councilman Wright to postpone the request to approve a Resolution authorizing the approval and acceptance of the Policies and Procedures, the MBE/WBE Plan, and the Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing Plan for the Community Home Improvement Program (CHIP) Grant for 30 days for further discovery. Councilman Yost seconded the motion. Councilman Yost stated that he would like to suggest that Councilman Wright meet with Staff in those 30 days and have this ready and prepared to go with all the questions answered. Councilman Carroll inquired as to whether this would create any issues for us with the funding sources. Mara Register stated that it would delay the review and approval by DCA and the timeframe in which we can begin drawing funds down. Councilman Vickers inquired as to what the difference was with what they had been doing because these are Federal guidelines. He could show you houses in his District that had been rebuilt and cost more than the other houses all around. It is a Federal guideline and Federal money so you will have to jump through whatever hoops they say and there is no difference. Councilman Wright stated that the City set the amount that these homes would be appraised at after the reconstruction. Mara Register stated that was correct and that those values were established from the Jimmy Carter Work Project eight years ago. The motion was unanimously adopted (6-0).

BIDS, CONTRACTS, AGREEMENTS, AND EXPENDITURES

Consideration of bids for Phase 1 of the Manhole Replacement and Rehabilitation Project.

Henry Hicks, Utilities Director, stated that the Utilities Department has approximately 6,000 sewer manholes within its sanitary sewer system. The majority of these manholes are at least 30-years old or older with some almost 100 years old. In addition, many are seriously deteriorated due to hydrogen sulfide gas corrosion over the years. Both their age and constant corrosive effects of sewer gases have caused many to be at a point where failure is imminent without immediate rehabilitation. As manholes fail, they cause sewage spills in the vicinity of the manholes which, in most cases, create a violation of State and Federal regulations as well as public health and safety issues. Failure to address this issue will result in regulatory action including but not limited to fines and/or consent orders. To address this, the Utilities Department is currently implementing a manhole replacement and rehabilitation program, using structurally sound liner technology where the most seriously deteriorated manholes are being addressed first. This will be an ongoing program until the entire system is evaluated and appropriate corrective measures have been taken where needed. Over the past several months, the Utilities Department has

been evaluating sewer system manholes focusing in areas within the City where there were prior manhole failures. From this investigation, Staff compiled a list of 20 manholes rapidly approaching failure with at least 3 requiring immediate replacement and/or rehabilitation. This project will be the first of many to be bid until all manholes have been evaluated. On March 22, 2011, bid packages were distributed to four firms specializing in manhole replacement as well as structural manhole rehabilitation work. A pre-bid conference was held on March 28, 2011, to review the expectations and requirements of this work as well as answer pertinent questions from the prospective bidders. Bids were received on April 19, 2011, from two bidders, Radney Plumbing and Standard Contractors. Based on the bid tabulations, Radney Plumbing was the averaged low bid at \$205,662.13. A 30% contingency is requested on this project due to the fact that until work on each manhole is begun, it is unknown whether a structural liner can be used versus replacement of the entire manhole. Henry Hicks recommended that Council approve the low bid submitted by Radney Plumbing in the amount of \$205,662.13 plus a 30% contingency.

A MOTION by Councilman Yost, seconded by Councilwoman White, was unanimously (6-0) adopted to approve the low bid submitting by Radney Plumbing in the amount of \$205,662.13 plus a 30% contingency for Phase 1 of the Manhole Replacement and Rehabilitation Project.

LOCAL FUNDING AND REQUESTS

Consideration of a request to approve a Change Order for close out of the Cherry Creek Utility Extension Project.

Pat Collins, City Engineer, stated that in November, 2009, a contract was awarded to Woodard Construction to extend water and sewer services for the Cherry Creek Utility Extension Phase II Project in the amount of \$2,690,274.75. Council approved a 10% contingency, or \$269,027.48, for unforeseen circumstances. The grand total was \$2,959,302.23. In the summer of 2010, additional work was added to the project. The scope of the work was the reconstruction of Ridge Road and the portion of Cherry Creek Drive from North Lakeshore Drive to Ridge Road. The reconstruction was deemed necessary primarily because the new sewer was relocated beneath the streets which were already in poor condition. The contractor was directed to perform the work which he completed. The total length of Ridge Road and Cherry Creek Drive was 6,600 feet. The reconstruction cost consists of removing the existing asphalt, removing eight inches of the existing base material, and the placement of eight inches of graded aggregate stone base. The cost of this work was \$295,192.99. The work has been completed by the contractor without compensation to date. The total cost of the work, including the reconstruction and other unforeseen costs, was \$3,275,935.04. The purpose of this item is to ask for \$316,632.81 from City funds to supplement the shortfall in the project account. The SPLOST road account will be used to pay for this work. Pat Collins recommended that Council approve the Change Order in the amount of \$316,632.81 to close out the Cherry Creek Utility Extension Project.

A MOTION by Councilman Carroll, seconded by Councilman Norton, was unanimously (6-0) adopted to approve the Change Order in the amount of \$316,632.81 to close out the Cherry Creek Utility Extension Project.

Consideration of the appointment of a Steering Committee for the Five Points/Midtown/Municipal Auditorium Project.

Mara Register, Assistant to the City Manager, stated that the Mayor and Council approved the concept to appoint a Steering Committee to guide the planning and development of the Five Points property. This Committee will consist of 12 appointed members, along with necessary ex-officio and support staff, and will guide the process to master plan the 22.15 acre tract of land which includes a new municipal auditorium as well as a new regional library. The Committee is structured as follows: (1) Arts Commission - Nancy Warren and Bob Goddard III, (2) Valdosta State University - Dr. John Gaston and John Crawford, (3) Conference Center - David Motley, (4) South Georgia Regional Library - Kay Harris, (5) Lowndes County – Two slots unknown, and (6) City of Valdosta – four slots pending. It was noted that Council will be considering 4 slots out of 19 names, and Carol Whidby has submitted her application which was discussed at the Work Session. Mayor Fretti stated that it was also discussed at the Work Session that Council may want to consider two alternates.

Mayor Fretti asked for nominations. Councilman Yost placed in consideration the name of Carol Whidby. Councilman Wright placed in consideration the name of Lou McLendon. Councilman Norton placed in

consideration the name of Michael Thomas. Councilwoman White placed in consideration the name of Blake Ellis. Councilman Yost inquired as to whether they were nominating the four people they would like to select overall or four people for one slot. Mayor Fretti stated that was up to Council. Councilman Yost stated he thought they were nominating the top four. Mayor Fretti stated if they do this for the top four they will only have to do this once. Councilman Carroll stated the he objected and did not think that was the way that Council should nominate members of the Steering because he had more than one nominee on the slate that he wanted to put forth.

Mayor Fretti inquired as to whether there were any other nominations for Position No. 1 other than Carol Whidby. There being no other nominations, Mayor Fretti closed nominations. Carol Whidby was appointed by acclamation to serve on the Five Points/Municipal Auditorium Steering Committee.

Mayor Fretti asked for nominations for Position No. 2, Councilwoman White placed in consideration the name of Blake Ellis. Councilman Carroll placed in consideration the name of Ed Crane. There being no other nominations, Mayor Fretti closed nominations. Blake Ellis received five votes and Ed Crane received one vote. Blake Ellis was appointed to serve on the Five Points/Municipal Auditorium Steering Committee.

Mayor Fretti asked for nominations. For Position No. 3, Councilman Norton placed in consideration the name of Michael Thomas. Councilman Carroll placed in consideration the name of Ed Crane. There being no other nominations, Mayor Fretti closed nominations. Michael Thomas received three votes and Ed Crane received three votes. Mayor Fretti broke the tie and voted for Ed Crane. Ed Crane was appointed to serve on the Five Points/Municipal Auditorium Steering Committee.

Mayor Fretti asked for nominations for Position No. 4, Councilman Wright placed in consideration the name of Lou McLendon. Councilman Carroll placed in consideration the name of Jennifer Powell. There being no other nominations, Mayor Fretti closed nominations. Lou McLendon received five votes and Jennifer Powell received one vote. Lou McLendon was appointed to serve on the Five Points/Municipal Auditorium Steering Committee.

Mayor Fretti asked for nominations for Alternate Position No. 1. Councilman Carroll placed in consideration the name of Jennifer Powell. Councilman Wright placed in consideration the name of Michael Thomas. There being no other nominations, Mayor Fretti closed nominations. Jennifer Powell received two votes and Michael Thomas received four votes. Michael Thomas was appointed to serve as Alternate No. 1 on the Five Points/Municipal Auditorium Steering Committee.

Mayor Fretti asked for nominations for Alternate Position No. 2. Councilman Carroll placed in consideration the name of Jennifer Powell. There being no other nominations, Mayor Fretti closed nominations. Jennifer Powell was appointed by acclamation to serve as Alternate No. 2 on the Five Points/Municipal Auditorium Steering Committee.

Mayor Fretti stated that he would need a motion to accept the entire slate of all the entities with the knowledge that the two Lowndes County seats may or may not be filled but we are holding them until the next meeting.

A MOTION by Councilman Norton, seconded by Councilman Yost, was unanimously (6-0) adopted to approve the entire slate of all the entities with the knowledge that the two Lowndes County seats may or may not be filled but we are holding them until the next meeting.

Consideration of a request for Councilwoman Deidra White to attend the Department of the Air Force National Security Forum at the Air War College.

Mara Register, Assistant to the City Manager stated that each year, on behalf of the Secretary of the Air Force, the Air War College conducts the National Security Forum (NSF) at the Air War College and hosts 100-120 distinguished civilians at Maxwell Air Force Base in Montgomery, Alabama. The NSF began in 1954 as an expansion of the Civilian Outreach Seminars held from 1947 through 1949. The Mission is to expose influential citizens to senior U. S. and international officers and civilian equivalents in order to engage each other's ideas and

perspective on Air Force, national and international security issues. Lectures and seminar discussions will be held at the NSF and will include differing points of view on current national defense issues, military strategy, and the role of air, space, and cyberspace power. Each guest is assigned to a seminar and an AWC student from that seminar will serve as the guest's escort. Throughout the entire week, NSF guests will participate in activities with their assigned seminars, including briefings, panels, seminar discussions and social events. Councilwoman Deidra White has been nominated to attend the 2011 NSF which will be held on May 16-20, 2011 at Maxwell Air Force Base in Montgomery, Alabama. The estimated cost for attending the NSF is approximately \$450 for lodging and meals. At the present time, air transportation will be provided Randy Crews; however, if that falls through then mileage would be charged to the City.

A MOTION by Councilman Vickers, seconded by Councilman Norton, was adopted (5-0-1) to approve the request for Councilwoman Deidra White to attend the Department of the Air Force National Security Forum at the Air War College with Councilwoman White abstaining.

BOARDS, COMMISSIONS, AUTHORITIES, AND ADVISORY COMMITTEES

Consideration of appointments to the Keep Lowndes-Valdosta Beautiful Board.

Mara Register, Assistant to the City Manager, stated that the Keep Lowndes-Valdosta Beautiful Board has two members, Julie Killion and Jeffrey Smith, whose terms will expire on June 30, 2011. These appointments were advertised according to the Boards, Commissions, Authorities, and Advisory Committees Policy that was adopted by Mayor and Council. Aaron Strickland, Executive Director of Keep Lowndes-Valdosta Beautiful has requested the reappointment of the two members whose terms are expiring and both members have expressed an interest in serving again. The applicants for consideration, in no order of preference, are as follows: (1) Julie Killion - Salesman, Valdosta Daily Times, (2) Lawrence Mathews - Grounds Project Manager, R-Con/M.E. (Moody Contract), and (3) Jeffrey Smith - Branch Assistant Manager, Regions Bank.

Mayor Fretti asked for nominations. For Position No. 1, Councilwoman White placed in consideration the name of Lawrence Mathews. There being no other nominations, Mayor Fretti closed nominations. Lawrence Mathews was appointed by acclamation to serve a term of three years on the Keep Lowndes-Valdosta Beautiful Board.

Mayor Fretti asked for nominations. For Position No. 2, Councilman Carroll placed in consideration the name of Jeffrey Smith. There being no other nominations, Mayor Fretti closed nominations. Jeffrey Smith was reappointed by acclamation to serve a term of three years on the Keep Lowndes-Valdosta Beautiful Board.

Consideration of appointments to the Public Art Advisory Committee.

Mara Register, Assistant to the City Manager, stated that the Public Art Advisory Committee has two members, Angela Crance and Jamie Harmon, whose terms will expire on June 1, 2011. Mr. Harmon has resigned from the Committee due to personal reasons, and Ms. Crance has expressed an interest in serving again. These terms will now be three-year terms. These appointments were advertised according to the Boards, Commissions, Authorities, and Advisory Committees Policy that was adopted by Mayor and Council. The applicants for consideration, in no order of preference, are as follows: (1) Sara Blackwell - Nurse for Dr. Cheryl Tolliver, (2) Angela Crance - Education Leadership, Wiregrass Technical College, (3) Steven Heddon - Creative Directive & Owner of Fusion Creative Marketing, and (4) Paul Leavy - Chief Photographer, Valdosta Daily Times. Also, please note that Eliza McCall, who was appointed by Lowndes-Valdosta Arts Commission (LVAC) as a Member-At-Large and whose term expires June 1, 2011, has resigned. LVAC has recommended Pam Scruggs for the LVAC Member-At-Large appointment.

Mayor Fretti asked for nominations. For Position No. 1, Councilman Yost placed in consideration the name of Angela Crance. There being no other nominations, Mayor Fretti closed nominations. Angela Crance was reappointed by acclamation to serve a term of three years on the Public Art Advisory Committee.

Mayor Fretti asked for nominations. For Position No. 2, Councilwoman White placed in consideration the name of Steven Heddon. Councilman Wright placed in consideration the name of Sara Blackwell. There being no

BOARDS, COMMISSIONS, AUTHORITIES, AND ADVISORY COMMITTEES (CON'T)

other nominations, Mayor Fretti closed nominations. Steven Heddon received one vote and Sara Blackwell received five votes. Sara Blackwell was appointed to serve a term of three years on the Public Art Advisory Committee.

Consideration of appointments to the Valdosta-Lowndes County Parks & Recreation Authority.

Mara Register, Assistant to the City Manager, stated that there is some additional information that is needed regarding these appointments and asked Council's consideration in postponing the appointments to the Valdosta-Lowndes County Parks & Recreation Authority for 30 days.

A MOTION by Councilman Vickers, seconded by Councilman Yost, was adopted (6-0) to approve postponing the appointments to the Valdosta-Lowndes County Parks & Recreation Authority for 30 days.

Consideration of an appointment to the Valdosta-Lowndes County Airport Authority.

Mara Register, Assistant to the City Manager, stated that the Valdosta-Lowndes County Airport Authority has one member, Jane Shelton, whose term will expire on May 21, 2011. Ms. Shelton has expressed an interest in serving again. This appointment was advertised according to the Boards, Commissions, Authorities, and Advisory Committees Policy that was adopted by Mayor and Council. The applicants for consideration, in no order of preference, are as follows: (1) Michael J. Kufrovich - Fire Marshal/Fire Prevention Officer, Hahira Fire Department, (2) Jack B. Scoggins - Self Employed, Flight Instructor, and (3) Jane Shelton - Owner/Manager/Travel Consultant, Executive Travel.

Mayor Fretti asked for nominations. Councilman Yost placed in consideration the name of Jack Scoggins. Councilman Carroll placed in consideration the name of Jane Shelton. There being no other nominations, Mayor Fretti closed nominations. Jack Scoggins received two votes and Jane Shelton received four votes. Jane Shelton was reappointed to serve a term of four years on the Valdosta-Lowndes County Airport Authority.

Consideration of appointments to the Valdosta-Lowndes County Construction Board of Adjustments & Appeals.

Mara Register, Assistant to the City Manager, stated that the Valdosta-Lowndes County Construction Board of Adjustments & Appeals has two members, Charles "Chuck" Smith and Steve Quinn, whose terms will expire on June 30, 2011. Mr. Smith's appointment is the General Contractor rotating appointment which was last appointed by the County in 2008 and is now the City's appointment. Both Mr. Smith and Mr. Quinn have expressed an interest in serving again. These appointments were advertised according to the Boards, Commissions, Authorities, and Advisory Committees Policy that was adopted by Mayor and Council. The applicants for consideration, in no order of preference, are as follows: (1) Daniel Baracskay - Professor of Political Science & Public Administration, Valdosta State University, (2) David Goldsmith - Graduate Research Assistant and Adjunct Professor, Valdosta State University, (3) Steven Quinn - Residential Contractor, Quinn Construction Group, Inc., (4) John Sineath - Self Employed/Partner, Devcon Corporation, and (5) Charles "Chuck" Smith - General Contractor, Cauthan Construction Co., Inc.

Mayor Fretti asked for nominations. For Position No. 1, Councilman Carroll placed in consideration the name of Steve Quinn. There being no other nominations, Mayor Fretti closed nominations. Steve Quinn was reappointed by acclamation to serve a term of three years on the Valdosta-Lowndes County Construction Board of Adjustments & Appeals. Mara Register stated that this Position is for the rotating General Contractor seat.

Mayor Fretti asked for nominations. For Position No. 2, Councilman Wright placed in consideration the name of John Sineath. There being no other nominations, Mayor Fretti closed nominations. John Sineath was appointed by acclamation to serve a term of three years on the Valdosta-Lowndes County Construction Board of Adjustments & Appeals.

Consideration of appointments to the Valdosta Housing Board of Adjustments & Appeals.

BOARDS, COMMISSIONS, AUTHORITIES, AND ADVISORY COMMITTEES (CON'T)

Mara Register, Assistant to the City Manager, stated that the Valdosta Housing Board of Adjustments & Appeals has three members, Rachael Bradley, Deloris Mitchell-Brown, and R. Rouse Vallotton, II, whose terms will expire on August 7, 2011. They have all expressed an interest in serving again. These appointments were advertised according to the Boards, Commissions, Authorities, and Advisory Committees Policy that was adopted by Mayor and Council. The applicants for consideration, in no order of preference, are as follows: (1) Rachael Bradley - Executive Director, Southside Recreation, (2) Deloris Mitchell-Brown — Retired, and (3) R. Rouse Vallotton, II - Property Manager, Vallorbe, Inc.

Mayor Fretti entertained a motion to fill all three seats with the applicants listed above.

A MOTION by Councilman Vickers, seconded by Councilman Carroll, was adopted (6-0) to approve the applicants, Rachael Bradley, Deloris Mitchell-Brown, and Rouse Vallotton, II, for reappointment to serve a term of three years on the Valdosta Housing Board of Adjustments & Appeals.

Consideration of an appointment to the Zoning Board of Adjustments & Appeals.

Mara Register, Assistant to the City Manager, stated that based upon information received at the Work Session, Council had indicated that they would like to entertain a postponement to the Zoning Board of Adjustments & Appeals in order to re-open the application process.

A MOTION by Councilman Carroll, seconded by Councilman Vickers, was adopted (6-0) to postpone an appointment to the Zoning Board of Adjustments & Appeals in order to re-open the application process.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Mara Register, Assistant to the City Manager, stated that the meeting at the Re-apportionment Office went extremely well and on behalf of the City Manager, she thanked Council for their professionalism and communication during the process.

The Valdosta City Government 101 Class held the last session of classes this week and a final tour and graduation is scheduled for next Monday. Council members are invited to attend.

The Valdosta Firefighters will hold their 22nd Annual Burns the Boot Drive on May 5-7, 2011. They will be joining other Fire Departments throughout the State to raise money for the Georgia Burn Center.

First Friday will be held on Friday, May 6, 2011 in Downtown Valdosta and this Saturday will be the first Farm Day at the Courthouse.

The Brown Bag Concert series will be held next week on the lawn at the Courthouse and is in celebration of National Historic Preservation Month.

The City of Valdosta will hold its 3rd Annual Photo Contest and the deadline to apply is Friday, May 20, 2011.

The Lamar Bridge decking replacement will be completed tomorrow and they will remove the stone and inspect the bridge and anticipate its opening next week.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilman Carroll stated that the Redistricting process was very informative and interesting to watch the process work out. Councilman Carroll stated that he attended the City Government 101 class and had a very open and active dialog with the citizens. Also, Councilman Carroll stated that he met with nine citizens from the community with different issues and encouraged all citizens who have an issue they feel strongly about to contact Council members.

COUNCIL COMMENTS (CON'T)

05/05/11 CONTINUED

Councilman Vickers stated that he met with several residents of the Lamar Street bridge and they were very satisfied with the structure.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Fretti adjourned the May 5, 201 regular session on Thursday, May 19, 2011.	1 meeting of the Valdosta City Council at 7:12 p.m. to meet again in
City Clerk, City of Valdosta	Mayor, City of Valdosta