

1. Opening Ceremonies

- a) Call to Order Mayor John Gayle called the meeting to order.
- b) Invocation The invocation was given by Pastor Leroy Butler, Woodlawn Forrest Church of Christ.
- c) Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag

2. Awards and Presentations

- a) Special Presentation for Councilman Alvin Payton, Jr. and Councilman Robert Yost. -Mayor Gayle made a special presentation for outgoing Councilman Alvin Payton, Jr. and Councilman Robert Yost.
- b) Presentation of the 2017 Greater Valdosta Christmas Parade Awards. Mayor Gayle and members of the Ossipe Temple #65 presented the 2017 Christmas Parade Awards.
- c) Special recognition of Valdosta State University Students for their Social Media Project with the Valdosta Main Street Program. Mayor Gayle and Ellen Hill, Main Street Director, recognized Valdosta State University Students.
- d) Special Presentation by the Valdosta Fire Department. Fire Chief Freddie Broome recognized Lieutenant Robert Mercer for completing the Managing Officer Program and the required Capstone Project.
- e) Consideration of the December, 2017 Employee of the Month Award (Henry Courson, Valdosta Fire Department). Fire Chief Freddie Broome presented the Employee of the Month Award.

3. Minutes Approval

a) Valdosta City Council - Regular Meeting - Nov 9, 2017 5:30 PM - Approved (7-0 Vote).

4. Public Hearings

a) Consideration of an Ordinance to rezone 0.58 acres from Single-Family Residential (R-6) to Manufacturing/Heavy Industrial (M-2) as requested by Murray Gaskins, Environmental Audit and Assessment Inc. (File No. VA-2017-16). The property is located at 220 and 224 Myddleton Road. The Greater Lowndes Planning Commission reviewed this request at their November Regular Meeting and recommended approval (5-1 Vote).

b) Consideration of an Ordinance to amend the Land Development Regulations (LDR) Chapter 218 - Use Regulations, Section 218-13 - Standards of Use and Development as requested by the City of Valdosta (File No. VA-2017-17). The Greater Lowndes Planning Commission reviewed this request at their November Regular Meeting and recommended denial (5-0-1 Vote). The applicant has withdrawn this request.

5. Ordinances and Resolutions

- a) Consideration of a Resolution to approve a loan from the Georgia Environmental Finance Authority (GEFA) for Water and Sewer Infrastructure Projects. Approved (7-0 Vote).
- b) Consideration of a Resolution for the Georgia Municipal Association's Certified City of Ethics Program. Approved (7-0 Vote).

6. Bids, Contracts, Agreements and Expenditures

- a) Consideration of bids for the purchase of two, 100' mid mount aerial fire trucks for the Valdosta Fire Department. Approved the bid of Sutphen Corporation in the amount of \$2,731,946, approved the trade in value of \$170,000 for two older Units, and declared those Units as surplus for a total price of \$2,561,946 (7-0 Vote).
- b) Consideration of bids for 18-gallon recycling containers for the Public Works Department. - Approved the bid of submitted by Rehrig Pacific in the amount of \$7.50 per 18-gallon container (7-0 Vote).
- c) Consideration of the purchase of a FATS Fire Arm Simulator System for the Valdosta Police Department. Approved the price submitted by Meggit in the amount of \$81,444.60 for the purchase of a FATS Fire Arm Simulator System for the Valdosta Police Department (7-0 Vote).
- d) Consideration of bids for stormwater piping and associated ditch improvements on West Alden Avenue. Approved lowest base bid was submitted by Rountree Construction in the amount of \$235,624.50, Alternate Bid A in the amount of \$98,549.25, Alternate Bid B in the amount of \$33,390.50, and a 10% contingency (\$36,756.43) to handle any unforeseen circumstances for a total project cost of \$404,320.68 (7-0 Vote).
- e) Consideration of bids for traffic improvements to the West Alden Avenue approach to Baytree Road. Approved the low base bid submitted by Rountree Construction in the amount of \$70,348.75 and Alternate A in the amount of \$31,843 for a total \$102,191.75 plus a 10% contingency (\$10,219.18) to handle any unforeseen circumstances for a grand total of \$112,410.93 (7-0 Vote).

- f) Consideration of a request to approve an Agreement with the Exchange Club for placement of benches in the City of Valdosta. Approved (4-3 Vote with Councilman Carroll, Councilman Norton, and Councilman Payton voting in opposition)
- g) Consideration of a Contract extension with CSRA Probation Services. Approved (7-0 Vote).
- h) Consideration of an Agreement with Verizon Wireless for reasonable safeguards on the placement and maintenance of wireless equipment and facilities in the City's right-of-way and compensation to be paid by Verizon Wireless for its use of the right-of-way. Approved (7-0 Vote).

7. Local Funding and Requests

- a) Consideration of a request to approve street selections for the Georgia Department of Transportation 2018 Local Maintenance & Improvement Grant Program. - Approved (7-0 Vote).
- 8. Citizens to be Heard
- 9. City Manager's Report
- **10. Council Comments**
- 11. Adjournment The Regular Session was adjourned at 7:25 p.m. to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing Real Estate. The Regular Session reconvened at 7:40 p.m. and no action was taken. The Regular Session was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.