

**MINUTES  
REGULAR MEETING OF THE VALDOSTA CITY COUNCIL  
5:30 P.M., THURSDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2019  
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, Sandra Tooley, Eric Howard, Andy Gibbs, and Vivian Miller-Cody. The invocation was given by Pastor Ronnie Mathis, Crossing Jordan Baptist Church, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

**AWARDS AND PRESENTATIONS**

**PRESENTATION OF THE OCTOBER, 2019 EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH AWARD**

Darryl Muse, Utilities Director, stated that Leroy Paulo began his employment with the City of Valdosta in July of 2007 and presently assumes the position of Maintenance Supervisor. Leroy distinguishes himself as an outstanding and dedicated maintenance professional. He never hesitates to do whatever is required, ensuring safe processing at the Withlacoochee Wastewater Treatment Plant. One example was his leadership in replacing media fabric for all three large final treatment filters at this Plant. Leroy led a team of technicians in this Project which had never been attempted at the facility. He accomplished this during the month of July, 2019 with temperatures reaching 100 degrees. The Project was completed without error, preparing the Plant for increased inflows prior to heavy rains and potentially tropical storms. His determination to accomplish this without contractor support eliminated any potential for sewage spills that assuredly would occur due to the old, worn out, and clogged filter media. Leroy ensured the maintenance was done safely, professionally, and in a compressed timeframe. His attention to detail and strict adherence to all safety practices resulted in no employee injuries during a complex, tedious Project. Two additional examples of Leroy's dedication were his leading teams to build concrete pads for a new emergency pump installed at the Lakeland lift station and a new emergency generator installed at the Cherry Creek #1 lift station. These pads were custom built for heavy equipment installations, saving the City money, training other City employees in the art of concrete finishing, and ensuring top quality end products for the citizens of Valdosta. These Projects were accomplished with no degradation of attention to his primary responsibilities at the Withlacoochee Wastewater Treatment Plant. Leroy always displays professionalism and is fully deserving of recognition for his devotion to duty and going beyond what his job description entails. It is for these reasons and many others that the Employee Relations Committee nominated Leroy Paulo as Employee of the Month.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes of the October 10, 2019 Regular Meeting were approved by unanimous consent (7-0) of the Council.

**ORDINANCE AND RESOLUTIONS**

**ORDINANCE NO. 2019-18, A NEW JOINT ORDINANCE WITH LOWNDES COUNTY AND THE CITIES OF DASHER, HAHIRA, LAKE PARK, AND REMERTON TO CONTINUE THE GREATER LOWNDES PLANNING COMMISSION AND ADD THE CITY OF REMERTON TO ITS MEMBERSHIP**

Consideration of a new Joint Ordinance with Lowndes County and the Cities of Dasher, Hahira, Lake Park, and Remerton to continue the Greater Lowndes Planning Commission and officially add the City of Remerton to its membership.

Matt Martin, Planning & Zoning Administrator, stated that the Greater Lowndes Planning Commission was first established in 1959 and was originally known as the Valdosta-Lowndes County Planning Commission, with those two governments being the only members. In 1989, both the City of Hahira and the City of Lake Park joined as members, and then the City of Dasher joined in 1996 through a Joint Ordinance of all five member governments. The name was then officially changed to the Greater Lowndes Planning Commission (GLPC). Now, the City of Remerton has officially requested to join the Commission and make it a truly County-wide Planning Commission

with all six member governments. The new proposed Joint Ordinance has been reviewed and collectively approved by the applicable Staff of each member government. It was formally voted upon and ratified by the current GLPC at their latest monthly meeting on September 30, 2019 and they are recommending its approval unanimously. The City of Remerton was the first to adopt the new Ordinance, and it is now being scheduled for adoption by each of the other member governments at their upcoming Council/Commission meetings. The Greater Lowndes Planning Commission currently consists of 11 citizen members who are appointed by the 5 member governments as follows: 4 from Lowndes County, 4 from Valdosta, and one each from the other 3 municipalities. Each member is appointed for a 5-year term, with the possibility of reappointment. Most members do not serve more than 2 terms. The new Joint Ordinance is very similar to the last one that was adopted in 1996, except that it would add the City of Remerton as a member government with one citizen appointment for a new total of 12 members on the Commission. The Planning Commission currently elects its own Chairman and Vice-Chairman from its membership each calendar year. The only other proposed change in this new Joint Ordinance would be to lengthen the Chairman and Vice-Chairman's term of office from one year to two years instead. In the City of Valdosta's Land Development Regulations (LDR), there is some specific language that pertains to the membership and composition of the GLPC based on the 1996 Ordinance. There is no urgency, but they will be making some applicable housekeeping Amendments to LDR in the near future to make sure this language is consistent with the new Joint Ordinance. Matt Martin, Planning & Zoning Administrator, recommended that Council approve the new Joint Ordinance for the Greater Lowndes Planning Commission.

Councilman Vickers inquired as to whether Remerton had zoning laws on the books. Matt Martin stated that they have had them since the 1970's. They have their own Ordinances and have done everything themselves fully autonomous and they are the only one in Lowndes County who is not a member of the Planning Commission. They have been seeking the Planning Commission's advice and recommendations on some of their recent development projects and that is what prompted them to finally become a member.

**A MOTION** by Councilman Vickers, seconded by Councilman Norton, was unanimously adopted (7-0) to enact Ordinance No. 2019-18, a new Joint Ordinance with Lowndes County and the Cities of Dasher, Hahira, Lake Park, and Remerton to continue the Greater Lowndes Planning Commission and officially add the City of Remerton to its membership, the complete text of which will be found in Ordinance Book XIV.

## **BIDS, CONTRACT, AGREEMENTS, AND EXPENDITURES**

Consideration of bids for the replacement and rehabilitation of sewer mains and manholes on Jerry Jones Drive.

Darryl Muse, Utilities Director, stated that in 2015, the Environmental Protection Division (EPD)-required Supplemental Environmental Project (SEP), which updated the Withlacoochee sewer collection system flow model, was completed. The new model assisted the Utilities Department in identifying potential sewage overflow locations and areas with high inflow and infiltration probability. The model and ensuing rehabilitation report identified numerous sections of the system in need of sewer main upgrades to eliminate flow restricting bottlenecks. Six, high priority, Phase 1 Projects and five Phase 2 Projects were developed as a result. Four of the high priority Projects have been completed to date. The fifth (Two-Mile Branch) has been awarded and is set to break ground within a few weeks. This, the sixth and final high priority Project, will eliminate a major bottleneck issue in a section of sewer main along Jerry Jones Drive. Using the open-cut method, it will replace and upsize 285 feet of 18-inch sewer main to 24-inch. The Project also includes the rehabilitation of four manholes. On August 29, 2019 the Utilities Department advertised for bids for the Project to rehab this section of the sewer basin. A mandatory pre-bid conference was held on September 19, 2019 with three potential bidders attending. Bids were received from two bidders and opened on October 10, 2019. The lowest responsive and eligible bidder was RPI Underground, Inc. in the amount of \$279,354.90. A 10% contingency is included with the bid due to potential conflicts and uncertainties in the Project area. Darryl Muse, Utilities Director, recommended that Council approve the low bid submitted by RPI Underground, Inc. in the amount of \$279,354.90, which includes a 10% contingency, for the replacement and rehabilitation of sewer mains and manholes on Jerry Jones Drive.

Councilman Vickers stated that there were some good bids on this Project. Darryl Muse, Utilities Director, stated that they were pretty close. There was a bid from James Warren & Associates in the amount of \$309,346.13

which was approximately \$30,000 difference between the two bids. Councilman Carroll inquired as to whether they were going to have to move anything in this Project. Darryl Muse stated that they would not have to move anything. They would be crossing Jerry Jones and not running parallel with Jerry Jones for an extended amount of distance. It should not be in conflict with the upcoming Project to widen Jerry Jones. Councilman Carroll inquired as to whether they would have to do it with a jack and bore or if they would have to cut. Darryl Muse stated that they would do an open cut. The traffic management plan will be a challenge; however, this is necessary. It will be the final one and they will be done with that area. Councilwoman Tooley stated that a few years ago they were rehabilitating some manholes and inquired as to whether these were a part of that. Darryl Muse stated that these four were not a part of that rehabilitation. Any time they go in to resize the manholes and there is an 18-inch pipe, they have to enlarge the entire opening to install a 24-inch pipe. Once a cut on the manhole is made, they have to reseat it in order to protect them from hydrogen sulfide gas. Councilwoman Miller-Cody inquired as to when the Project would start. Darryl Muse stated that once they get the Notice to Proceed, they hope to start it in approximately two to three weeks.

**A MOTION** by Councilman Carroll, seconded by Councilman Norton, was unanimously adopted (7-0) to approve the low bid submitted by RPI Underground, Inc. in the amount of \$279,354.90, which includes a 10% contingency, for the replacement and rehabilitation of sewer mains and manholes on Jerry Jones Drive.

Consideration of a request to purchase of a sodium hypochlorite rectifier for the City of Valdosta's Water Plant.

Darryl Muse, Utilities Director, stated that a ClorTec Onsite Hypochlorite Generation System was installed at the Water Plant in 2007 as part of the Plant's upgrade Project. The system consists of two hypochlorite generators that generate a sodium hypochlorite disinfection solution. Sodium hypochlorite is added to the City's water for final disinfection and to provide the required disinfection residual in the water distribution system. One of the main components of each generator is the respective rectifiers (DC power supplies), which has a 10-year to 12-year operational life expectancy. The rectifier for one of the two generators was replaced approximately 13 months ago. Due to its age and current state of deterioration, the rectifier for the second hypochlorite generator is beyond its service life and needs to be replaced. Maintenance Staff have increasingly run into reliability issues with this unit. Being the sole source for the ClorTec Hypochlorite System, De Nora Water Technologies custom builds the rectifiers for each generator. This is a direct replacement item and will not require wiring or control system modifications. The cost to purchase the rectifier from De Nora Water Technologies is \$82,403.61. Darryl Muse, Utilities Director, recommended that Council approve the request to purchase a sodium hypochlorite rectifier from De Nora Water Technologies in the amount of \$82,403.61 for the City of Valdosta's Water Plant.

**A MOTION** by Councilman Norton, seconded by Councilman Carroll, was unanimously adopted (7-0) to approve the purchase of a sodium hypochlorite rectifier from De Nora Water Technologies in the amount of \$82,403.61 for the City of Valdosta's Water Plant.

Consideration of bids for the replacement of storm drainage pipe on Lakeland Avenue.

Pat Collins, City Engineer, stated that portions of the City along Lakeland Avenue are within the 100-year flood zone. Seven hundred feet (700') west of the flood zone is the Lakeland Avenue block between North Troup Street and Caswell Street. Although the block is outside of the flood zone, major rainfalls cause connecting storm pipes to fill causing flooding of the North Troup area. The Stormwater Division has closely been observing a 500-foot long corrugated metal pipe (CMP) on the north side of Lakeland Avenue. CMP was a popular material choice for storm pipes in the 1960's given its low cost and ease of construction. CMP is no longer used nor recommended by the City and because of the pipe's roughness, the bottom of the pipe has retained rainwater and rusted out. Holes within the CMP have caused the ground above it to create voids which need backfilling regularly by Staff. In 2018, the Stormwater Division implemented an ongoing program to replace deteriorating CMP annually throughout the City. The cost for replacement of all identified CMP failures will take 15+ years to achieve. Under terms of the City Purchasing Policy, the City advertised the Project. A pre-bid conference was held on September 25, 2019. Sealed bids were received on October 8, 2019. The low bid was submitted by RPI Underground, Inc. in the amount of \$158,670 plus a 10% contingency of \$15,867 for a total of \$174,537. Pat Collins, City Engineer, recommended that Council approve the low bid submitted by RPI Underground, Inc. in the amount of \$158,670 plus a 10% contingency (\$15,867) for a total of \$174,537.

Councilman Vickers inquired as to whether there were designated funds in the Budget to do rehabilitation on the storm system. Pat Collins, City Engineer, stated that there were designated funds in SPLOST VII. Councilwoman Tooley stated that they need to be cautious about this. She has been here for six years and in the past, this company has come back later to ask for more money because they found something else that needed repairing. She was hoping that they had already looked at everything that needed to be repaired for this Project. Pat Collins, City Engineer, stated that they would try their best to keep it at the bid amount.

**A MOTION** was made by Councilman Gibbs to approve the low bid submitted by RPI Underground, Inc. in the amount of \$158,670 plus a 10% contingency (\$15,867) for a total of \$174,537 for the replacement of storm drainage pipe on Lakeland Avenue. Councilman Howard seconded the motion. The motion was adopted (6-1) with Councilwoman Tooley voting in opposition.

Consideration of a bids to purchase Conflict Monitors for the Engineering Department.

Pat Collins, City Engineer, stated that the Traffic Management Center (TMC) Budget has programmed 128 EDI 2018K Clip Conflict Monitors for traffic cabinets. The Conflict Monitors provide enhanced monitoring functions, event logging capability, database management, and advanced diagnostic features. The Conflict Monitors allow communications between the cabinets and the TMC which lets the Technicians diagnose the problems prior traveling to the intersections. These Conflict Monitors are current year Council-approved Budget items (CP 20.83). The City of Valdosta has the option to purchase items off of State of Georgia Contracts. Temple currently holds the State Contract for these items which were bid at the State level and can be purchased at the price found in the Georgia Department of Transportation's Contract (48400-197- DOT0000640-003). The price has increased by \$17.64 per unit since January of 2019. Consequently, the new cost for the 128 monitors is \$90,338.56, which is up from \$88,192.00 in the approved Budget. Pat Collins, City Engineer, recommended that Council approve the to purchase 128 Conflict Monitors in the amount of \$90,338.56 from Temple for the Engineering Department.

Councilman Vickers inquired as to whether these were stationary at the Traffic Management Center on East Adair Street. Pat Collins, City Engineer, stated that all 128 of them will flow back to the Traffic Management Center. Councilman Gibbs inquired as to whether we purchased some of these last year. Pat Collins stated that they did purchase some other cards to do some upgrading so they have been programming those in. Mark Barber, City Manager, stated that the cards they purchased last year put us in compliance with the same type of software that the Georgia Department of Transportation uses so we are in sync with each other. Councilman Gibbs stated that this is used when a light goes out then it tells the Technician what to do to fix it before they get out there to make the repairs. Pat Collins stated that the Technician can now actually go on-line to see what the problem is and then they can stop at the TMC and pick up the part to make the repairs. In some cases, they can actually make the repairs without having to go out in the field. Councilman Howard inquired as to how often these need to be replaced or upgraded. Pat Collins stated that they will give us several years of useful life, but power surges and traffic accidents can cause damage to the equipment. Whenever there is an accident and someone runs into it, we always get the driver's insurance to replace it. Councilman Howard inquired as to whether there was a warranty on this. Pat Collins stated that he thought there was a warranty on the equipment. Councilman Norton inquired as to whether this would give us any extras. Pat Collins stated that this purchase would not give us any extras. Councilman Norton inquired as to whether they currently had any in stock that they could pull from. Pat Collins stated that they can always get an extra one in quickly. Councilman Gibbs inquired as to the price for a single one. Pat Collins stated that the price for a single one on the State Contract is \$705.77.

**A MOTION** by Councilman Norton, seconded by Councilwoman Tooley, was unanimously adopted (7-0) to approve the purchase of 128 Conflict Monitors in the amount of \$90,338.56 from Temple for the Engineering Department.

## LOCAL FUNDING AND REQUESTS

Consideration of a request for the installation of speed humps on Woodlawn Drive.

Pat Collins, City Engineer, stated that in June of 2019, Ms. Beverly Morrison, 721 Woodlawn Drive, approached the Traffic Division about acquiring speed humps on Woodlawn Drive. Speed/traffic count studies

were conducted on Friday, June 21, 2019 through Monday, June 24, 2019 on Woodlawn Drive at two locations over a 72-hour period (houses 727 and 803, respectively). The studies revealed that the 85<sup>th</sup> percentile speed limit was 13.2 and 11.6 mph, respectively, over the posted speed limit of 30 MPH. This is an indication that speed humps are warranted for this neighborhood. Over the last three months, Ms. Morrison secured signatures from 25 of the 33 property owners or residents on this street meeting the 70% rule of the Speed Hump Policy. Having satisfied that requirement of the process means the matter must go before the City Council for approval. Pat Collins, City Engineer, recommended that Council approve the request for the installation of speed humps on Woodlawn Drive.

Councilman Vickers inquired as to what the cost of the speed humps would be. Pat Collins stated that they are approximately \$40 each. Mayor Gayle stated that it says there are \$169.95 each. Pat Collins stated that was correct and that he was trying to tell them how much the cost was a piece to purchase them per lane. Councilman Vickers inquired as to what type of speed humps would be installed and how many would be placed between Vallotton Drive and Forrest Street. Pat Collins stated that there will be six of the hard rubber speed humps that are nailed into the road and they would be putting them all the way across for both lanes. In the Speed Hump Policy, if the residents decide they want them removed then they can do so and get reimbursed by the residents. Councilman Vickers stated that these are totally different from the ones that used to cost thousands of dollars. Councilwoman Miller-Cody stated that the citizens in that area are very excited about this being approved because it is a safety measure.

**A MOTION** by Councilwoman Miller-Cody, seconded by Councilman Norton, was unanimously adopted (7-0) to approve the installation of speed humps on Woodlawn Drive.

Consideration of a request to accept a Proposal to complete the FY 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan, FY 2020 Annual Action Plan, and the FY 2020 Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program.

Vanassa Flucas, Neighborhood Development & Community Protection Manager, stated that every five years, as a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Entitlement community with the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), we are required to create a Consolidated Plan (Con Plan). The Con Plan is a Strategic Plan of possible activities completed in our community with our CDBG allocations for the next five years (FY 2020-2024). Traditionally, the Year One Annual Action Plan of the completed Con Plan is completed at the same time as the five-year Con Plan. Our last AI was completed during FY 2012, preceding a change to the reporting process and instrument by the Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity (FHEO) Department of HUD in 2015. Since this time, the reporting process and instrument have been changed back to the original AI format. The required submission of this jurisdiction's new AI was scheduled for FY 2018, but the report submission was delayed until the quarter prior to the submission of our next Con Plan for FY 2020-2024 program years because of the changes to FHEO's reporting process and instrument. This is the final year of the FY 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan for the City of Valdosta's CDBG Program. The FY 2019 Annual Action Plan has been completed, submitted, and approved by the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Staff submitted a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) in September of 2019 to solicit a Consultant to complete the FY 2020-2024 Con Plan, FY 2020 Annual Action Plan (AAP), and the FY 2020 Analysis of Impediments for Fair Housing (AI) which will be due to HUD by May 15, 2020. In order to start the Con Plan process, a Contractor must be selected to complete the AI, which must be completed and submitted 180 days before our Con Plan. The RFQ requested the selected Contractor to complete the AI first, then complete the Con Plan and AAP for the City of Valdosta. The RFQs submitted were opened on September 17, 2019. The following three Consultants submitted proposals: Chrysalis Research & Consulting, LLC, Civitas, LLC, and JQUAD Planning Group, LLC. The RFQ Review Committee was comprised of Molly Ferrier, Valdosta/Lowndes Habitat for Humanity, Corey Hull, South Georgia Regional Commission; Keyara Hamilton, Goodwill of the Southern Rivers, and Mark Stalvey, Valdosta Housing Authority. After tabulating the results from the RFQ, JQUAD Planning Group was selected to complete all requested reports for \$45,675. Vanassa Flucas, Neighborhood Development & Community Protection Manager, recommended that Council approve the request to accept a Proposal by JQUAD in the amount of \$45,765 to complete the FY 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan, FY 2020 Annual Action Plan, and the FY 2020 Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program.

Councilman Vickers inquired as to how this would be paid for. Vanassa Flucas, Neighborhood Development & Community Protection Manager, stated that it would come out of the CDBG Administration Funds. Mark Barber, City Manager, stated that no one on the Committee that was selected to score these organizations was from the City of Valdosta because they wanted it to be totally unbiased and fair.

A **MOTION** by Councilman Carroll, seconded by Councilman Norton, was unanimously adopted (7-0) to approve the request to accept a Proposal by JQUAD in the amount of \$45,765 to complete the FY 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan, FY 2020 Annual Action Plan, and the FY 2020 Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program.

**CITIZENS TO BE HEARD**

Mary Thomas, #5 Chatham Lane, stated that she was concerned about an article that was on the front page of the Valdosta Daily Times yesterday. It has been three years that the issue of Service Delivery Strategy has been before the Council. They have spent a lot of money and it has not been resolved yet. She does not think that the City should spend any more money on lawyers when the City and the County can get together to resolve the issue. All the money that has been spent could have been spent on the first responders and street improvements. Ms. Thomas stated that they are all grown-ups, but they are acting like first graders. They all need to do better.

George Boston Rhynes, 5004 Oak Drive, stated that he too heard about the large sum of money that has been spent on Service Delivery Strategy and it has been a waste. Mr. Rhynes commended the City Council though on how they conduct themselves at the Council Meetings. He has been to many other cities and they argue among themselves and it makes them look bad. He has also had two businesses come to him and talk about the young people. There was an incident in the Hudson-Dockett area a few weeks ago and some of that was gang related. The young people say there are two worlds here. There are people who do not understand the young people who want to work and cannot find a job. When they need something like money or other things, the gang members are there. There are a lot of young people joining the gangs because they cannot find gainful employment. He hopes there is some way that we can reach out and talk to them.

Kevin Bussey, 3473 Knights Mill Drive, thanked the Mayor and Council for all that they do. They work hard and sacrifice a lot of their time. Mr. Bussey also inquired as to whether anything has been done with the proposal on the Desi Act that he spoke to them about a couple of weeks ago. He wanted to be more proactive rather than being reactive.

**CITY MANAGER’S REPORT**

Mark Barber, City Manager, stated that the Employee Health Fair was held today, and it was a great success. They had one of the largest turnouts yet with the employees and the vendors. The theme was the Wizard of Oz - Follow the Yellow Brick Road to Health.

Also, the Turner Center for the Arts has done a fantastic job on their new park. There will be a dedication ceremony on Saturday, October 26, 2019 at 10:00 a.m. followed by the Second Annual Artoberfest. Semantha Mathews, Executive Director of the Turner Center for the Arts, has done a great job in transforming an overgrown lot into a beautiful park. It blends in well with our “Love Where You Live” campaign.

**COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Councilman Vickers stated that the water, sewer, and traffic will always be an on-going problem. We have an old system in different areas of the City, and we will never get through with repairs and upgrades. We do a good job in being proactive in addressing the issues, but it is something that we have to continually work on.

Councilman Howard stated that we can be our number one proponent in promoting what we do. He works at South Georgia Medical Center and when they went through their little debacle, it was bad in the press. Thankfully, they had people out there who were pushing and letting everyone know it was not as bad as they thought. With what our City is going through with Service Delivery Strategy, the newspaper is not always accurate

when it comes to both sides of the story. Ms. Thomas, who spoke under Citizens to be Heard, will probably be hearing the remainder of the story soon and it is not as bad as she thinks. Councilman Howard stated that the City employees and the City Council and Mayor do a great job and sometimes we have to pat ourselves on the back. It is not all doom and gloom and the City of Valdosta is a great place to live. We have to make sure that we let everybody know what it is that we do and when we do good, we need to say so. When we do bad, we need to get on to one another; however, it is not all bad in this City.

Councilwoman Tooley stated that we have a comment box in the lobby of City Hall and citizens are encouraged to put their comments in there. She would like to encourage people who see something to say something and to make things a better deal. She heard about what is going on in Hudson-Dockett too and it is not something that the Council likes. Councilwoman Tooley also thanked the Department Heads for the great job they are doing with their employees. The employees seem to be happy and she encourages them to continue to work with the employees because they can make or break a City.

Councilman Norton stated that there was a safety issue at Taylor-Cowart Memorial Park on the corner of Habersham and Bemiss Road. The Engineering Department took out some Miami curbing and parking to get cars out of the traffic lane. This has been a safety concern of his for a long time and he has gotten great comments from his neighbors in that area.

Councilwoman Miller-Cody stated that Principal Beth Deloach from Valdosta Middle School allowed her to be a part of the Dress for Success event they had on October 23, 2019 and she took that same idea to J. L. Newbern Middle School. They are going to do it once a month starting in November and she wanted to ask all of the male City leaders to donate a tie. There are 410 boys at the school.

Councilman Gibbs stated that thanked the Department Heads for their help with several things in his District. He also wanted to thank Police Officer Jones for his help with a tough situation in his District. He received a telephone call on Saturday night around 11:15 p.m. about a party going where there were over 70 cars and 140 people in attendance. The Police Officer knocked on the front door only to get it slammed in his face twice because people were running out the back door. The Officer handled it very well and it took about 30 minutes for everyone to disperse. These Police Officers put their lives in danger just by walking up to a house and not knowing what is in the house and they are all to be commended for the job they do.

## ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Gayle entertained a motion to adjourn the Regular Council Meeting and enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing litigation.

**A MOTION** by Councilman Vickers, seconded by Councilman Carroll, was unanimously adopted (7-0) to adjourn the October 24, 2019 meeting of the Valdosta City Council at 6:27 p.m. and enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing litigation.

Mayor Gayle reconvened the Regular City Council Meeting at 7:01 p.m. and stated that there was discussion of litigation in the Executive Session and no action was taken.

Mayor Gayle entertained a motion for adjournment.

**A MOTION** by Councilman Vickers, seconded by Councilman Carroll, was unanimously adopted (7-0) to adjourn the October 24, 2019 Meeting of the Valdosta City Council at 7:01 p.m. to meet again in Regular Session on Thursday, November 7, 2019.