MINUTES MEETING OF THE VALDOSTA CITY COUNCIL 5:30 P.M., THURSDAY, APRIL 24, 2025 COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CITY HALL

OPENING CEREMONIES

Mayor Scott James Matheson called the Regular Meeting of the Valdosta City Council to order at 5:30 p.m. Council members present were: Thomas McIntyre, Eric Howard, Sandra Tooley, Tim Carroll, and Nick Harden. Councilman Andy Gibbs arrived late at 5:35 p.m. and Councilwoman Vivian Miller-Cody was absent. The invocation was given by Councilman Tim Carroll, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes from the April 10, 2025 Regular Meeting are forthcoming.

ORDINANCE AND RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-6, A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ACCEPTANCE OF A GRANT FROM THE GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR REHABILITATION OF RUNWAY 4/22 LIGHTING AND REPLACE THE GENERAL AVIATION TERMINAL BUILDING AT THE VALDOSTA REGIONAL AIRPORT

Consideration of a request from the Valdosta-Lowndes County Airport Authority to approve a Resolution authorizing acceptance of a Grant from the Georgia Department of Transportation for Rehabilitation of Runway 4/22 Lighting and replace the General Aviation Terminal Building at the Valdosta Regional Airport.

Tim Hood, Executive Director of the Valdosta Regional Airport stated that the Valdosta-Lowndes County Airport Authority desires to proceed with the rehabilitation of Runway 4/22 Lighting and replacement of the General Aviation Terminal Building at the Valdosta Regional Airport. There are various sources of funding for these Projects that include the Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (SPLOST), Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (FAA), Airport Improvement Program (FAA), Airport Authority, and Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) funds. GDOT's portion for these Projects will be up to \$813,064.83. There will be no City of Valdosta funds required for these Projects. The maximum amount that GDOT shall be obligated to pay is \$813,064.83. A Resolution has been prepared authorizing Mayor Scott James Matheson to accept the GDOT Grant and execute the revised Contract with GDOT for the Airport Projects. Tim Hood, Executive Director of the Valdosta Regional Airport, recommended that Council approve the Resolution authorizing the Mayor to accept the GDOT Grant for Rehabilitation of Runway 4/22 Lighting and replacement of the General Aviation Terminal Building at the Valdosta Regional Airport and execute the Contract.

A MOTION by Councilman Carroll, seconded by Councilman Howard, was unanimously adopted (5-0) to enact Resolution No. 2025-6, a Resolution authorizing acceptance of a Grant from the Georgia Department of Transportation for Rehabilitation of Runway 4/22 Lighting and replace the General Aviation Terminal Building at the Valdosta Regional Airport, the complete text of which will be found in Resolution Book VII.

BIDS, CONTRACTS, AGREEMENTS, AND EXPENDITURES

Consideration of a request to approve a quote to clean the Ozone Generation System at the City of Valdosta's Water Treatment Plant.

Jason Barnes, Utilities Director, stated that the #2 Ozone Generator is one of two Ozone Generators that create the primary disinfectant used to treat the drinking water for the City of Valdosta. This Generator is a WEDECO brand and was originally installed in 2007. The Generator produces 500 pounds of ozone gas a day. It is recommended that this unit is cleaned every five to seven years. This unit was last cleaned in 2019. The Generator has 1,100 glass electrodes that will need to be replaced during the cleaning process. The process of making ozone gas uses pure oxygen and electricity inside a sealed stainless-steel housing. The work of cleaning the Generator must be done with oil free tools and hands. If the Generator were to be cleaned improperly it could

BIDS, CONTRACTS, AGREEMENTS, AND EXPENDITURES (CON'T)

cause an explosion when put back into use. Xylem Water Solutions USA Inc. (WEDECO Products), sole source for the electrodes, submitted a quote in the amount of \$92,768.67. County Line Mechanical Solutions, who will perform the labor to clean the Ozone Generator and replace the electrodes, submitted a quote in the amount of \$137,313.67 which includes the cost of the electrodes. Jason Barnes, Utilities Director, recommended that Council approve the quote submitted by County Line Mechanical Solutions in the amount of \$137,313.67 which includes the cost of the electrodes.

A MOTION by Councilman Howard, seconded by Councilman Carroll, was unanimously adopted (6-0) to approve the quote submitted by County Line Mechanical Solutions in the amount of \$137,313.67 which includes the sole source quote submitted by Xylem for the cost of the electrodes to clean the Ozone Generation System at the City of Valdosta's Water Treatment Plant.

Consideration of bids for gasoline and diesel fuel for the City of Valdosta (Bid No. 14-25).

John Burton, Motor Pool Superintendent, stated that this Contract is bid for a single source of supply for gasoline and diesel to fuel the City of Valdosta automotive and equipment fleet. Utilizing one source of supply for these commodities will assure the City a more reliable service, especially in times of crisis. Sealed bids were received on April 8, 2025 with the low bid submitted by Brad Lanier Oil Co. in the amount of \$-.022. The pricing above represents the freight rate and profit margin based on the daily Oil Price Information Service (OPIS) index price for a single gallon each of gasoline and diesel fuel combined for bid purposes. The new price for this Contract period is \$.0643 lower than the last contract period four years ago. This is a one-year Contract set to start July 1, 2025 with four options to renew. John Burton, Motor Pool Superintendent, recommended that Council approve the low bid submitted by Brad Lanier Oil Co. in the amount of \$-.022 for gasoline and diesel fuel for the City of Valdosta.

A MOTION by Councilman Carroll, seconded by Councilman Howard, was unanimously adopted (6-0) to approve the low bid submitted by Brad Lanier Oil Co. in the amount of \$-.022 for gasoline and diesel fuel for the City of Valdosta.

Consideration of bids for the Phase 2 Rehabilitation Project for the Knights Creek Sanitary Sewer Trunkline.

Ben O'Dowd, City Engineer, stated that this sewer trunkline was installed about 1976 on the west side of Knights Creek. It serves a large area of Northeast and East Valdosta. Pipe material is vitrified clay pipe and ductile iron pipe and the pipe is in deteriorated condition from its +/-50 years of use. The location of the main has not been mowed or cleared and is overgrown with trees. The City is proposing replacement of this 21" diameter pipe with new 24" diameter pipes. The work consists of demolition of the existing gravity sewer system as necessary and installation of about 2,450 linear feet of 24" gravity sewer piping plus the installation of six (6) new precast concrete sewer manholes. Work also includes the following: (1) clearing and grubbing, (2) a preconstruction asbuilt survey, (3) bypassing sewage pumping during the work period, (4) erosion control measures, (5) final stabilization of all disturbed areas with permanent grassing, and (6) a final as-built survey of the newly constructed infrastructure. An invitation for bids was advertised locally and posted on the City's website in accordance with State Law and City policies. The Pre-Bid Meeting was held on March 25, 2025 and five construction firms attended. Three bids were received and opened at 10:00 a.m. on April 10, 2025. The bid is considered both responsive and responsible. The low bid was submitted by RPI Underground, Inc. with a total bid amount of \$2,644,124.00. Adding 10% contingency (\$264,412.40) for unknown field conditions would bring the total Project cost to \$2,908,536.40. Ben O'Dowd, City Engineer, recommended that Council approve the low bid submitted by RPI Underground, Inc. in the amount of \$2,644,124.00 plus a 10% contingency (\$264,412.40) for a total cost of \$2,908,536.40 for the Phase 2 Rehabilitation Project for the Knights Creek Sanitary Sewer Trunkline.

A MOTION by Councilman Howard, seconded by Councilman Gibbs, was unanimously adopted (6-0) to approve the low bid submitted by RPI Underground, Inc. in the amount of \$2,644,124.00 plus a 10% contingency (\$264,412.40) for a total cost of \$2,908,536.40 for the Phase 2 Rehabilitation Project for the Knights Creek Sanitary Sewer Trunkline.

Consideration of bids for the Phase 1 Rehabilitation Project of the Remer Sanitary Sewer.

Ben O'Dowd, City Engineer, stated that this large diameter (18") sewer trunkline serves a large area in Central Valdosta with residential, commercial, and institutional development. It was installed in the 1950's-1960's along the northern bank of One Mile Branch, and the pipe material is unreinforced concrete pipe. The pipe is in deteriorated condition from its +/-70 years of use and is at the end of its effective service life and needs replacement or rehabilitation. The City is proposing the most cost-effective means of serving these residential lots with City sewer. The work for this Project includes lining about 610 linear feet of older 18" concrete pipe with 12" diameter High Density Polyethylene (HDPE) pipe or Polyvinylchloride (PVC) pipe. The full scope of work consists of initial condition survey and video records, clearing, bypass pumping, cleaning of existing 18" concrete sewer pipe, installation of PVC/HDPE liners, grouting, repair manholes and installation of manhole lining, erosion and sedimentation control measures, permanent grassing/groundcover, and other related work. An invitation for bids posted on the City's website and on the Georgia Procurement website in accordance with State Law and City policies. Six firms attended the Pre-Bid Meeting on March 25, 2025, and one bid was received and opened at 10:20 a.m. on April 10, 2025. The bid is considered both responsive and responsible. The bid was submitted by JWA Associates, Inc. with a total bid amount of \$952,998.42. Adding 10% contingency (\$95,299.84) for unknown field conditions would bring the total Project cost to \$1,048,298.26. Ben O'Dowd, City Engineer, recommended that Council approve the bid submitted by JWA Associates, Inc. in the amount of \$952,998.42 plus a 10% contingency (\$95,299.84) for a total cost of \$1,048,298.26 for the Phase 1 Rehabilitation Project of the Remer Sanitary Sewer.

A MOTION by Councilman Gibbs, seconded by Councilman McIntyre, was unanimously adopted (6-0) to approve the low bid submitted by JWA Associates, Inc. in the amount of \$952,998.42 plus a 10% contingency (\$95,299.84) for a total cost of \$1,048,298.26 for the Phase 1 Rehabilitation Project of the Remer Sanitary Sewer.

Consideration of bids for Sugar Creek Emergency Sewer Repairs.

Ben O'Dowd, City Engineer, stated that during inspections of the City of Valdosta's utility infrastructure following the 2024 storm events, City Staff discovered sections of compromised sewer mains along Sugar Creek. This area required prompt repair. On January 23, 2025, City Council approved engaging LEA to design repairs for this location. Design was completed and bid. The design was completed, and the proposed work consists of the installation of \pm 780 LF of new 30" polyvinylchloride (PVC) gravity sewer pipe, new manholes, abandonment and grout filling of the existing 36" gravity sewer line, replacement of two 8" aerial crossings with 16" steel casings, concrete support piers, bypass pumping, clearing and grubbing, and all related work. The Project was bid through online listings on the City's website and on the Georgia Procurement Registry website in accordance with Georgia State Law. The Pre-Bid Meeting was held on March 25, 2025 and three construction firms attended. Two bids were received and opened at 2:00 p.m. on April 15, 2025 (see attached bid tabulation). The low bid is considered both responsive and responsible. The low bid was submitted by RPI Underground, Inc. in the amount of \$2,960,795.45. Adding 10% contingency (\$296,079.55) for unknown field conditions would bring the total Project cost to \$3,256,875.00. Ben O'Dowd, City Engineer, recommended that Council approve the low bid submitted by RPI Underground, Inc. in the amount of \$2,960,795.45 with a 10% contingency (\$296,079.55) for a total Project cost of \$3,256,875.00 for Sugar Creek Emergency Sewer Repairs.

A MOTION by Councilman Carroll, seconded by Councilman Gibbs, was unanimously adopted (6-0) to approve the low bid submitted by RPI Underground, Inc. in the amount of \$2,960,795.45 plus a 10% contingency (\$296,079.55) for a total Project cost of \$3,256,875.00 for Sugar Creek Emergency Sewer Repairs.

Consideration of bids for three Traffic Control Cabinets for the Engineering Department (Bid No. 15-22).

Ben O'Dowd, City Engineer, stated that every year the City must make specialized purchases to maintain its inventory of required traffic management equipment. Traffic cabinets are integral to the safe and efficient movement of vehicles throughout the City and are necessary for the operation of our transportation network. Throughout the year, traffic cabinets can sustain damage due to severe weather, hit and run accidents, or collisions involving uninsured motorists. Two cabinets were damaged during Hurricane Helene this past year making it imperative that we replace the City's stock. SPLOST VIII funds are budgeted each year for the purchase of traffic management equipment. For this Fiscal Year, we budgeted \$48,900 for the purchase of three traffic cabinets at a unit cost of \$16,300 (based on last year's bids). An invitation to bid was advertised in accordance with State Law

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as well as our local Purchasing Policy. Sealed bids were received on April 15, 2025, and Temple, Inc. was the sole bidder. No other companies responded to the invitation to bid. The invitation to bid solicited prices for the City's option to purchase up to four traffic cabinets which meet or exceed our specifications. The only bid that was submitted is from Temple, Inc. in the amount of \$17,290.71 per traffic cabinets for a total amount of \$51,287.13. The Engineering Department is seeking to purchase three cabinets at a unit cost of \$17,290.71 each for a total cost of \$51,287.13. Ben O'Dowd, City Engineer, recommended that Council approve the bid submitted by Temple, Inc. in the amount of \$51,287.13 for three Traffic Control Cabinets for the Engineering Department.

A MOTION by Councilman Harden, seconded by Councilman McIntyre, was unanimously adopted (6-0) to approve the bid submitted by Temple, Inc. in the amount of \$51,287.13 for three Traffic Control Cabinets for the Engineering Department.

Consideration of a Professional Services Contract with Axis Engineering Consultants, LLC for design of the Knights Academy Road Lift Station and Sanitary Sewer Transmission Improvements Project.

Ben O'Dowd, City Engineer, stated that the City of Valdosta is experiencing increased regional growth within the Cherry Creek basin along the Bemiss Road corridor. New sanitary sewer improvements are required to facilitate growth and new connections to the public sewer system. Development in this area has historically been constrained due to the available capacity for distribution at critical nodes within the system such as gravity sewer transmission mains and various lift stations. Late last year, the City of Valdosta Engineering Department solicited a Proposal for survey, design, and consultation services from Advanced Engineering Services for the sanitary sewer upgrades which are proposed to begin near the intersection of Knights Academy Road and Forrest Street Extension and pump south to the intersection of Inner Perimeter Road and Barack Obama Boulevard. the original Design Proposal was submitted by Advanced Engineering Services (AES) to facilitate survey, design, and consultation necessary to construct the associated lift station. An updated Contract between the City of Valdosta and Axis Engineering Consultants, LLC. has now been submitted. Between initiation of the original Task Order with AES and now, AES has changed its name and Federal Employer Identification Number to Axis Engineering Consultants, LLC. This change in identity has not affected the Staff in any way and the same design team is assigned to and is working on the Project for the City. The Engineering Department must submit a new Contract to Council for their consideration and approval to continue payment to the Consultant on the Project. The portion of the Project which was under design by Advanced Engineering Services is estimated to cost approximately \$2,194,000.00. Advanced Engineering Services has submitted a Percentage of Construction Contract in the amount of 6.5% for total cost of construction. The estimated total cost of Design Services for this Project is \$142,610.00. Between the initiation of the Task Order for Design Services and now, approximately \$16,623.75 of effort has been exerted against the value of the Contract. This leaves \$125,986.25 of estimated effort remaining to be exerted on the Project based upon the Design Professional's Percentage of Construction Contract and City Staff's preliminary cost estimate for the Project. Should Council choose to approve the signature of this Contract, the Design Consultant would be permitted to continue work on the Project and finalize construction documents associated with the Project. Upon completion of their work, the Construction Project will be advertised for competitive bidding. Those bids will be presented to Council for consideration prior to construction. Additionally, a plan of finance which dictates the proposed public/private share of cost for the Project will also be presented to Council for review and approval prior to bid award. Ben O'Dowd, City Engineer, recommended that Council approve the Percentage of Construction Professional Services Contract with Axis Engineering Consultants, LLC to facilitate the design of the Knights Academy Road Lift Station and Sanitary Sewage Transmission Improvement Project with a not-to-exceed amount of \$175.000.

A MOTION by Councilman Howard, seconded by Councilman Gibbs, was unanimously adopted (6-0) to approve the Percentage of Construction Professional Services Contract with Axis Engineering Consultants, LLC to facilitate the design of the Knights Academy Road Lift Station and Sanitary Sewage Transmission Improvement Project with a not-to-exceed amount of \$175,000.

Consideration of a Professional Design Services Agreement for a new Public Safety Facility/Fire Station #8.

Ben O'Dowd, City Engineer, stated that the City of Valdosta purchased the property at 4434 Forrest Street Extension in 2023 with the intent to renovate the building and site to serve as Fire Station #8 for this portion of the

City of Valdosta's Urban Service Area, and to serve as office and training facilities for the Valdosta Police Department. In March of 2024, under an effort lead by Engineering Staff, the Council engaged Ellis, Rickett & Associates (ERA) for the design of Phase 1 of this facility. Phase 1 construction documents were prepared and sent out for bid. Only one bid was received and it exceeded our funding Budget. ERA Staff has worked with City Staff (Fire Department, Police Department, and Engineering Department) to refine the scope for this Public Safety Facility for the full buildout. The Fire Department is working toward occupation of the site for Fire Station #8 functions using a temporary and reusable shelter facility for the fire engine. Regarding design needed to complete the construction documents for this complete facility: (1) ERA expended \$88.953.13 + \$109.99 reimbursables for the Phase 1 design including bidding. The Purchase Order for that work is \$112,500 and will be closed out under Budget. (2) Based on the updated scope, to revise the Phase 1 design to a construction document package for full buildout for the Fire Department and Police Department, a new Agreement with ERA is needed. For this remaining work, a Design Agreement with ERA for \$139,046.87 is required with an additional 10% (\$13,904.68) for Reimbursables and Contingencies. The City of Valdosta Project Design Budget is therefore \$152,951.55. Upon Council approval, the Design Consultant will be engaged, and upon completion of each phase of their work, the Construction Project will be advertised for competitive bidding. Those bids will be presented to Council for consideration to complete this Building Renovation Project. Ben O'Dowd, City Engineer, recommended that Council approve the Professional Design Services Agreement with ERA in the amount of \$152,951.55 for a new Public Safety Facility/Fire Station #8.

A MOTION by Councilman Howard, seconded by Councilman McIntyre, was unanimously adopted (6-0) to approve the Professional Design Services Agreement with ERA in the amount of \$152,951.55 for a new Public Safety Facility/Fire Station #8.

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

Bobby McKenzie, 5148 Northwind Boulevard, stated that there is a 30 foot tall dam that was made from the Hurricane off of the bridge on Baytree Road. He is not asking the City to remove. Your Stormwater Manager and City Engineer have said that it is perfectly fine as is. Every time it rains it will just pile up and get bigger and harder to remove. How that impacts the flooding upstream he does not know. It is 30 feet high and cover the width of Sugar Creek. He took a group of volunteers to clean up trash and more trash will accumulate there because nothing is going to get past it. With you accepting that dam being there you are accepting that trash will be there and it will be a floating landfill near the Baytree Bridge. You are only going to rely on him and volunteers to get the trash out. Otherwise, it is going to continue to accumulate. Also, he continues to bring up SeeClickFix issues and they are falling on deaf ears. There are some that are going years without being noticed. They are being rereported. There's a gas station on Lee Street and Vallotton Drive that is full of trash and nothing is being done about it. It is right there on the creek and every time it rains trash is going in the creek and then into One Mile Branch and right into the log jam and accumulate under the bridge. Just yesterday, there was a SeeClickFix that was saying there was running water here for weeks and someone closed it out saying it was private property. There was no discussion on it. SeeClickFix is a force multiplier because you can't be out there all the time.

Rick Morrales, Public Affairs Specialist with the Small Business Administration, Office of Disaster Assistance stated that they have been here for a month. He had a meeting at the City Hall Annex, Public Information, the Valdosta Daily Times, and Valdosta State University, and he appreciates everyone sharing their information. They have three SBA Recovery Centers and they are closing two this week. The one they will still have open after April 27, 2025 is at Valdosta State University from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Saturday. They will be closing the one at Crossing Jordan Baptist Church this Friday and the one on Saturday at the McMullen Library. They are going to stay 60 days longer and people can still apply for disaster recovery funds. He has been doing this for the past three years and he appreciates the support of everyone.

Gracie Bacon, 708 Holly Drive, stated that she has been here many times and what she wants does not cost any money. There is a boarding house on Holly Drive, there are people selling food out of their houses, there are mattresses and chairs on their front lawns, and all kinds of cars. It just needs cleaning up. She got written up about her house being torn up from the storm but she went to the City and explained why it was like that. The mailman cannot deliver mail for all the cars. The Police came one Saturday and put all the cars in the yard but after they left, the cars were back out on the street. It is a mess with all the snakes and rats and filth. Holly Drive is in a mess and it does not cost hundreds of thousands of dollars to get 16 houses cleaned up. It is dangerous. Something

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD (CON'T)

went off on the street the other day which shook her whole house. At 2:00 a.m. it sounded like a bomb went off and the only thing you saw was smoke and it shook her house. There is shooting going on all the time. Breathing is hard due to all the marijuana and ammonia smells. She does not know why Council will not do anything about it. You spend hundreds of thousands of dollars to repair certain areas in Valdosta but you will not spend \$50 to clean up Holly Drive. You will charge her taxes though. You do not have a problem charging taxes but you have a problem doing your job. Mr. Mayor needs a check and balance on the Council Members. You are not representing Holly Drive.

Citizen, 2531 Forrestwood Drive, stated that she is concerned about the new residential construction that is being built adjacent to her home. From her understanding, it is a zero lot line which both houses are sitting on and the properties are so close. It presents problems like safety, firewalls, and other issues. She is here today to encourage Council to look at the 2004 Habitat for Humanity home. She presented to Mara Register at the time and it was torn down. She wanted to bring it to Council's attention today because that area is going down.

George Boston Rhynes, 5004 Oak Drive, stated that he wanted to thank the Mayor and Council for getting the new sound system that was installed in the Council Chambers. Councilman Carroll showed him the new equipment and how it worked. He commended Council for it. Also, he was called on March 25, 2025 about an incident at Lowndes County Middle School that dealt with race. A month passed and the mother has not heard from the Lowndes County School System. After this weekend, he will put it out there in the eyes of the public. It dealt with a 7th grade student and concerned the use of the "N" word. People often come to him when they feel like they cannot go to other people. He has also gone out to Holly Street and filmed and he wished there was a way to relieve her stress. As a retired citizen, community activist, and patriot, he wishes that somebody would listen to her about what is going down on Holly Street because he cares.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Richard Hardy, City Manager, stated that tomorrow we will celebrate Public Safety Day and students will get to tour the Police Department and the Fire Department and get a behind the scenes look. Georgia Cities Week will wrap up activities with the Second Annual Paint in the Park on Saturday, April 26, 2025 from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at Unity Park. The Strategic Initiatives Summit will be held at 8:00 a.m. on Friday, April 25, 2025 and Saturday, April 25, 2025 at the Southern Georgia Regional Commission. We will focus on goal setting, strategic planning, and identifying key practices to guide our City. The National Small Business Week will begin with a joint Proclamation at 9:00 a.m. on Monday, May 5, 2025 in partnership with the Valdosta-Lowndes County Chamber of Commerce located at 1200 North Patterson Street. National Drinking Water Week will be held May 5-11, 2025 where we will learn more about safe and sustainable drinking water. To commemorate this event, there will be a tour of the Water Treatment Plant on Tuesday, May 6, 2025 and Proclamation presentation at 10:00 a.m.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Mayor thanked everyone who attended the Mayor's and Chairman's Paddle this past Saturday. It was a cleanup effort as well and served as a reassurance of commitment to our waterways.

Councilman McIntyre stated that when we have items that we are paying for, he would like to see pictures with it so the Council and citizens can see what we are paying for.

Councilman Howard stated that he would like to ask the City Manager to get with the Police Chief and see what we need to do to help Ms. Bacon. If we need to change the Ordinances or something so we can give her more help. He would like to ask that you present that to Council so they can give her some help.

Councilwoman Tooley stated that she wanted to make a comment about the statement made that Council not caring. She would like to show you the hours and time that she puts in. She has worked and tried and it takes more than just one person to get a lot of things done. She has tried a couple of angles but the citizen did not like it for whatever happened and she was voted down by the Council. The majority of them did not like the proposal so it did not go forward. It is not that they didn't try or care, she was out there and spent time, took pictures, and talked to people. When it was brought before Council it was voted down. They asked for more Patrol cars. To say

COUNCIL COMMENTS (CON'T)

that Council does not care it not always correct. It might not be that things are not happening as you would like, but she put a lot of time in over there.

Councilman Carroll stated that he recently had the honor and privilege of watching the Mayor and City Manager suit up and play basketball at the Boys and Girls Club. He also had the privilege of reading to students along with Councilwoman Tooley and they both had a lot of fun.

Councilman Harden stated that he wanted to commend the people at the Mildred Hunter Center as they do a lot for the community. Andre Newsome has a RC Track Dedication on Tuesday at 5:30 p.m. at Vallotton Park. It will keep the kids involved and they need as much activity as possible.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Matheson entertained a motion to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing real estate.

A MOTION by Councilman Carroll, seconded by Councilman Harden, was unanimously adopted (6-0) to adjourn the April 24, 2025 Regular Meeting at 6:32 p.m. and enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing real estate.

Mayor Matheson reconvened the Regular Session at 7:12 p.m. and stated that there was discussion of real estate in the Executive Session and no action was taken.

Mayor Matheson entertained a motion for adjournment.

A MOTION by Councilman Carroll, seconded by Councilman Harden, was unanimously adopted (6-0) to adjourn the April 24, 2025 Regular Meeting of the Valdosta City Council at 7:12 p.m. to meet again in Regular Session on Thursday, May 8, 2025.

City Clerk, City of Valdosta

Mayor, City of Valdosta