City of Valdosta Mayor/Council Discussion Topics

Strategic Initiatives Summit - 2018

**Mayor John Gayle**

1. Blight Tax**\***
2. Overlay District
3. Facilities Study
4. Mayor Pro Tem Selection

**Councilwoman Vivian-Miller Cody – District 1**

1. Sidewalk and bicycle trail from E. Hill Avenue to Fry Street to connect with existing sidewalk at Hudson Street
2. Woodlawn Park Part 2 is in need of a pavilion shelter, lights, water, and concrete flooring
3. Three-lane widening or turn lane for Forrest Street. (E. Hill Avenue @ Forrest to Bemiss Road)
4. Citywide ordinance holding landlords/owners responsible for maintaining rental property up to homeowners’ standard
5. Existing entranceway signs – place lighting to stir and welcome newcomers into our city

**Councilwoman Sandra Tooley – District 2**

1. Dedication of T-SPLOST **\*\*\***Funds to Public Transportation for city bus line**\*\***
2. Quarterly meetings with Lowndes County Commissioners
3. Revision of City Charter as it pertains to appointments to Boards and Commissions
4. Televising of City Council meeting on Channel 17
5. Update/revision of City’s Personnel Policy regarding internal promotions

**Councilman Joseph “Sonny” Vickers – District 3**

1. Employee Salaries
2. Mayor/Council Salaries
3. Neighborhood Beautification
4. SPLOST
5. Government Transportation**\*\***
6. T-SPLOST**\*\*\***

**Councilman Eric Howard – District 4**

1. Sidewalks on Northside and Connell
2. Bathroom in parks on Bemiss and Tyndall
3. Funding for programs – Projects and night basketball leagues
4. Improved/New lightning in older areas of town
5. Basketball courts in Parks

**Council Tim Carroll – District 5**

1. Identifying and working to address the two or three biggest issues our city faces. Issues that hurt our economic growth and issues that harm our residential areas. Do we need to approach these independent of each other? Do we need to form a working group? What other groups are already working on some of this? M/C discuss and work to develop an approach.
2. Are we doing everything we can to recruit new businesses? What should be the role of the city? Update from the Development Authority. Update from the Chamber on the business incubator. **\*\*\*\***
3. Blight Tax**\***
4. Re-cap by district of all projects that have been completed or are planned for 2018 from the last five (5) years.
5. Community Internet/TV system? Would the city be interested in partnering with other community stakeholders in hosting a Technology Symposium and invite experts in the field to discuss what other communities are doing to provide high quality internet access?

**Councilman Andy Gibbs – District 6**

1. Downtown – shops that focus more on families. Additionally, work to get all downtown shops involved in Fist Fridays; maybe offer incentives to shops that participate. VSU night that offer specials for college students and the same for families.
2. Recognition of new companies in the city. Chamber does this but city could take it to the next level and we could also personally thank shops for opening**\*\*\*\***
3. Transit System – needed for downtown to VSU and other parts of the City. \*\*
4. Bring Valdosta and Moody together

**\*Indicates duplicate topics**