

MINUTES
MEETING OF THE VALDOSTA CITY COUNCIL
5:30 P.M., THURSDAY, JUNE 20, 2024
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, Sandra Tooley, Nick Harden, and Vivian Miller-Cody. Councilman Eric Howard, Councilman Andy Gibbs, and Councilman Tim Carroll were absent. The invocation was given by Councilwoman Miller-Cody, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the May 9, 2024 Regular Meeting were approved (4-0). The minutes for the May 15, 2024 and May 28, 2024 Special Called Meetings are forthcoming.

BIDS, CONTRACTS, AGREEMENTS, AND EXPENDITURES

Consideration of bids for the annual oils and lubrications for the City of Valdosta (Bid No. 15-23-24).

Chuck Dinkins, Finance Director, stated that the oils and lubricants are used throughout the City in the automotive and equipment fleet. This bid includes the necessary items for the fleet to be maintained on a regular basis and to operate as efficient and proper as possible. This is a two-year contract with options to renew. Sealed bids were received on May 28, 2024 with the low bid submitted by Akins Petroleum in the amount of \$66,745.59 which is a 12% markup above cost. The pricing offered above is an estimated usage for the typical year using a 12-month past purchase history. The pricing three years ago was \$38,866.14. Please keep in mind the required products change over the course of time depending on the equipment we are servicing. Chuck Dinkins, Finance Director, recommended that Council approve the low bid submitted by Akins Petroleum in the amount of \$66,745.59 for the annual oils and lubrications for the City of Valdosta.

A MOTION by Councilwoman Miller-Cody, seconded by Councilwoman Tooley, was unanimously adopted (4-0) to approve the low bid submitted by Akins Petroleum in the amount of \$66,745.59 for the annual oils and lubrications for the City of Valdosta.

Consideration of bids for the annual auto and equipment filters for the City of Valdosta (Bid No. 14-23-24A).

Chuck Dinkins, Finance Director, stated that this contract bid is for a single source of supply for oil, air, fuel, and other necessary filters that are installed on the City automotive and equipment fleet for proper maintenance and operation. This contract is for two years with options to renew. Sealed bids were received on June 11, 2024 with NAPA submitting the low bid in the amount of \$30,194.50 which is a 67.25% discount. The price list is composed of the last two-year average filter quantities used by the Fleet per year. NAPA has agreed to supply these filters at the lowest price and deepest discount. Chuck Dinkins, Finance Director, recommended that Council approve the low bid submitted by NAPA in the amount of \$30,194.50 for the annual auto and equipment filters for the City of Valdosta.

A MOTION by Councilman Harden, seconded by Councilwoman Tooley, was unanimously adopted (4-0) to approve the low bid submitted by NAPA in the amount of \$30,194.50 for the annual auto and equipment filters for the City of Valdosta.

Consideration of bids for retread truck tires for the City of Valdosta (Bid No. 16-23-24).

Chuck Dinkins, Finance Director, stated that the City of Valdosta's Central Warehouse stocks a number of retread tires for our mid to large size trucks. The successful bidder will supply these tires on an as needed basis for a fixed price for the contract period. This is a one-year contract with options to renew. Sealed bids were received on May 21, 2024 with the low bid meeting specs submitted by Southeastern Commercial Tire in the amount of \$70,556.52. The prices above include an estimated 12-month usage amount for three sizes of retread tires that we

stock and use consistently. The price offered three years ago from Southeastern Commercial Tire was \$22,740.00. Chuck Dinkins, Finance Director, recommended that Council approve the low bid submitted by Southeastern Commercial Tire in the amount of \$70,556.52 for retread truck tires for the City of Valdosta.

A MOTION by Councilwoman Miller-Cody, seconded by Councilwoman Tooley, was unanimously adopted (4-0) to approve the low bid submitted by Southeastern Commercial Tire in the amount of \$70,556.52 for retread truck tires for the City of Valdosta.

Consideration of bids for the installation of a small diameter Sanitary Force Main on Trotters Way.

Jason Barnes, Assistant Utilities Director, stated that this cul-de-sac in northwest Valdosta does not have sewer service provided to eight residential lots. These properties are served by City water and individual, private septic treatment systems. Over time, on-site septic systems deteriorate and fail. This is the case for one of these residences. The City is proposing the most cost-effective means of serving these residential lots with City sewer. The scope of this project includes the installation of 2" and 3" diameter sewer force main along the full length of Trotters Way and extending along Country Club Road for a short distance to discharge into the nearest sewer manhole. Individual property owners will be responsible for the purchase, installation, and maintenance of their on-site small grinder pump station. This type of installation avoids more expensive construction, extensive easement acquisition, and disruption of the neighborhood for gravity sanitary sewer collection systems. It is the most cost-effective solution to providing sewer service to the lots. An invitation for Bids was advertised locally and posted on the City website in accordance with State law and City policies. One bid was received and opened at 11:00 a.m., on June 11, 2024. The bid is considered both responsive and responsible. The low bid was submitted by RPI Underground, Inc. with a total bid amount of \$49,690. Adding a 10% contingency (\$4,969.00) for unknown field conditions would bring the total project cost to \$54,659. Jason Barnes, Assistant Utilities Director, recommended that Council approve the bid of RPI Underground, Inc. of \$49,690.00 with a 10% contingency (\$4969.00) for a Total Project Cost of \$54,659.

A MOTION by Councilman McIntyre, seconded by Councilman Harden, was unanimously adopted (4-0) to approve the low bid was submitted by RPI Underground, Inc. in the amount of \$49,690 plus a 10% contingency (\$4,969.00) for unknown field conditions for a total project cost to \$54,659 for the installation of a small diameter Sanitary Force Main on Trotters Way.

Consideration of bids for the Installation of an 8" Water Main on Terrace Boulevard.

Jason Barnes, Assistant Utilities Director, stated that the City has older 2" galvanized iron water mains in residential areas throughout the City, and we will upgrade these to 8" PVC when opportunities arise. Such is the case on Terrace Boulevard from Oak Ridge Avenue to North Oak Street. About 400' of older 2" galvanized iron water main serves this block and five current residences. Residential infill/redevelopment is occurring in this block with the construction of three new houses. Upgrading to 8" diameter water main will take the older, substandard main out of service, will provide better water circulation in this entire neighborhood, and will provide adequate service and pressure to the three new residents as well as the three other residential lots served by this main. The scope of this Project includes the replacement of about 400' of existing 2" diameter galvanized iron water main on Terrace Boulevard from Oak Ridge Avenue to N. Oak Street with 8" diameter PVC water main. The new main will connect to the existing 6-inch water main on the northwest of the intersection of Terrace Boulevard and Oak Ridge Avenue, and to extend an 8" main eastward inside the city right-of-way to connect to the existing 12" water main on the west side of N. Oak Street. An invitation for bids was advertised locally and posted on the City website in accordance with State law and City policies. One bid was received and opened at 10:00 a.m., on June 11, 2024. The bid is considered both responsive and responsible. The low bid was submitted by RPI Underground, Inc. with a total bid amount of \$70,503.00. Adding a 10% contingency (\$7050.30) for unknown field conditions would bring the total Project cost to \$77,553.30. Jason Barnes, Assistant Utilities Director, recommended that Council approve the bid submitted by RPI Underground, Inc. in the amount of \$70,503.00 with a 10% contingency (\$7050.30) for a total Project cost of \$77,553.30.

A MOTION by Councilman Harden, seconded by Councilman McIntyre, was unanimously adopted (4-0) to approve the bid submitted by RPI Underground, Inc. in the amount of \$70,503.00 plus a 10% contingency (\$7050.30) for a total Project cost of \$77,553.30 for the installation of an 8" Water Main on Terrace Boulevard.

Consideration of a request from the property owners of 119 West Central Avenue to assist them in resolving clear Title issues and approve a Quit Claim Deed for 0.014 acres (621 square feet) of property adjacent to the Toombs Street Parking Lot.

Matt Martin, Planning Director, stated that this is a very old part of the City with mapping and deed records going back more than 100 years, and not all of these records are seemingly in full agreement in terms of specific geography. The property is located at 119 West Central Avenue and contains a very old historic commercial building that is approximately 21 feet wide. It is part of a linear row of historic commercial storefront buildings that face the south side of West Central Avenue, and whose rear walls face the Toombs Street parking lot to the south. This particular property is currently owned by "Martin Family Group LLLP", and they are in the process of marketing and selling their property. Recent title examinations for this property have indicated some discrepancies in its exact boundaries, such that the rear portion of their existing building may have encroached about 30 feet into the adjacent City property to the rear. However, it would seem that most of the historical boundary records for this immediate area, indicate that no such encroachment has actually occurred. In an effort to clear up any possible land Title discrepancies, the current owner's attorney, Mr. Tyler Dallas, contacted City officials back a few months ago and requested the City grant them a deed that grants them clear title and negates any interest the City might have in this property going forward. City staff has thoroughly researched the geography and history of this particular tiny portion of property to the best of our collective abilities. There are no existing public utilities nor any public infrastructure of any kind on this property, nor can we find record of any easements. It is our collective opinion that the City has no interest in the ownership of this property nor any part of it, now or in the foreseeable future. From examining historical photos and mapping for this property, as well as all available records, it is clear to Staff that any interest the City may have once had for this portion of property, was abandoned more than 100 years ago. Matt Martin, Planning Director, recommended that Council approve the request, and with advice of the City Attorney, authorize the execution of a Quit Claim deed and/or other related documents as necessary to clearly abandon any interest the City may have in this property.

A MOTION by Councilwoman Tooley, seconded by Councilman Harden, was unanimously adopted (4-0) to approve the request to assist the property owners of 119 West Central Avenue in resolving clear Title issues and approve a Quit Claim Deed for 0.014 acres (621 square feet) of property adjacent to the Toombs Street Parking Lot.

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

There were no citizens to be heard.

CITY MANAGER’S REPORT

Richard Hardy, City Manager, stated that the Goodwill Youth Tour will be held on June 27, 2024 at 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. beginning at the Water Treatment Plant and continues to the Traffic Management Center. They will then have lunch with the Mayor and a tour of the Five Points Recycling Center and Crime Lab. On July 1, 2024, there will be the First Friday After Five in Downtown from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. On July 17, 2024 from 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. there will be the Battle of the Badges Blood Drive at the City Hall Annex Multi-Purpose Room. On July 22, 2024 from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., the 16th Annual Photo Contest Awards Reception will be held at the Turner Center for the Arts. On July 27, there will be the Community Back to School Block Party at Unity Park from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilwoman Miller-Cody stated that she has had some citizens asking about the applications for the Harvest Station Apartments. Mayor Matheson stated that when the window opens up there will be a mad scramble as there is a three-year waiting list. Councilwoman Miller-Cody asked if we could post some information on our website.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Matheson entertained a motion for adjournment.

A **MOTION** by Councilwoman Miller-Cody, seconded by Councilwoman Tooley, was unanimously adopted (4-0) to adjourn the June 20, 2024 Regular Meeting of the Valdosta City Council at 6:01 p.m. to meet again in Regular Session on Thursday, July 11, 2024.

City Clerk, City of Valdosta

Mayor, City of Valdosta