

# TOWN OF IRMO REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

**January 21, 2020**

The Irmo Town Council held a regular meeting on Tuesday, January 21, 2020 in the Municipal Building. Council members present were Mayor Walker, Councilwoman Condom, Councilmen Busch, and Sickinger. Others present were Mr. Robert Brown, Town Administrator; Chief Don Perry; and Mrs. Renee Caviness, Clerk/Treasurer and Mr. Jake Moore, Town Attorney.

## REGULAR MEETING

Mayor Walker called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and Mr. Kelly Busch led the Pledge of Allegiance and gave the Invocation.

### READING OF THE MINUTES:

Mr. Busch made a motion to approve the January 7, 2020 minutes and Mrs. Condom seconded the motion. The vote to approve the minutes as submitted was unanimous.

### REPORT OF STANDING:

A. Administrative Briefing – Mr. Brown furnished a written briefing to Town Council in their packets and reminded Council to complete the online Statement of Economic Interest by the end of March. Also, he explained that Mr. John Dillard of CSX Railroad is cancelling his presentation due to a family emergency. Mr. Dillard did reply that the Royal Tower Crossing project is on the schedule and should be completed by the end of May.

B. Mr. Erik Sickinger welcomed the following new businesses to the Town of Irmo: Advantage Carolina, Craft and Draft Irmo, Gale's Dollie Boutique, Honei Pot Retreat, and Megan Duffy, CPA, LLC.

AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA: None

### CONSIDERATION OF COMMUNICATIONS:

A. CSX Railroad presentation was canceled.

B. Mr. Don Denton president of Blue Granite Water and Sewer explained that the company was making internal changes and they are in the process of upgrading the Friarsgate System (repairing leaks, replacing pipes) using the most updated technology.

C. Mayor Walker asked for volunteers for the Citizen Committees and then recognized the current members of each committee.

D. Mayor Walker stated he went to the Second Grade at Irmo Elementary School and talked about his duties as the Mayor. He was presented letters that the students had written. Mayor Walker read a couple of the letters and stated that he will write each student back.

E. Mr. Sickinger requested that the Planning Commission agenda be posted on the Town website. He commented on the visibility of signs on Columbia Avenue and stated that he did not see any speed limit signs on Columbiana Drive.

PRESENTATION BY CITIZENS (AGENDA ITEMS ONLY):

Ms. Liya Cartledge, 100 Cressfell Circle, addressed Council on item “B” under Consideration of Communications

Ms. Barbara Waldman – 900 Shadowleaf Court, addressed Council on Ordinance 20-01

Mr. George Glassmeyer, 100 Denbeck Road, addressed Council on items “A” and “B” under Unfinished Business, and “Bulk Item Pickup” under Discussion

Mr. David Stewart, 101 Glossop Circle, addressed Council on “Bulk Item Pickup” under Discussion

Ms. Laura Carson, 501 Oak Hampton Road, addressed Council on item “B” under Considerations of Communications

Mr. Michael Lizewski, 235 Torrington Road (PC Member), addressed Council on items “A” and “B” under Unfinished Business

Ms. Patricia Whitt, 213 Minehead Road, addressed Council on item “B” under Consideration of Communications

Mr. Milton Cooley, Settlers Station (Member of ZBA), addressed Council on items “A”, “B”, “D” under Unfinished Business

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

**A. THIRD AND FINAL READING ORDINANCE 19-28 TO AMEND THE IRMO TOWN CODE, APPENDIX A ZONING; ARTICLE VIII, ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES AND ENFORCEMENT REGULATIONS; SECTION 8-8 – ESTABLISHMENT OF BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS (MAYOR):**

Mr. Sickinger made a motion to approve and Mr. Busch seconded it. Mr. Sickinger made a motion to defer the third reading until next Council Meeting and Mr. Busch seconded it. The vote for approval to defer was unanimous.

**B. THIRD AND FINAL READING OF ORDINANCE 19-30 TO AMEND THE IRMO TOWN CODE, CHAPTER 2 ADMINISTRATION; ARTICLE IV – BOARDS, COMMISSIONS AND COMMITTEES; DIVISION 3 PLANNING COMMISSION; SECTION 2-292 – MEMBERSHIP (MAYOR):**

Mr. Busch made a motion to defer the third reading until the next Council Meeting. Mr. Sickinger seconded it and the vote for approval to defer was unanimous.

**C. SECOND READING OF ORDINANCE 20-01 TO REPLACE IN ITS ENTIRETY THE TOWN OF IRMO CODE OF ORDINANCES, APPENDIX A – ZONING AND APPENDIX B – LAND DEVELOPMENT; AND THAT ALL TOWN OF IRMO ORDINANCES AND PARTS OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HERewith ARE REPEALED TO THE EXTENT NECESSARY TO GIVE THIS ORDINANCE FULL-FORCE AND EFFECT:**

Mr. Busch made a motion for approval and Mr. Sickinger seconded it. Mr. Busch made a motion to amend to change the language to “signs cannot be erected until the first day of filling”. Mrs. Condom seconded it and the vote for approval to amend was unanimous. Mr. Sickinger made a motion to amend to change “4,000 to 5,000 square feet” and to change Maximum Residential density in Neighborhood Commercial (CN) to “7” and Mrs. Condom seconded the motion.

Mr. John Newman, Central Midlands Council of Government, clarified with Council that they want the density in General Residential (RG) to be 16, Office Commercial (CO) to be 4, Neighborhood Commercial (CN) to be 7 and General Commercial (CG) to be 4. He also clarified that the conditional uses for Buses and Transit stops shall be in locations that do not impede the flow of traffic.

The vote for approval of the two amendments is unanimous. Mrs. Condom made a motion to approve second reading of Ordinance 20-01 as amended. Mr. Busch seconded the motion and the vote for approval was unanimous.

**D. SECOND READING OF ORDINANCE 20-03 TO AMEND THE IRMO TOWN CODE, CHAPTER 2 ADMINISTRATION; ARTICLE IV, BOARDS COMMISSIONS AND COMMITTEES; DIVISION 3, PLANNING COMMISSION; SECTION 2-292 – MEMBERSHIP:**

Mr. Busch made a motion for approval and Mr. Sickinger seconded it. Mr. Busch does not believe this is necessary. Mr. Sickinger states it is a powerful ordinance and like Mrs. Condom feels a member should only be removed for cause. The vote for approval failed 1 to 3 with Mr. Busch, Mrs. Condom and Mr. Sickinger voting in opposition.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**A. FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE 20-02 TO AMEND THE IRMO TOWN CODE, CHAPTER 14 ENVIRONMENT; ARTICLE II, NUISANCES; SECTION 14-37, DILAPIDATED PROPERTIES; PARAGRAPH (b) – COMMERCIAL PROPERTIES:**

Mr. Sickinger made a motion to approve first reading and Mr. Busch seconded. Both Mrs. Condom and Mr. Busch believe broken windows not only look bad but could encourage criminal activity. The vote for approval was unanimous.

**B. FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE 20-04 TO REZONE 0.3-ACRE PORTION OF RICHLAND COUNTY TMS# 0302-01-03 (LOCATED ADJACENT TO MUSKRA RUN ROAD) FROM FRINGE AGRICULTURAL (FA) TO GENERAL RESIDENTIAL(RG):**

Mayor Walker explained that the owner needs this small 0.3 acre portion to be added to the owner’s current project. Mr. Busch made a motion to approve and Mrs. Condom seconded the motion. The vote for approval unanimous.

**C. APPROVAL TO CANCEL FEBRUARY 4, 2020 COUNCIL MEETING TO ALLOW COUNCIL TO MEET WITH THE RICHLAND COUNTY COUNCIL:**

Mr. Busch made a motion for approval and Mr. Sickinger seconded it. The vote for approval was unanimous.

**D. APPROVAL OF MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE TOWN OF IRMO AND BLUE GRANITE WATER/SEWER COMPANY:**

Mayor Walker stated this agreement will allow Blue Granite Water Company to notify the Town of Irmo when sewer service is disconnected at a residence. Mr. Sickinger made a motion for approval and Mr. Busch seconded it. Mr. Sickinger asked Mr. Moore to clarify the indemnity statement in the agreement. Mr. Moore explained that he would represent Blue Granite Water Company if a citizen sues the company for notifying the Town of Irmo of the disconnection of their sewer service. The vote for approval unanimous.

**PRESENTATION BY CITIZENS:**

Ms. Leya Cartledge, 100 Cressfell Circle, addressed Council on the proposed increase of sewer rates from the Blue Granite Water Company

Mr. Mike Ward – 118 Ashbourne Road, addressed Council on term limits and the proposed increase of sewer rates from the Blue Granite Water Company

Mr. Art McClain - 137 Sonning Road, addressed Council on the proposed increase of sewer rates from the Blue Granite Water Company

**DISCUSSION:**

**A. Discussion on Handling of Bulk-Items in Town:**

Mr. Sickinger started off the discussion explaining that he does not think it is sustainable for the Town to continue to pay for bulk item pick-up. He stated that each resident should pay for their bulk item pick-up. Mrs. Condom feels that Council should pay for one item per residence per year and any addition bulk item pickup will be the responsibility of the resident to pay. Mayor Walker suggested that the Town take over bulk item pickup and the resident would pay the Town (Irmo could pick up the items on a daily basis). He also explained that staff should consider a different fee structure for rental properties. Mr. Busch agrees that the Town should not pay for bulk item pickup and stated that his concern is the frequency of bulk item pick up by Tyler Sanitation. He would like to increase the frequency of picking up the bulk items. Mr. Moore advised Council to stay out of the sanitation business and let Tyler Sanitation handle the bulk item pickup. The discussion ended with Council agreeing that the Town will no longer pay for bulk item pickup after March 31, 2020 but will talk to Tyler Sanitation about increasing the frequency of bulk item pickup.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

**A. Personnel Action regarding Planning Commission Membership:**

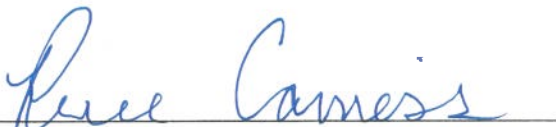
Mrs. Condom made a motion to go into executive session and Mr. Busch seconded the motion and it passed unanimously; therefore, the Mayor, Council, Mr. Brown, and Mr. Moore went into executive session at 8:47 p.m. Mayor Walker called the meeting back to order at 9:00 p.m. and stated that no votes were taken.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, Mr. Busch made a motion to adjourn and Mrs. Condom seconded it. The motion was approved unanimously; therefore, the meeting was adjourned at 9:01 p.m.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Barry A. Walker, Sr.", written over a horizontal line.

Barry A. Walker, Sr., Mayor

ATTEST:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Renee Caviness", written over a horizontal line.

Renee Caviness, Clerk/Treasurer