

# TOWN OF IRMO REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

**February 5, 2019**

The Irmo Town Council held a regular meeting on Tuesday, February 5, 2019 in the Municipal Building. Council members present were Mayor King, Councilmen Pouliot, Waites, Walker and Councilwoman Condom. Others present were Mr. Robert Brown, Town Administrator; Chief Don Perry; Mr. Eric Hale, Town Attorney; and Mrs. Renee Caviness, Clerk/Treasurer. Mr. Al Dozier, *The New Irmo News*, was also present.

Mayor King called the regular meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. and Mr. Walker the led the Pledge of Allegiance and gave the Invocation.

## READING OF THE MINUTES:

Mr. Pouliot made a motion to approve the January 15, 2019 minutes and Mrs. Condom seconded the motion. The vote for approval as submitted was unanimous.

## REPORT OF STANDING:

A. Administrative Briefing – Mrs. Condom asked for an update on the pending DOJ case and Mr. Brown stated that a preliminary discover meeting will take place sometime in March. He explained that it is not a public meeting and will include both attorneys and the judge. Mr. Walker asked if the case was still on hold due to the partial government shutdown and Mr. Brown stated that the DOJ had gone back to work.

## AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA:

Mayor King made a motion to amend the agenda and remove item “B” under Discussion and directed the Town Administrator to no longer put this item back on the agenda until he receives written notice as to any updates, or press releases, approved by SCMIRF or its’ attorney(s) and Mr. Pouliot seconded it. Mayor King explained that he wants to remove the item from the agenda because it is an active case that is currently in litigation and Mr. Pouliot agreed.

Mr. Walker stated that he had put this item on the agenda to get an update on the case due to it being on hold during the government shutdown. He also stated that as an elected official he can put items on the agenda. Mr. Waites explained that everyone on Council received the email stating that Council cannot discuss an active case.

The vote for approval was 4 to 1 with Mr. Walker voting in opposition.

Mr. Walker made a motion to amend the agenda to add item “B. Discussion on update of “United States vs Town of Irmo” on the agenda. The motion failed because it was not seconded.

## CONSIDERATION OF COMMUNICATIONS:

A. Mayor King introduced Dr. Adrian Bird and Dr. Mary Kennerly who presented a proposal on the possibility of Irmo hosting an International Cultural Festival to be held on Sunday, April 28 from 1-4 p.m. in the Community Park of Irmo. The festival would promote tourism for the town and celebrate the cultural diversity with food, art, music and dance. Mr. Walker asked Mr. Brown to put this item on the next regular Council meeting agenda for approval.

B. Mr. Pouliot stated that Council received a letter from Lexington County inviting them to their annual event, but it is held the same night as a regular scheduled Council meeting on Tuesday, February 19<sup>th</sup>. He would like to cancel that meeting so all could attend the Lexington County Night.

C. Mr. Whitt Cline, Director of Public Services, wanted to let Council and the public know that he along with Lexington Soil and Water Conservation District will be hosting a "Build Your Own Rain Barrel" workshop on Friday, March 15, 2019 from 8:45 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. at the Irmo Municipal Building.

PRESENTATION BY CITIZENS (AGENDA ITEMS ONLY): None

Mr. George Glassmeyer, 100 Denbeck Road, addressed Council on item "A" under Discussion and item "A" under New Business

Mrs. Brandi Clarkson, 318 Lord Howe Road, addressed Council on "A" under Discussion

Mr. Wade De Loach, 156 Finsbury Road, addressed Council on "A" under Discussion

### UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

### NEW BUSINESS

#### A. FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE 19-01 TO REZONE RICHLAND COUNTY TMS R04009, BLOCK 02, LOT 04 (201 LORDSHIP LAND) FROM SINGLE-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL (RS) TO NEIGHBORHOOD COMMERCIAL (CN) (STAFF):

Mayor King explain that this property is on the corner of Columbiana Drive and Charing Cross Road. The house faces Jim Hudson Toyota. He stated the owner changed his rezoning request from Neighborhood Commercial (CN) to Office Commercial (CO). Mr. Walker made a motion to approve and Mr. Pouliot seconded it.

Mr. Walker asked if the Planning Commission had approved this rezoning and Mr. Brown explained that they did approve it 3 to 2. He also stated that the owners have remodeled the building and want to make it a real estate office.

All of Council voiced their concerns about rezoning the property from Single-Family Residential to Office Commercial. Therefore, the vote for approval failed with all of Council voting in opposition of the rezoning of the property.

**B. APPROVAL TO CLOSE CARLISLE STREET FROM COLUMBIA AVENUE TO LEXINGTON AVENUE ON APRIL 6, 2019 FROM 6:00 A.M. UNTIL 3:00 P.M (MAYOR):**

Mrs. Condom made a motion to close Carlisle Street from Columbia Avenue to Lexington Avenue for Young's Chapel hosting their Easter Bazaar. Mr. Waites seconded the motion. The church plans to have vendors setup along Carlisle Street. The vote for approval was unanimous.

**PRESENTATION BY CITIZENS:**

Mrs. Brandi Clarkson, 318 Lord Howe Road, addressed Council on the current lawsuit

**DISCUSSION:**

**A. Discussion on Police Officer Salaries (Mayor):**

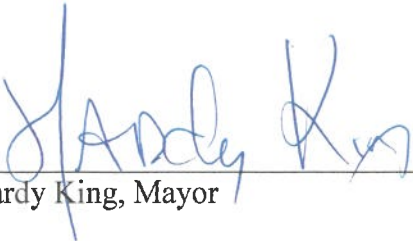
The Mayor explained that he wants Council to think about things that Council could do to help with the recruiting and retention of police officers. He stated that there was additional information in their packets showing the salaries and benefits the Town offers compared to other cities in the area. He mentioned some examples which includes a retention bonus, salary increases, additional rank structure, etc. Mr. Walker and Mr. Pouliot wanted more information because the provided information received shows the Town is very competitive with salaries, and benefits.

After a brief discussion, it was decided that Council needs to discuss this in a special workshop prior to the next Council meeting.

**B. Discussion on update of "United States vs Town of Irmo" (Walker): REMOVED**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION: NONE**

**ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further business, Mr. Pouliot made a motion to adjourn and Mr. Waites seconded it. The motion was approved unanimously; therefore, the meeting was adjourned at 8:43 p.m.

  
Hardy King, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
Renee Caviness, Clerk/Treasurer

