

TOWN OF IRMO
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
February 18, 2020

The Irmo Town Council held a regular meeting on Tuesday, February 18, 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, Mrs. Renee Caviness, Clerk/Treasurer and Mr. Jake Moore, Town Attorney.

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

READING OF THE MINUTES:

Mr. Busch made a motion to approve the February 4, 2020 minutes and Mr. Sickinger 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.
- B. Mr. Sickinger welcomed the following new businesses to the Town of Irmo:
Anything Goes, HVAC Design Services, Initially Yours LLC, and Serenity Therapeutic Massage.

AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA: None

CONSIDERATION OF COMMUNICATIONS:

- A. Mr. John Dillard, Senior Vice President, with CSX Railroad to give an update on several crossings in town. He explained that they will coordinate with the Town and the County to facilitate road closings during the repairs.
- B. Mayor Walker called on Mr. Young and Ms. McSwain from “Just Leadership USA” regarding “Ban the Box” which would remove questions about a job applicant’s criminal record from the application and interview process. Mayor Walker asked Mr. Brown to put the resolution on a future agenda.
- C. Mr. Sickinger wanted to invite everyone to the “Hot Dogs for a Cause” Event that is taking place on Sunday, February 23, 2020 from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. at 7522 Irmo Drive, Columbia, SC 29212. All proceeds and donations will go to Lana’s medical bills following a recent car wreck (She is a resident of the Town).

PRESENTATION BY CITIZENS (AGENDA ITEMS ONLY):

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

Ms. Barbara Waldman – 900 Shadowleaf Court, addressed Council on item “C” under New Business

Mr. Mike Ward, 118 Ashbourne Road, addressed Council on item “B” under Consideration of Communications and items “B” and “C” under New Business.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

A. THIRD AND FINAL 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. Busch made a motion to approve and Mr. Sickinger seconded. The vote for approval was unanimous.

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

Mr. Sickinger made a motion to approve and Mr. Busch seconded the motion. The vote for approval was unanimous.

C. SECOND READING OF ORDINANCE 20-05 TO ANNEX LEXINGTON TMS 001998-05-010 (7582 IRMO DRIVE) AS SINGLE-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL:

Mr. Busch made a motion to approve and Mayor Walker seconded it. The vote for approval was unanimous.

NEW BUSINESS

A. FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE 20-07 TO REZONE RICHLAND COUNTY TMS R05000-01-04 (LOCATE AT 7425 BROAD RIVER ROAD) FROM GENERAL COMMERCIAL (CG) TO SINGLE-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL (RS):

Mr. Busch made a motion to approve and Mr. Sickinger seconded the motion. Mayor Walker explained that the owner wants to change the property to Single-family Residential with the belief it will change his Richland County tax rate from 6% to 4%. He explained that this is not necessary, and all Mr. Mims needs to supply is his SC Driver’s License, Social Security Card, Vehicle Registration, and most current tax return to Richland County in order to get the 4% tax rate for his legal residence.

Council agreed they did not want to make the zoning change due to the surrounding property being General Commercial (CG). They unanimously voted for approval of Ordinance 20-07 to give Mr. Mims time to provide the required documents to Richland County. Mr. Mims will let Council know if he wants to withdraw his request after he visits the Richland County Assessor’s Office.

B. APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION 20-02 REQUIRING IRMO BOARDS AND COMMISSION MEMBERS TO ADHERE TO THE TOWN’S SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY FOR APPOINTED POSITIONS:

Mr. Busch made a motion for approval and Mr. Sickinger seconded it. Mr. Sickinger and Mr. Busch agree that anyone who represents the Town in an official matter needs to be held to a higher standard. However, Mrs. Condom is concerned that this policy may impede on a person's First Amendments rights.

Mayor Walker explained that individuals who are representing the Town of Irmo in any compacity should not personally attack Public Officials, Town Staff, or other Volunteer Representatives of the Town. Mr. Moore explained to Council that they could impose reasonable restrictions.

Mr. Sickinger made a motion to amend to add the word "Citizens Committee" after "Appeals" in the second paragraph of the Resolution. Mr. Busch seconded the amendment and the vote for approval to amend was unanimous.

The vote for approval of Resolution 20-02 was 3 to 1 with Mrs. Condom voting in opposition

C. APPROVAL TO PURCHASE THREE (3) FLEET PICKUP TRUCKS FOR CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS UNDER STATE CONTRACT FROM LOVE CHEVROLET IN THE AMOUNT OF \$118,378.00 (STAFF):

Mrs. Condom made a motion to approve and Mr. Busch seconded it. Captain Courtney Dennis explained that they replace cars every 6 years or for high mileage. He further explained that there is a shortage of Police Vehicles in the state and the turnaround time is at least 6 months. He stated that the vehicles on the quote are the only 3 on the Love Chevrolet lot and they could get the vehicles immediately. The vote for approval was unanimous

PRESENTATION BY CITIZENS:

Mr. Chris Javis of the African American Alumni of Irmo High School Associate invited the Mayor and the rest of Council to the First Annual Community Fish Fry on February 29, 2020 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Community Park of Irmo.

Mrs. Brandi Clarkson, 318 Lord Howe Road, invited Council to the "Hot Dogs for Cause" on February 23 from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. at 7522 Irmo Drive to raise money for Jada Powell's daughter, Lana. She was in a car wreck and all the proceeds will go to her medical and car expenses.

Mr. Greg Evans, 414 Zanark Drive , addressed Council on the Social Media Policy.

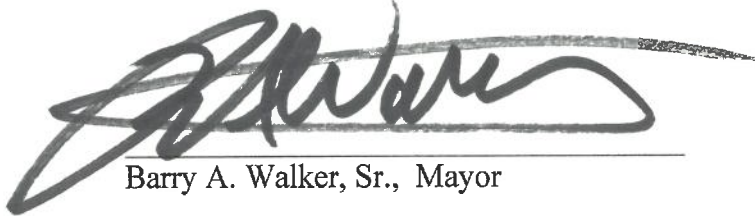
DISCUSSION: None

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

A. LEGAL ADVICE – PROPOSED SALE/PURCHASE OF PROPERTY (MAYOR):

Mr. Sickinger 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 8:13 p.m. Mayor Walker called the meeting back to order at 8:38 p.m. and stated that no votes were taken.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, Mr. Busch made a motion to adjourn and Mr. Sickinger seconded it. The motion was approved unanimously; therefore, the meeting was adjourned at 8:39 p.m.



Barry A. Walker, Sr., Mayor

ATTEST:



Renee Caviness, Clerk/Treasurer