

**TOWN OF IRMO
BUDGET WORKSHOP AND
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**

March 17, 2020

The Irmo Town Council held a budget workshop and regular meeting on Tuesday, March 17, 2020 in the Municipal Building. Council Members present were Mayor Walker, Councilwoman Condom, Councilmen Busch, Sickinger, and Danielson. Others present were Mr. Robert Brown, Town Administrator; Chief Don Perry, Mrs. Renee Caviness, Clerk/Treasurer and Mr. Jake Moore, Town Attorney.

BUDGET WORKSHOP

Mayor Walker called the budget workshop to order at 6:00 p.m. Council approved the annual step increase, 1% cost of living raise and refilling the Project Coordinator position.

REGULAR MEETING

Mayor Walker called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

INAUGURATION:

1. SWEARING IN OF MR. WILLIAM O. DANIELSON (BILL) AS IRMO COUNCIL MEMBER:

Mr. Danielson was administered the Oath of Office by Mrs. Peggy Danielson. Mayor Walker congratulated Mr. Danielson and called upon Mr. Sickinger to lead the Pledge of Allegiance and give the Invocation.

READING OF THE MINUTES:

Mr. Sickinger made a motion to approve the February 18, 2020 minutes and Mr. Busch 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 added that he will activate the Irmo Emergency Action Plan to counter Covid-19 Virus Pandemic and implement a three day work week.

B. Mr. Sickinger welcomed the following new businesses to the Town of Irmo: Fab'Los Boutique, Travel Simplicit, Kid Asset Management, Creggor Company, Guild Mortgage Company, Streater Executive Protection, Studemeyer Law Firm, Earn to Learn, Spring Foot/Body Massage, Stars & Strikes, L.A. Dreams Hair Salon, Hair by Terri Gore, and Pisey Mol Nail & Spa, and Kayla Fuller Studios.

AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA:

Mrs. Condom made a motion to add item “H” under New Business to discuss canceling the April 7, 2020 Council Meeting due to the Coronavirus and Mr. Busch seconded the motion.

Mr. Sickinger made a motion to amend the motion to add to item “H” to restrict large gatherings in all Irmo Town Parks and Mrs. Condom seconded it. The vote to amend the motion was unanimous.

The vote for approval to add item “H” to the agenda under New Business was unanimous.

CONSIDERATION OF COMMUNICATIONS:

A. Mayor Walker called on Mr. Moore to give a brief summary of the Blue Granite Water System hearing with the Public Service Commission. He stated that the Office Regulatory Staff’s opinion was to give a rate increase to Blue Granite Water System. He further explained that a final decision has not been made but will be forthcoming soon.

B. Mayor Walker postponed recognizing Cherrish Taylor as the Town of Irmo Children’s Book Publisher until further notice.

C. Mayor Walker gave Council a proposal from a local bank that would like to partner with the Town of Irmo to offer relief assistance to small businesses for their lost revenue due to the virus. He would like for Council to review the proposal and would like to put this item on the next agenda to discuss.

PRESENTATION BY CITIZENS (AGENDA ITEMS ONLY): None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

A. THIRD AND FINAL 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 Mr. Sickinger seconded it. The vote for approval was unanimous.

B. SECOND 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 Mayor Walker seconded it. The vote failed 0 to 5 with all of Council voting in opposition.

NEW BUSINESS

A. FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE 20-06 TO AMEND THE IRMO TOWN CODE, CHAPTER 2 ADMINISTRATION; ARTICLE II, COUNCIL; DIVISION 1, GENERALLY; SECTION 2-31 COMPOSITION AND ELECTION (SICKINGER):

Mr. Sickinger made a motion for approval and Mr. Busch seconded it. Mr. Sickinger explained that he will work on language regarding Council Members serving three terms and serving an additional two terms if elected as Mayor. Mayor Walker does not believe this is necessary because a member could be voted out. Mr. Danielson while campaigning had many residents say they were frustrated with the Council. Mrs. Condom stated that she would like to see some language regarding a partial term applied as a full term limit. The vote for approval was 4 to 1 with Mayor Walker voting in opposition.

B. APPROVAL TO SUBMIT SCDPS PUBLIC ASSISTANCE GRANT TO REPLACE THE TOWN'S 800 MHZ RADIOS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$272,700 (90/10 MATCHING GRANT) (STAFF):

Mrs. Condom made a motion to approve and Mr. Busch seconded it. Captain Courtney Dennis explained that the current police radios will be obsolete due to newer bandwidth and encrypt technology capabilities and that their current radios will no longer work after 2025. If this grant is approved, the Town would be responsible to pay 10%. The vote for approval was unanimous.

C. APPROVAL TO PURCHASE A FORD F250 PICKUP FOR PUBLIC WORKS ON STATE CONTRACT # 44 00022491 FROM VIC BAILEY FORD IN THE AMOUNT OF \$32,857 (STAFF):

Mr. Sickinger made a motion to approve and Mr. Busch seconded it. Mr. Sickinger confirmed that this purchase is already in the current budget. The vote for approval was unanimous.

D. APPROVAL TO AMEND SOLID WASTE CONTRACT (STAFF):

Mr. Sickinger made a motion to approve and Mrs. Condom seconded it. Mayor Walker explained Tyler Sanitation proposes to lock in current price for an additional two-year period and pick-up 40 bulk-items a month at no charge if the Town extends the current contract for additional two years. After 40 bulk-items have been picked up, residents can be put on the list for the following month or pay a fee to Tyler Sanitation. Mr. Sickinger confirmed with Mr. Reed of Tyler Sanitation that this would extend the current pricing until 2022. The vote for approval was unanimous.

E. APPROVAL TO CLOSE A PORTION (APPROXIMATELY 170') OF CHILDS STREET FROM COLUMBIA AVENUE TO FORK AVENUE (STAFF):

Mr. Busch made a motion to approve and Mr. Sickinger seconded it which would allow Mr. Brown to work with the Attorney on the proper procedure moving forward. The vote for approval was unanimous.

SEE EXECUTIVE SESSION

F. APPROVAL TO CONTRACT WITH CODE CONSULTING & INSPECTION SERVICES (CC&I) TO TAKE OVER THE PLANNING CONSULTANT, PLAN REVIEWS, BUILDING PERMITS AND BUILDING INSPECTIONS FOR THE TOWN OF IRMO (MAYOR):

Mayor Walker stated that Council will review the proposal by Code Consulting & Inspection Services (CC&I) and bid it out.

G. APPOINTMENT TO THE ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS (STAFF):

Mayor Walker explained that most everyone who volunteered are new applicants and that the one exception Mr. Glassmeyer is not qualified to be reappointed at this time due to the recently passed ordinance on term limits for members. He opened the floor for nominations.

Mr. Sickinger made a motion to appoint Ms. Marsha Clarke and Mr. Danielson seconded it. The vote for approval was 4 to 1 with Mrs. Condom voting in opposition.

Mrs. Condom made a motion to appoint Mr. George Glassmeyer. The motion was not seconded, therefore it failed.

Mayor Walker nominated Dr. Barbara Waldman and Mr. Sickinger seconded it. The vote for approval was 3 to 2 with Mrs. Condom and Mr. Danielson voting in opposition.

H. APPROVAL TO CANCEL THE APRIL 7, 2020 COUNCIL MEETING DUE TO THE CORONAVIRUS DISEASE (COVID-19) AND TO RESTRICT LARGE GATHERINGS IN ALL IRMO TOWN PARKS:

Mrs. Condom made a motion to approve and Mr. Busch seconded it. Mr. Busch voiced his concerns about rentals of park facilities to large gatherings. Mr. Brown stated that under the advice of Council he could put out a policy restricting groups of more than 10 people in the parks. It was also mentioned that Council could close all the Irmo parks until further notice.

Mayor Walker stated that these items need to be voted on separately due to the discussion on what policy should be implemented for the parks. Mr. Busch made a motion to approve canceling the April 7, 2020 meeting and Mrs. Condom seconded it. The vote for approval was unanimous.

Mr. Busch made a motion to give Mr. Brown authority to restrict park usage until further notice. Mrs. Condom seconded it and the vote for approval was unanimous.

PRESENTATION BY CITIZENS:

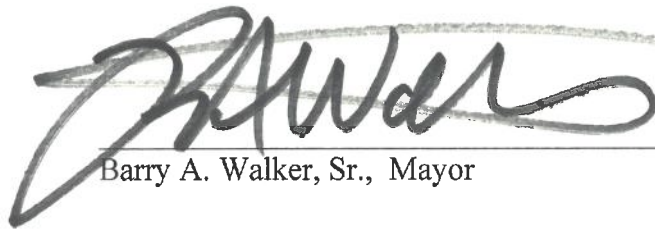
Mr. Whitt Cline, Irmo Public Services Director, let Council know that the upcoming Rain Barrel Workshop has been cancelled until further notice due to Covid-19 Pandemic.

DISCUSSION: None

OUT OF ORDER - EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Mrs. Condom made a motion to suspend Robert's Rules and go into Executive Session prior to approval of item "F" to discuss the terms in the proposal. Mayor Walker seconded the motion and it passed unanimously; therefore, the Mayor, Council, Mr. Brown, Mr. Moore and CC& I representatives went into executive session at 8:19 p.m. Mayor Walker called the meeting back to order at 8:31 p.m. and stated that no votes were taken.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, Mrs. Condom made a motion to adjourn and Mr. Busch seconded it. The motion was approved unanimously; therefore, the meeting was adjourned at 8:52 p.m.



Barry A. Walker, Sr., Mayor

ATTEST:



Renee Caviness, Clerk/Treasurer

