

TOWN OF IRMO REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

April 3, 2018

The Irmo Town Council held a regular meeting Tuesday, April 3, 2018 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, Captain Courtney Dennis; Mr. Eric Hale, Town Attorney. Mrs. Renee Caviness, Clerk/Treasurer, Chief Don Perry were both absent. Mr. Al Dozier of *The New Irmo News* was also present.

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

READING OF THE MINUTES:

Mayor King made a motion to approve the March 19, 2018 minutes and Mrs. Condom seconded the motion. The vote to approve the minutes was unanimous.

Mr. Pouliot made a motion to approve the March 20, 2018 minutes and Mrs. Condom seconded the motion. Mr. Pouliot requested that the vote to go into executive session be change to 3-2 and not 5-2. The vote to approve the minutes as amended was unanimous.

REPORT OF STANDING:

A. Administrative Briefing – Mr. Brown provided an administrative briefing with the council packets. Mr. Walker asked for clarification of the estimated cost to create a town specific *299 number. Mr. Brown explained that the figure was from talking to Verizon only, and that contracts and coordination would be needed from all the cell service providers before the number could be published.

B. Police Briefing (Communications) – Captain Dennis explained how telephone calls to the Irmo Police Department were routed during the normal business hours and the nighttime hours. He emphasized that emergencies needed to be handled by 911 operators.

AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA: None

CONSIDERATION OF COMMUNICATIONS:

A. Mr. Walker stated that he was receiving a lot of comments on Facebook regarding the proposed Ordinance 18-04.

B. Mrs. Condom announced that Keep the Midlands Beautiful (KMB) will be hosting a clean-up along Irmo Drive on April 21, 2018 beginning at the Publix on Highway 6 and stopping at the intersection with Highway 60. Volunteers should arrive by 8:30 a.m.

C. Mrs. Condom asked about the status of the Cornerstone Project and that some residents were concerned with how much longer the project would take.

PRESENTATION BY CITIZENS (AGENDA ITEMS ONLY):

A. George Glassmeyer, 100 Denbeck Road, addressed Council on items C, D and E under New Business

B. Mathew Hall, 106 Saint Albans Court, addressed Council on items A, and B under Unfinished Business as well as item B under New Business

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. SECOND READING OF ORDINANCE 18-04 TO AMEND THE IRMO TOWN CODE, CHAPTER 11, RENTAL PROPERTY REGISTRATION (MAYOR):

Mr. Pouliot made a motion to approve second reading of Ordinance 18-04 and Mayor King seconded it. Mr. Pouliot stated that he likes strengthening the regulations however he would prefer that all residences in the Town be governed by the same set of rules. He believes it will cause much less confusion between neighbors and the enforcement. Mayor King disagreed and explained that business owners should be held to a higher standard. The fee increase would technically be only \$50, and all properties after the first would be charged the same \$50 as they are now. Mr. Pouliot asked why the Town could not impose lower fines instead of the standard \$1,087.50 for all offenses regarding code violations. Mayor King explained that the fine to the Town was only \$500 and the remaining \$687.50 went to the State Treasury.

Mrs. Condom recommended using the HUD guidelines to determine occupancy levels, which is based on the size of the structure and rooms. She further stated that it was not the Town's business to dictate occupancy. Mr. Walker made a motion to remove items 9, 16, 17 and 20: and keep only the changes for items 10 and 21. Motion did not get a second. Mr. Waites made a motion to defer the second reading of the ordinance to June 19, 2018, this was seconded by Ms. Condom and the vote was 4-1 to defer with Mr. Pouliot voting in opposition.

B. SECOND READING OF ORDINANCE 18-05 TO AMEND THE IRMO TOWN CODE, CHAPTER 14, ENVIRONMENT; ARTICLE II, NUISANCES; SECTION 14-32 – UNSANITARY, UNSIGHTLY AND UNSAFE CONDITIONS (MAYOR):

Mr. Waites made a motion for approval and Mr. Pouliot seconded it. Mrs. Condom made a motion to amend the ordinance to read, "no more than four appliances", and Mr. Waites seconded. The vote for approval of the amendment was unanimous, and the vote for second reading of the ordinance was unanimous.

NEW BUSINESS

A. FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE 18-06 TO AMEND THE IRMO TOWN CODE, CHAPTER 14, ENVIRONMENT; ARTICLE V, FLOODPLAIN MANUAL; SECTION 14-161 – LANDS TO WHICH THIS ARTICLE APPLIES (STAFF):

Mr. Pouliot made a motion to approve first reading of the ordinance and Mrs. Condom seconded. The vote to approve was unanimous.

B. FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE 18-07 TO AMEND THE IRMO TOWN CODE, CHAPTER 14, ENVIRONMENT; ARTICLE II, NUISANCES; SECTION 14-32 – UN-SANITARY AND UNSIGHTLY CONDITIONS (WAITES):

Mr. Waites made a motion to approve and Mr. Pouliot seconded. Mr. Waites explained that he attended a meeting recently that included the City of Columbia, DHEC, Carolina Water and Sewer, Richland County Utilities, LLR and a representative from the LCSC. Everyone agreed that these illicit sewer discharges were a serious issue that required immediate action. The votes to approve the first reading was unanimous.

C. APPROVAL TO CREATE A NEW POLICE LIEUTENANT POSITION (STAFF):

Mrs. Condom made a motion to create this position and Mr. Waites seconded it. Mrs. Condom stated how professional and hard working the police department personnel were and if they required a new position, then council should look for ways to fund it. Captain Dennis made some comments regarding the future need, what the duties would be, and how it would be mostly an administrative position. Mr. Waites was against starting a new budget by removing \$300,000 from the reserves to balance the budget and suggested postponing the decision. He would like to revisit the need and evaluate the revenue status after six-months into the new budget. Mr. Pouliot agreed that balancing the budget from the reserves was a bad idea, especially when dealing with recurring expenses. Mayor King also wanted to postpone a decision until we were into the new budget year and able to re-evaluate the Town's financial position. Mr. Walker commented that the Town needed to support the police department 100% and if they justified the need for a new position than council should provide the resources. Mayor King stated that the Council had a fiscal responsibility to the Town to spend the funds wisely. The vote failed 2-3 with the Mayor, Mr. Waites and Mr. Pouliot voting in opposition.

D. APPROVAL TO CREATE A NEW COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR POSITION (WALKER):

Mr. Walker made a motion to create this new position; there was no second. Therefore, the motion failed.

E. APPROVAL TO ESTABLISH A NON-EMERGENCY PHONE NUMBER OF *299 FOR THE IRMO POLICE DEPARTMENT AND HAVE IT ANSWERED 24/7 (WALKER):

Mr. Walker made a motion to create this new position; there was no second. Therefore, the motions failed.

PRESENTATION BY CITIZENS:

Mrs. Brandi Clarkson, 318 Lord Howe Road, addressed Council on item C under New Business

Ms. Susan Pope, 581 Cornerstone Circle, addressed Council on item A under Unfinished Business and item C under New Business

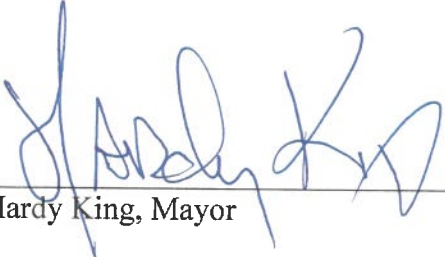
Mr. George Glassmeyer, 100 Denbeck Road, addressed Council on item C under New Business

Mr. Wade De Loach, 156 Finsbury Road, addressed Council on item A under Unfinished Business and item C under New Business

DISCUSSION: None

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, Mr. Waites made a motion to adjourn and Mr. Walker seconded it. The motion was approved unanimously; therefore, the meeting was adjourned at 8:54 p.m.



Hardy King, Mayor

ATTEST:



Renee Caviness, Clerk/Treasurer