

**TOWN OF IRMO  
COUNCIL WORKSHOP  
April 5, 2022**

The Irmo Town Council held a Workshop on Tuesday, April 5, 2022, in the Municipal Building. In attendance was Mayor Walker, Mayor Pro Tem Danielson, Councilmen Busch, Sickinger and Councilwoman Waldman. Others present were Mr. Courtney Dennis, Town Administrator; Police Chief Bobby Dale; Mrs. Renee Caviness, Municipal Clerk; Mr. Rodney Tucker, Assistant Town Administrator; Mr. Will Edwards, Town Attorney and Mr. Jake Moore, Special Projects Attorney.

The agenda was published and posted on Friday, April 1, 2022, to meet FOIA requirements.

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

**DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

**A. DISCUSSION ON FY22/23 BUDGET PROPOSAL (STAFF):**

Mr. Dennis explained to Council the additional increases in expenses he recently received from PEBA State Health Plan and Tyler Sanitation for Fiscal Year 22/23. Mr. Dennis explained there was some confusion with the Exhibit A in the current sanitation contract. Mr. Edwards stated they will renegotiate Exhibit A with Tyler Sanitation to correct any confusion.

**B. DISCUSSION ON RAWLS CREEK PARK DESIGN AND FEATURES WITH HYBRID ENGINEERING (STAFF):**

Mr. Larry Watts with Hybrid Engineering presented the engineering plans of the all the features, parking and landscaping to be developed at Rawls Creek Park. He mentioned when he was designing, he had meetings with the skatepark, garden, dog park committees and Richland County to get input into some of the details of the park. Mr. Watts explained the next steps to proceed forward with the project. At this point, he will go to Richland County with these plans so they can review and approve the plans to get the required permitting to start building.

**C. DISCUSSION ON MOSELEY AVENUE PROJECT (DANIELSON):**

Mr. Danielson stated that he believes that Council needs to consider looking at purchasing additional property along Moseley Avenue in order to develop the property as Council has previously discussed. Mr. Dennis then explained that Council needs to decide if they want to purchase additional property and stated it should be done before the property is developed. Council ended the conversation stating that a representative should contact the property owners about the possibility of donating or selling their property to the Town of Irmo.

#### D. DISCUSSION ON CRIMINAL/CIVIL CODE VIOLATIONS (SICKINGER):

Mr. Sickinger stated there is enough to discuss tonight and wants to discuss this at another time.

#### E. DISCUSSION ON POTENTIAL LAND DONATION (DANIELSON):

Mr. Danielson stated he believes this piece of land is a great investment for the Town. He explained that the Town of Irmo will need to pay the outstanding property taxes and will need to pay minimum closing costs. Mr. Moore stated he has been working on the project and this land will give the Town an opportunity to upgrade the Friarsgate sign and plant some vegetation to beautify the area. He agrees with Mr. Danielson and believes the Town could use the property for many purposes. If Council agrees to the terms, Mr. Moore believes they can close on the land quickly. Council was in favor of an ordinance being drawn up to accept the donation of the land subject to property taxes.

#### F. DISCUSSION ON PARKING VIOLATION FEE SCHEDULE (STAFF):

Mr. Dennis reminded Council that the Court Department is getting new software and it was found there are no approved fine schedules for parking violations. He explained that Council will need to adopt the fine assessments for Court staff to be allowed to accept the tickets or payments of parking violations. Council discussed amounts to set for specific violations.

#### G. DISCUSSION OF COMET BUS SYSTEM (MAYOR):

Mayor Walker started the discussion off about a new campaign by Comet. It is called "Reimagine the Comet" where they will be reimagining their transportation network to better meet the needs of the community in both Richland and Lexington Counties. Mayor Walker mentioned that this is a great opportunity for Council to consider allowing new bus stops in the Town to better support the needs of Irmo citizens. Mayor Walker believes a new stop could be added near the newest apartment complex. Mr. Sickinger would like a bus stop to be located near the Friarsgate area. Council decided that before they proceed with allowing additional bus stops that they want a survey to be distributed to the community to see what the Town's residents wants or needs may be. Both Dr. Waldman and Mr. Sickinger agreed to draft a survey.

#### H. DISCUSSION OF THE TOWN FLAG (MAYOR):

Mayor Walker stated that he received a question inquiring when the Town was incorporated, and he explained that he did some research and found that the State recognized the Town December 24, 1890. He mentions that he would like to re-launch the Town's birthday and introduce the new town flag at that time. It was stated that the town flag was created by Paul Younginer's daughter when she was in grade school. Mr. Sickinger stated he has assembled a small group of volunteers and they will be meeting in the upcoming week.

#### I. OPEN DISCUSSION:

Mr. Dennis took a moment to mention several upcoming items as follows:

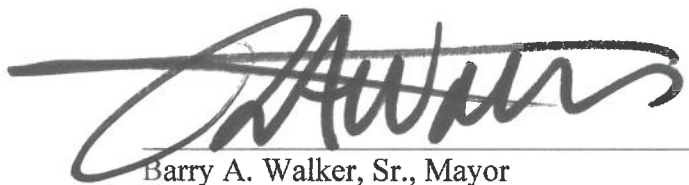
- The forestry mowing is supposed to start on April 6, 2022 on the recently purchased property near the Community Park of Irmo.

- During the June 7th Council Workshop, Mr. Denton, Blue Granite, has agree to give an update on the sewer repairs in the area.

•Bid packages are out for updates to the Irmo Town Park.

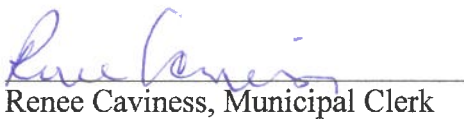
Mr. Dennis ended by stating that he would like Council to consider using the extra funds from the first tranche of the grant program to purchase the playground equipment for the Rawls Creek Park. He gave Council pictures of several playground equipment configurations that Mr. Cline had researched. Mr. Cline did let Council know that they will need to decide at the next Council meeting because the playground equipment is currently on sale, and it will take a while for the equipment to arrive.

**ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further items to discuss, Mr. Sickinger made a motion to adjourn, and Mr. Busch seconded it. The motion was approved unanimously; therefore, the workshop was adjourned at 9:05 p.m.



Barry A. Walker, Sr., Mayor

ATTEST:



Renee Caviness, Municipal Clerk

