

**TOWN OF IRMO  
PUBLIC HEARING &  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
May 17, 2022**

The Irmo Town Council held a public hearing and a regular meeting on Tuesday, May 17, 2022 in the Municipal Building. Council Members in attendance were Mayor Walker, Mayor Pro Tem Danielson, Councilmen Busch, Sickinger, and Councilwoman Waldman. Others present were Mr. Courtney Dennis, Town Administrator; Mr. Rodney Tucker, Assistant Town Administrator; Police Chief Bobby Dale, Mrs. Renee Caviness, Finance Director & Municipal Clerk; Mia Wilkins, Director of Economic Development & Communications; Mr. Whitt Cline, Public Services Director, and Mr. Will Edwards, Town Attorney.

The agenda was published and posted on Friday, May 13, 2022 to meet FOIA requirements.

**PUBLIC HEARING**

Mayor Walker called the public hearing to order at 7:00 p.m. and asked if anyone was present to speak on

ORDINANCE 22-12 TO ANNEX TMS# R03207-01-25 AT 33 BUSCH OAKS COURT:

No one spoke; therefore, Mayor Walker closed the public hearing at 7:00 p.m. and opened the public hearing on

ORDINANCE 22-14 FY22/23 OPERATING AND CAPITAL BUDGETS

No one spoke; therefore, Mayor Walker closed the public hearing at 7:01 p.m.

**REGULAR MEETING**

Mayor Walker called the regular meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. and Mr. Sickinger led the Pledge of Allegiance and gave the Invocation.

**READING OF THE MINUTES:**

Mr. Sickinger made a motion to approve the April 19, 2022 minutes and Dr. Waldman seconded it. The vote for approval was unanimous.

Mr. Sickinger made a motion to approve the May 3, 2022 minutes and Dr. Waldman seconded it. The vote for approval was unanimous.

**REPORT OF STANDING:**

A. Administrative Briefing – Mr. Dennis previously furnished a written briefing to Town Council and let Council that Chief Dale has given each of them a copy of the Police Annual Review for 2021.

B. Mr. Sickinger welcomed the following new businesses to the Town of Irmo:

Precious Jewels Medical & Health Services – 401 Western Lane

AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA: None

CONSIDERATION OF COMMUNICATIONS:

A. Mayor Walker and Council presented the May 2022 Small Business of the Month award to Simply Southern Gift Shop

B. Mayor Walker read the proclamation recognizing National Safe Boating Week

C. The School Showcase for May 2022 is Harbison West Elementary School. Mr. Randy Norman, Principal, and Ms. Naomi Simmons, School Improvement Council Chair gave a brief presentation on some of the events and programs including Hero Highlights and Get to Know Me Monday. They also let Council know that they were recently awarded a grant from the Clemson Extension for their community garden.

D. Community Connections

1. Dr. Kaaren Hampton of Irmo High School invited everyone to the Community Input Meeting at Irmo High School Auditorium on May 18<sup>th</sup> from 5 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. to give input on the new east wing replacement building.
2. Dr. Waldman mentioned that there will be a community yard sale on May 21, 2022 from 6:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. at Harbison Community Center
3. Dr. Waldman stated there will be a Blood Drive on May 24, 2022 from 12 p.m. – 5 p.m. at the Harbison Community Center located at 106 Hillpine Road.

E. Mayor Walker recognized Kimberly Case as the May 2022 Artist of the Month and let everyone know that her artwork is on display in the lobby at Town Hall and is available for purchase.

F. Mr. Sickinger has been contacted about big holes that the City of Columbia has left on North Royal Tower. Mr. Cline said there is a water leak in that area and the City of Columbia is aware of the situation.

PRESENTATIONS BY CITIZENS:

Ray Manco, Winhurst, addressed Council on item “C” under New Business  
Kenneth Hibshim, Waterford, addressed Council on item “C” under New Business  
Lisa Jurgensen, Waterford, addressed Council on item “C” under New Business  
Cindy Reeves, Rose Oaks, addressed Council on item “C” under New Business  
Chad Shiver, Winhurst, addressed Council on item “C” under New Business  
Stephen Odom, Riceville Plantation, addressed Council on item “C” under New Business  
Chris Clark, Riceville Plantation, addressed Council on item “C” under New Business  
Dawn Hawthorne, Muskrat Run, addressed Council on item “C” under New Business  
Chuck Wilcox, Salem Church Road, addressed Council on item “C” under New Business  
Brandon Graybill, Developer, addressed Council on item “C” under New Business  
Chris Kessler, Rose Oaks, addressed Council on item “C” under New Business  
Sara Wong, Winhurst, addressed Council on item “C” under New Business

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Norris Hurst, Winhurst, addressed Council on item “C” under New Business  
Greg Zimmerman, Waterford, addressed Council on item “C” under New Business  
Anne Lyle, Rose Oaks, addressed Council on item “C” under New Business  
Scott Zalinski, Riceville Plantation, addressed Council on item “C” under New Business  
Jim Thrower, Winhurst, addressed Council on item “C” under New Business

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

**A. SECOND AND FINAL READING OF ORDINANCE 22-07 TO AMEND APPENDIX A – ZONING AND LAND DEVELOPMENT ARTICLE II SECTION 2-2. – USE OF TABLE 1 (PLANNING COMMISSION):**

Mr. Danielson made a motion for approval and Mr. Busch seconded it. Mayor Walker called upon Mrs. Caviness for a rollcall vote: Mr. Busch voted “Yes”, Mr. Danielson voted “Yes”, Mr. Sickinger voted “Yes”, Dr. Waldman voted “Yes”, and Mayor Walker “Yes”. The vote for approval was unanimous.

**B. SECOND AND FINAL READING OF ORDINANCE 22-08 TO AMEND APPENDIX A – ZONING AND LAND DEVELOPMENT ARTICLE IV SECTION 3.5. – LANDSCAPING PLAN (PLANNING COMMISSION):**

Mr. Danielson made a motion for approval and Mr. Busch seconded it. Mayor Walker called upon Mrs. Caviness for a rollcall vote: Mr. Busch voted “Yes”, Mr. Danielson voted “Yes”, Mr. Sickinger voted “Yes”, Dr. Waldman voted “Yes”, and Mayor Walker “Yes”. The vote for approval was unanimous.

**C. SECOND AND FINAL READING OF ORDINANCE 22-09 TO AMEND APPENDIX A – ZONING AND LAND DEVELOPMENT ARTICLE II SECTION 2.4 (6). – TEMPORARY USES (PLANNING COMMISSION):**

Mr. Busch made a motion for approval and Mr. Danielson seconded it. Mr. Sickinger made a motion to amend the ordinance as follows:

*Portable free-standing fireworks stands and dispensaries not to exceed 14 days before a major holiday, i.e. New Year's, Fourth of July. Firework stands and dispensaries shall have 48 hours to remove stands and dispensaries after each holiday/event. Such establishments shall:*

- a. Provide a signed, dated permission letter with the property owner's phone or lease. (The letter or lease must specify date(s) of use and location(s), and include contact number and email address. The letter/lease can provide permission for a calendar year or multiple years. A letter from a business must be on the business letterhead with the signee's name and title.);*
- b. Obtain Zoning and Sign Permit (Limited to two (2) advertisement banners or signs no larger than 24 square feet either affixed to stand or freestanding on-premise. Post two “NO SMOKING OR LIGHTING FIREWORKS” signs on stand);*
- c. Obtain and maintain a valid Town of Irmo business license;*
- d. Obtain inspection and approval from the fire marshal;*
- e. Provide a certificate of liability insurance: \$1,000,000 minimum per occurrence (commercial general liability insurance covering bodily injury or accidental death and property damage); and,*
- f. Firework stand operators must obtain and carry at all times a license from the state department of labor, licensing, and regulation (LLR) board of pyrotechnic safety.*
- g. Section 22-105. Use of Fireworks shall be visibly posted on firework stands/dispensaries no smaller than 11” x 17” and 28 font or provided to each customer with purchase.*

~~h. Firework stands and dispensaries shall have up to 48 hours to remove stands and dispensaries after each holiday/event.~~

Mr. Busch seconded it. Mayor Walker called upon Mrs. Caviness for a rollcall vote: Mr. Busch voted “Yes”, Mr. Danielson voted “Yes”, Mr. Sickinger voted “Yes”, Dr. Waldman voted “Yes”, and Mayor Walker “Yes”. The vote for approval of the amendment was unanimous.

Mayor Walker called upon Mrs. Caviness for a rollcall vote: Mr. Busch voted “Yes”, Mr. Danielson voted “Yes”, Mr. Sickinger voted “Yes”, Dr. Waldman voted “Yes”, and Mayor Walker “Yes”. The vote for approval as amended was unanimous.

**D. SECOND AND FINAL READING OF ORDINANCE 22-10 TO AMEND APPENDIX A – ZONING AND LAND DEVELOPMENT BY ADDING ARTICLE XIV – PLANTING MATERIALS LIST (PLANNING COMMISSION):**

Mr. Sickinger made a motion for approval and Mr. Busch seconded it. Mayor Walker called upon Mrs. Caviness for a rollcall vote: Mr. Busch voted “Yes”, Mr. Danielson voted “Yes”, Mr. Sickinger voted “Yes”, Dr. Waldman voted “Yes”, and Mayor Walker “Yes”. The vote for approval was unanimous.

**E. SECOND AND FINAL READING OF ORDINANCE 22-11 TO AMEND THE TOWN OF IRMO’S CODE OF ORDINANCE TO ADD CHAPTER 33 – TAXATION (STAFF):**

Mr. Busch made a motion for approval and Dr. Waldman seconded it. Mayor Walker called upon Mrs. Caviness for a rollcall vote: Mr. Busch voted “Yes”, Mr. Danielson voted “Yes”, Mr. Sickinger voted “Yes”, Dr. Waldman voted “Yes”, and Mayor Walker “Yes”. The vote for approval was unanimous.

**F. SECOND AND FINAL READING OF ORDINANCE 22-12 TO ANNEX RICHLAND COUNTY TAX PARCEL# R03207-01-25 (1 ACRE) AT 33 BUSCH OAKS COURT OFF FARMING CREEK ROAD NOW OR FORMERLY OWNED BY GEORGIA BUSCH (STAFF):**

Mr. Sickinger made a motion for approval and Mr. Danielson seconded it. Mayor Walker mentioned that Mr. Busch has recused himself because of a relationship with the property owner. Mayor Walker called upon Mrs. Caviness for a rollcall vote: Mr. Danielson voted “Yes”, Mr. Sickinger voted “Yes”, Dr. Waldman voted “Yes”, and Mayor Walker “Yes”. The vote for approval was unanimous.

**G. SECOND AND FINAL READING OF ORDINANCE 22-13 TO AMEND THE TOWN OF IRMO’S CODE OF ORDINANCE CHAPTER 22-OFFENSES AND MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS, ARTICLE IV, SECTION 22-105 USE OF FIREWORKS (MAYOR):**

Mayor Walker made a motion for approval and Mr. Sickinger seconded it. Mayor Walker explained that this ordinance will allow fireworks for special events which will need to be approved by Council. Mr. Sickinger stated that anyone who wants to shoot fireworks for special events will need to fill out a special use permit at Town Hall for approval. Mr. Danielson voiced concerns that this could allow for shooting of fireworks regularly. Mayor Walker called upon Mrs. Caviness for a rollcall vote: Mr. Busch voted “No”, Mr. Danielson voted “No”, Mr. Sickinger voted “Yes”, Dr. Waldman voted “Yes”, and Mayor Walker “Yes”. The vote for approval was 3 to 2 with Mr. Busch and Mr. Danielson voted in opposition.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**A. FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE 22-14 TO ADOPT THE OPERATING AND CAPITAL BUDGETS FOR FY22/23 (STAFF).**

Mayor Walker made a motion for approval and Mr. Sickinger seconded it. The FY22/23 proposed budget is \$8,306,289. Mayor Walker called upon Mrs. Caviness for a rollcall vote: Mr. Busch voted "Yes", Mr. Danielson voted "Yes", Mr. Sickinger voted "Yes", Dr. Waldman voted "Yes", and Mayor Walker "Yes". The vote for approval was unanimous.

**B. FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE 22-15 TO ADD A ZONING DESIGNATION OF FRINGE AGRICULTURAL (FA) TO TMS# R03207-01-25 OFF BUSCH OAKS COURT OWNED BY GEORGIA BUSCH (PLANNING COMMISSION):**

Mr. Sickinger made a motion for approval and Dr. Waldman seconded it. This was referred from the Planning Commission after receiving a petition for annexation. Mr. Busch has recused himself because of a relationship with the property owner. Mayor Walker called upon Mrs. Caviness for a rollcall vote: Mr. Danielson voted "Yes", Mr. Sickinger voted "Yes", Dr. Waldman voted "Yes", and Mayor Walker "Yes". The vote for approval was unanimous.

**C. FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE 22-16 TO CHANGE A ZONING DESIGNATION FROM FRINGE AGRICULTURE (FA) TO GENERAL COMMERCIAL (CG) ON NINE (9) ACRES OF +/- 30 ACRES ON TMS# R03203-03-01 LOCATED AT THE CORNER OF FARMING CREEK AND DREHER SHOALS ROAD (PLANNING COMMISSION):**

Mr. Sickinger made a motion for approval and Mayor Walker seconded it. The Graybill Company requested the rezoning as part of a development project for storage units and up to three smaller commercial developments on the nine (9) acres. Mr. Sickinger stated he has been contacted by many citizens and they are all against it. He explained his concerns because it is huge jump to rezone from Fringe Agriculture to General Commercial. Mr. Danielson raised concerns due to current traffic issues but understands that Irmo is growing and is not in favor of the dramatic rezoning change. He explained that Council will work on ways to soften the impact of all development. Both Mr. Busch and Dr. Waldman echoed some of the same concerns as mentioned by other Council members.

Mayor Walker explained that Irmo is growing, and things will change going forward. He acknowledged that the Town of Irmo does not have a millage rate at this time and relies on business license fees. Mayor Walker stated that he does encourage new businesses to relocate to the Town of Irmo for smart growth. Mr. Sickinger reiterated that most of the individuals who spoke tonight do not live in the town limits of Irmo and encouraged the citizens to talk to your County and State elected officials to address their concerns on infrastructure in the area.

Mayor Walker called upon Mrs. Caviness for a rollcall vote: Mr. Busch voted "No", Mr. Danielson voted "No", Mr. Sickinger voted "No", Dr. Waldman voted "No", and Mayor Walker "Yes". The vote failed 1 to 4 with Mr. Busch, Mr. Danielson, Mr. Sickinger, and Dr. Waldman voted in opposition.

**D. APPROVAL OF BIDS RECEIVED FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO THE IRMO TOWN PARK AND AWARD CONTRACT TO GRACE CONSTRUCTION GROUP IN THE AMOUNT OF \$124,768 (STAFF):**

Mayor Walker made a motion for approval and Mr. Sickinger seconded it. This contract will update the Town Park with new roofing, decking, concrete repair, tree removal and pruning. Mayor Walker called upon Mrs. Caviness for a rollcall vote: Mr. Busch voted “Yes”, Mr. Danielson voted “Yes”, Mr. Sickinger voted “Yes”, Dr. Waldman voted “Yes”, and Mayor Walker “Yes”. The vote for approval was unanimous.

**E. APPROVAL TO CONTRACT MUNNERLYN PYROTECHNICS TO PROVIDE A FIREWORK DISPLAY FOR THE 4TH OF JULY EVENT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$5,500 (STAFF):**

Mayor Walker made a motion for approval and Mr. Busch seconded it. This is for the firework display during the movie night event on July 3rd in the Community Park of Irmo. He also mentioned that Prisma Health is sponsoring this event. After a short discussion, Mayor Walker called upon Mrs. Caviness for a rollcall vote: Mr. Busch voted “Yes”, Mr. Danielson voted “Yes”, Mr. Sickinger voted “Yes”, Dr. Waldman voted “Yes”, and Mayor Walker “Yes”. The vote for approval was unanimous.

**F. APPROVAL OF AMENDED EXHIBIT A OF THE SOLID WASTE COLLECTION, TRANSPORTATION, AND DISPOSAL AGREEMENT (STAFF):**

Mayor Walker made a motion for approval and Mr. Sickinger seconded it. This is a cost-of-living price adjustment from \$18.92 per month to \$21.85 per month. After a brief conversation, Mayor Walker called upon Mrs. Caviness for a rollcall vote: Mr. Busch voted “Yes”, Mr. Danielson voted “Yes”, Mr. Sickinger voted “Yes”, Dr. Waldman voted “Yes”, and Mayor Walker “Yes”. The vote for approval was unanimous.

**G. APPROVAL TO UPDATE THE 2022 COUNCIL MEETING CALENDAR BY MOVING COUNCIL WORKSHOP TIMES TO START AT 6PM (SICKINGER):**

Mr. Sickinger made a motion for approval and Mr. Danielson seconded it. Mayor Walker called upon Mrs. Caviness for a rollcall vote: Mr. Busch voted “Yes”, Mr. Danielson voted “Yes”, Mr. Sickinger voted “Yes”, Dr. Waldman voted “Yes”, and Mayor Walker “Yes”. The vote for approval was unanimous.

PRESENTATION BY CITIZENS: None

**DISCUSSION:**

**A. Discussion on result from the Bus Survey (Mayor):**

Mayor Walker went over the survey that was sent out to residents with several questions about the possibility of expanding Comet Bus services. After the short discussion, Council decided not to expand the bus service in the Town of Irmo.

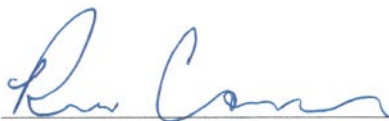
EXECUTIVE SESSION: None

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, Mr. Sickinger made a motion to adjourn, and Mr. Busch seconded it. The motion was approved unanimously; therefore, the meeting was adjourned at 9:14 p.m.

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'B. Walker', written over a horizontal line.

Barry A. Walker, Sr., Mayor

ATTEST:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Renee Caviness', written over a horizontal line.

Renee Caviness, Municipal Clerk