

**TOWN OF IRMO
PUBLIC HEARING AND
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**

July 17, 2018

The Irmo Town Council held several public hearings and a regular meeting on Tuesday, July 17, 2018 in the Municipal Building. Council members present were Mayor King, Councilmen Pouliot, Walker and Councilwoman Condom. Mr. Waites was absent. Others present were Mr. Robert Brown, Town Administrator; Chief Don Perry; Mr. Eric Hale, Town Attorney; and Mrs. Renee Caviness, Clerk/Treasurer. Mr. Al Dozier, *The New Irmo News*, was also present.

PUBLIC HEARING

Mayor King called the public hearings to order at 7:00 p.m.

1. Ordinance 18-16 (Rezoning): No one spoke, and Mayor King closed the public hearing at 7:01
2. Ordinance 18-18 (Sale of Town Property): Mr. Guy Caskey of Irmo Lock & Key stated he grew up in Irmo and is very conscientious of the reputation of Irmo Lock & Key as well as the Town of Irmo. No one else spoke so Mayor King closed the public hearing at 7:03
3. Ordinance 18-19 (Franchise Fee): Mr. David Stewart of 101 Glossop Circle spoke against increasing the franchise fee. No one else spoke so Mayor King closed the public hearing at 7:08
4. Ordinance 18-20 (Stormwater Fee): No one spoke so Mayor King closed the public hearing at 7:09
5. Ordinance 18-21 (Uniform Service Fee): No one spoke so Mayor King closed the public hearing at 7:09.

Mayor King called the regular meeting to order at 7:10. Mr. Walker led the Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation.

READING OF THE MINUTES:

Mr. Pouliot made a motion to approve the June 19, 2018 minutes and Mrs. Condom seconded the motion. Mrs. Condom made a motion to change "Mr. Condom" to "Mrs. Condom" in the first paragraph on Page 3. The vote to approve the minutes as amended was unanimous.

REPORT OF STANDING:

A. Administrative Briefing – Mr. Brown let Council know the audit of the utility bills has produced savings in the amount of \$9,133.08 per year.

B. Code Enforcement Update – Chief Perry presented a summary on the most recent Police and Code Enforcement activities within the town.

AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA: None

CONSIDERATION OF COMMUNICATIONS: None

A. Mrs. Condom informed Council that Georgia just passed a law that drivers will get a fine if a cell phone is in their hands while driving.

PRESENTATION BY CITIZENS (AGENDA ITEMS ONLY):

Mr. George Glassmeyer, 100 Denbeck Road, addressed Council on item D under Unfinished Business

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. THIRD AND FINAL READING OF ORDINANCE 18-16 TO REZONE RICHLAND COUNTY TMS R03915-01-04 (LOCATED AT 37 BLUEBIRD TRAIL) FROM GENERAL RESIDENTIAL (RG) TO GENERAL COMMERCIAL (CG) (STAFF):

Mr. Pouliot made a motion to approve and Mrs. Condom seconded it. The vote to approve was unanimous.

B. THIRD AND FINAL READING OF ORDINANCE 18-17 TO AMEND THE IRMO TOWN CODE, CHAPTER 28, STREETS AND SIDEWALKS; ARTICLE III, ADDRESSING AND NUMBERING PROPERTY; DIVISION 2 NUMBERING; SECTION 28-123 – NUMBER LOCATION (MAYOR):

Mr. Pouliot made a motion to approve and Mr. Walker seconded it. The vote to approve was 3 to 1 with Mr. Walker voting in opposition.

C. SECOND READING OF ORDINANCE 18-18 FOR THE SALE AND TRANSFER OF REAL PROPERTY OWNED BY THE TOWN, LOCATED AT 7418 WOODROW STREET, IRMO, SC IN THE AMOUNT OF \$46,000.00 TO THE OWNERS OF THE IRMO LOCK COMPANY (STAFF):

Mr. Pouliot made a motion to approve and Mrs. Condom seconded it. Mr. Walker presented two pictures of the building and believes the town should not sell the property. Mrs. Condom believes that the plaque on the building was not because it is historical. Mayor King thinks it would be hard to rent the building due to the size and stated the building is no longer useful to the town. Mayor King believes the town needs to get out of the real estate business. He mentioned that Irmo Lock & Key came to the town requesting to buy the property for the appraised value which is a great offer. The vote to approve was 3 to 1 with Mr. Walker voting in opposition.

D. SECOND READING OF ORDINANCE 18-19 TO INCREASE THE FRANCHISE PAYMENTS FROM 3% TO 4% FROM ALL ENTITIES THAT COLLECT FRANCHISE FEES ON BEHALF OF THE TOWN (CONDOM):

Mrs. Condom made a motion to approve and Mr. Pouliot seconded it. Mayor King stated that there are two proposed changes to the ordinance. The Attorney for SCE&G has requested some changes that was given to Council tonight. The other proposed changes are Mr. Hale's suggestions. It was decided that Council would give Mr. Hale time to review SCE&G's suggestions and will come up with the proper language. Mrs. Condom explained that during the budget workshop, it was found that many expenses have increased to include indigent attorney fees, retirement and insurance. She stated that the town could not hire a Police Lieutenant and Council had to remove \$71,627 from the general fund to balance the Fiscal Year 2018-2019 Budget. She stated that the town does not have a property tax and needs to raise the revenue to continue to run the town efficiently. Mrs. Condom also stated that most of the cities in the state have a 5% franchise fee.

Mr. Pouliot stated he is angry because the previous Council spent more than what they said they were going to spend and significantly reduced the Town's savings. They are the ones who put the current Council in this situation. Mr. Walker stated that there has been a surplus every year he has been on Town Council and explained the Town is not going broke. Mayor King explained that while the town is not broke, the town's reserves have been greatly reduced.

Mayor King explained the different fees that the State allows towns and cities to charge. He stated the business license fees was raised a few years ago and the citizens use the town's resources and do not pay for them. Mr. Pouliot stated that he agreed that the town should only raise the franchise fee to cover the deficit.

Mayor King made a motion to amend the ordinance to change the Franchise Fee from 4% to 3.5% and Mr. Pouliot seconded it. The vote failed 2 to 2 with Mr. Walker and Mrs. Condom voting in opposition.

The vote for approval to increase the franchise fee by 1% was 3 to 1 with Mr. Walker voting in opposition.

E. SECOND READING OF ORDINANCE 18-20 TO ESTABLISH A STORMWATER MANAGEMENT UTILITY FEE OF \$8.00 ANNUALLY PER SINGLE-FAMILY RESIDENCE FOR COMPLIANCE WITH FEDERAL AND STATE SMALL MUNICIPAL SEPARATE STORM SEWER SYSTEMS (MAYOR):

Mr. Pouliot made a motion to approve and Mayor King seconded it. Mr. Cline explained that the requirements of the EPA has increased the town's costs associated with the requirements. The vote to approve was unanimous.

C. SECOND READING OF ORDINANCE 18-21 TO ESTABLISH A UNIFORM SERVICE FEE OF \$3.50 ANNUALLY PER SINGLE-FAMILY RESIDENCE TO MANAGE THE TOWN'S SOLID WASTE PROGRAM IN ACCORDANCE WITH CHAPTER 26 OF THE TOWN CODE (MAYOR):

Mr. Walker made a motion to approve and Mr. Pouliot seconded it. Mr. Walker asked what the need is to charge this fee. Mayor King explained that the fee will offset the cost of the Town's administrative requirements. He explained that this fee would go directly in the General Account and not the Sanitation fund. The vote to approve was 3 to 1 with Mr. Walker voting in opposition.

NEW BUSINESS

A. APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION 18-05 RATIFYING THE FISCAL YEAR 17/18 BUDGET AMENDMENTS (STAFF):

Mayor King made a motion to approve and Mr. Pouliot seconded. Mayor King briefly explained the amendments and the vote for approval was unanimous.

B. APPROVAL TO PURCHASE A 60" HUSTLER LAWNMOWER FROM HILTON'S POWER EQUIPMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$12,873.15 (STAFF):

Mrs. Condom made a motion to approve and Mr. Pouliot seconded. Mr. Cline explained that the new lawnmower will replace a ten-year-old lawnmower. He stated that the lawnmower is worn out and has approximately 3,360 hours on it. The vote for approval was unanimous.

C. APPROVAL OF PDD IN RICHLAND COUNTY R03300-08 (LOTS) 16 AND 17 AND R03300-09-01 LOCATED ALONG SALEM CHURCH ROAD AND ADJACENT TO 149 OLD DUTCH FORK ROAD AND 109 WILLARD BOUKNIGHT ROAD (STAFF):

Mayor King stated that the Planning Commission recommended approval of the PDD. Mr. Walker made a motion to approve and Mrs. Condom seconded it. Mr. Walker clarified that the bond requirements are in place to protect the town. Mr. Brown confirmed that the bond policy will be followed. The vote for approval was unanimous.

D. APPOINTMENT OF TOWN JUDGE (EFFECTIVE DATE TBD) (STAFF):

Mayor King stated three people have applied to be the Town Judge and asked if anyone wanted to make a nomination. Mrs. Condom made a motion to nominate Ms. Rebecca Adams and Mr. Pouliot seconded it. Mr. Walker stated that all three should be nominated. He made a motion to nominate Mr. Eric Hale and Mrs. Condom seconded it. Then, Mr. Walker made a motion to nominate Mr. Lawrence Wedekind and Mr. Pouliot seconded it.

Mayor King made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss the three candidates. Mrs. Condom seconded the motion and it passed unanimously; therefore, the Mayor, Council, Mr. Brown went into executive session at 8:40 p.m. Following "Executive Session", Mayor King called the meeting back to order at 8:47 p.m.

The vote to appoint Ms. Rebecca Adams as the Town Judge was unanimous.

E. APPOINTMENT TO THE ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT (ZBA) (STAFF):

Mayor King mentioned that Mr. Lem Holsclaw's term would expire in August, and Mr. Thomas Mclemore and Mr. Mike Swords term expires at the end of July. He added that all three would like to be reappointed. Mr. Pouliot made a motion to re-appoint Mr. Lem Holsclaw, Mr. Thomas Mclemore, and Mr. Mike Swords and Mrs. Condom seconded it.

Mr. Walker voiced his concerns because the opening was not advertised. Mayor King explained that it is not usually advertised when someone wants to be reappointed. He said that it is costly to advertise in the paper and we do not get any applicants. He mentioned one person did apply but she did not qualify because she did not live in the town limits of Irmo. Mayor King mentioned that on the website is the Volunteer Talent Book Application which is accessible for anyone to apply at any time and there is no cost. Mr. Walker made a motion to defer the reappointments because it was not advertised. It was not seconded; therefore, it failed.

The vote for approval to reappoint Mr. Holsclaw, Mr. McLemore and Mr. Swords was 3 to 1 with Mr. Walker voting in opposition.

PRESENTATION BY CITIZENS:

A. Mr. George Glassmeyer, 100 Denbeck Road, addressed Council on item B under Unfinished Business, job positions, and expenses

B. Mr. David Stewart, 101 Glossop Circle, addressed Council on items D, E and F under Unfinished Business

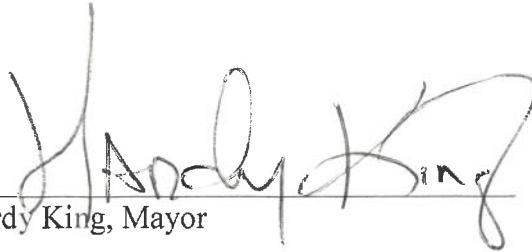
DISCUSSION:

A. Discussion on Council Members Decorum during meetings (Mayor):

Mayor King gave all of Council a copy of an article titled "Council Meeting Decorum" that was published by MASC in the October 2004 Uptown. He highlighted several items to include not interrupting other members who are speaking, not to engage in an argument and keep politics out of the discussion. He explained that Council is here to vote and make decisions. Each member needs to be respectful and courteous to other Councilmembers. Mayor King ended the discussion by requesting that each Councilmember take time to read this article.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, Mr. Pouliot made a motion to adjourn and Mrs. Condom seconded it. The motion was approved unanimously; therefore, the meeting was adjourned at 9:10 p.m.



Hardy King, Mayor

ATTEST:



Renee Caviness, Clerk/Treasurer