

**TOWN OF IRMO
PUBLIC HEARING AND
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
July 20, 2021**

The Irmo Town Council held a public hearing and a regular meeting on Tuesday, July 20, 2021 beginning at 7:00 p.m. Council Members in attendance were Mayor Walker, Councilwoman Condom, Councilmen Busch, Danielson and Sickinger. Others present were Mr. Robert Brown, Town Administrator; Chief Courtney Dennis; Renee Caviness, Interim Municipal Clerk and Mr. Jake Moore, Town Attorney.

The agenda was published and posted on Friday, July 17, 2021 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 21-06 to sell road right-of-way. No one else spoke, therefore the public hearing was closed at 7:01 p.m.

REGULAR MEETING

Mayor Walker called the regular meeting to order at 7:01 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 June 15, 2021 minutes and Mr. Busch seconded it. The vote for approval as submitted was unanimous.

Mr. Danielson made a motion to approve the June 21, 2021 minutes and Mr. Sickinger seconded. The vote for approval as submitted was unanimous.

Mrs. Condom made a motion to approve the June 29, 2021 minutes and Mr. Busch seconded. The vote for approval as submitted was unanimous.

REPORT OF STANDING:

A. Administrative Briefing – Mr. Brown furnished a written briefing to Town Council in their packets. Mr. Brown stated item J should state September 24-25 instead of September 25-26.

B. Mr. Sickinger welcomed the following new businesses to the Town of Irmo:
Arrangements for all Seasons, Beyond Candles and Gifts, Black Forest Bratwurst, Hair by Megan, Heather Johnson, JA Signings, Kelly's Trucking, Nails by Jotanna, Palmetto Asphalt Sealing, Parking Lot Medic, Rhema Healing and Wellness, Speak it into Existence, The Amelia Robinson Team

AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA: Mrs. Condom made a motion to add an Executive session to discuss a contractual matter and Mr. Busch seconded it. Mayor Walker called upon Mrs. Caviness for a rollcall vote: Mr. Busch voted "Aye", Mrs. Condom voted "Aye", Mr. Danielson voted "Aye", Mr. Sickinger voted "Aye" and Mayor Walker voted "Aye".

CONSIDERATION OF COMMUNICATIONS:

- A. Town Council recognized Sergeant Hugue, Corporal Larabee, and Senior Patrolman Neivel for their professionalism and community service during a recent incident.
- B. Town Council announced Mr. Landon Williams and Mr. Grant Stroman as the winners of the 2019 Okra Strut Scholarship where each will receive \$2,000.
- C. Mayor Walker stated that he would like to do a groundbreaking on August 12, 2021 at 11:00 am for the Rawl's Creek Park.

PRESENTATION BY CITIZENS:

Mr. Ed Riley, addressed Council on Item K

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

A. SECOND AND FINAL READING OF ORDINANCE 21-06 FOR THE SALE OF TOWN RIGHT-OF-WAY ALONG LEXINGTON AVENUE AND ADJACENT TO ST ANDREWS ROAD TO MS. MISTI RAMAN FOR \$1,500 (MAYOR):

Mr. Sickinger made a motion to approve and Mr. Danielson seconded it. Mayor Walker called upon Mrs. Caviness for a rollcall vote: Mr. Busch voted "Aye", Mrs. Condom voted "Aye", Mr. Danielson voted "Aye", Mr. Sickinger voted "Aye" and Mayor Walker voted "Aye".

NEW BUSINESS:

A. FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE 21-07 AMENDING THE IRMO TOWN CODE, CHAPTER 10, BUSINESSES; ARTICLE II, LICENSES: PURSUANT TO THE SOUTH CAROLINA BUSINESS LICENSE TAX STANDARDIZATION ACT, CHAPTER 7, TITLE 5 OF THE 1976 STATE CODE:

Mr. Sickinger made a motion to approve and Mrs. Condom seconded it. Mayor Walker explained that this ordinance will standardize the Irmo Business License Town Code to meet the requirements of the SC Business License Standardization: Mayor Walker called upon Mrs. Caviness for a rollcall vote: Mr. Busch voted "Aye", Mrs. Condom voted "Aye", Mr. Danielson voted "Aye", Mr. Sickinger voted "Aye" and Mayor Walker voted "Aye".

B. FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE 21-08 AMENDING THE IRMO TOWN CODE, APPENDIX A, ZONING AND LAND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS; ARTICLE 3, ZONING REGULATIONS FOR USE OF LOTS; SECTION 3-8 – ACCESSORY BUILDINGS AND USES (BUSCH):

Mr. Busch made a motion to approve and Mr. Danielson seconded it. Mr. Busch explained that this ordinance will update the building code to require fencing around pools. Mr. Danielson and Mr. Busch both stated they have received complaints about the need for fencing around pools as well as maintaining pools. Mr. Sickinger added not only will this require fencing, but owners will be required to have a latched gate. Mrs. Condom expressed this is a hazard and we need to pass this ordinance for safety reasons. Mayor Walker called upon Mrs. Caviness for a rollcall vote: Mr. Busch voted “Aye”, Mrs. Condom voted “Aye”, Mr. Danielson voted “Aye”, Mr. Sickinger voted “Aye” and Mayor Walker voted “Aye”.

C. APPROVAL TO AWARD CONTRACT TO SUNCOAST CONSTRUCTION NOT TO EXCEED \$14,400 TO REPAIR (31) 5X8X4 DAMAGED SIDEWALKS IN THE LEXINGTON COUNTY PORTION OF TOWN WITH “C” FUNDS APPROVED BY THE COUNTY (STAFF):

Mr. Sickinger made a motion to approve and Mr. Danielson seconded it. Mayor Walker stated that this contractor will repair damaged sidewalks in the Lexington County portion of Town. After a brief discussion, Mayor Walker called upon Mrs. Caviness for a rollcall vote: Mr. Busch voted “Aye”, Mrs. Condom voted “Aye”, Mr. Danielson voted “Aye”, Mr. Sickinger voted “Aye” and Mayor Walker voted “Aye”.

D. APPROVAL TO CONTRACT WITH GATTIS PRO AUDIO, INC. IN THE AMOUNT OF \$10,125.96 TO REPAIR AND UPGRADE ENTIRE SOUND SYSTEM IN THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING (STAFF):

Mr. Sickinger made a motion to approve and Mr. Danielson seconded it. Mr. Sickinger clarified his understanding that the item did not go through the bidding process. Mr. Brown confirmed and stated Gattis Pro Audio was the vendor that originally installed the sound system and has been maintaining it. Mr. Sickinger explained that he agrees that the sound system needs to be repaired but believes this item should go through the bidding process. After some additional comments, Mayor Walker called upon Mrs. Caviness for a rollcall vote: Mr. Busch voted “Nay”, Mrs. Condom voted “Nay”, Mr. Danielson voted “Nay”, Mr. Sickinger voted “Nay” and Mayor Walker voted “Nay”. The motion to approve the contract failed.

E. APPROVAL TO TRANSFER THE REMAINING \$125,000 OBLIGATED TO THE IRMO FUTURE GROWTH CORPORATION (DANIELSON):

Mayor Walker made a motion to approve and Mr. Danielson seconded it. Mr. Danielson stated that the IFGC Committee has received multiple grant applications from local businesses, and these funds will be used to these struggling businesses. Mayor Walker stated that he wants the Non Profit Grants to be separated from the Irmo Future Growth Corporation. Mr. Danielson stated the IFGC has only received to grant applications from non-profits. Mayor Walker called upon Mrs. Caviness for a rollcall vote: Mr. Busch voted “Aye”, Mrs. Condom voted “Aye”, Mr. Danielson voted “Aye”, Mr. Sickinger voted “Aye” and Mayor Walker voted “Aye”.

F. APPROVAL TO AWARD CONTRACT TO CANDACE GLOVER AS ENTERTAINMENT AT THE OKRA STRUT FESTIVAL, NOT TO EXCEED \$4,400 (OKRA STRUT COMMISSION):

Mrs. Condom made a motion to approve and Mr. Sickinger seconded it. Mrs. Condom stated Ms. Glover is a SC native and will be the opening act on Friday night. Mayor Walker called upon Mrs. Caviness for a rollcall vote: Mr. Busch voted "Aye", Mrs. Condom voted "Aye", Mr. Danielson voted "Aye", Mr. Sickinger voted "Aye" and Mayor Walker voted "Aye".

G. APPROVAL TO AWARD CONTRACT TO TC PRO AUDIO NOT TO EXCEED \$6,800 FOR THE STAGE AND SOUND SET-UP FOR THE OKRA STRUT FESTIVAL (OKRA STRUT COMMISSION):

Mayor Walker made a motion to approve and Mr. Sickinger seconded it. Mayor Walker voiced his concerns on the lighting of the stage which has been darker in previous Okra Struts. Mr. Lindower, Okra Strut Commissioner, explained that TC Pro Audio will provide lighting that should help provide more lighting to light the front of the stage. Mayor Walker called upon Mrs. Caviness for a rollcall vote: Mr. Busch voted "Aye"; Mrs. Condom voted "Aye", Mr. Danielson voted "Aye", Mr. Sickinger voted "Aye" and Mayor Walker voted "Nay".

H. APPROVAL TO AUTHORIZE MAYOR TO BID UP TO \$500 ON A BLOWFISH / COUNTY THEMED BASEBALL JERSEY TO SUPPORT THE DICKERSON CHILDREN'S ADVOCACY CENTER (MAYOR):

Mr. Sickinger made a motion to approve and Mr. Busch seconded it. Mayor Walker stated this themed baseball jersey fundraiser is for a great cause. Mayor Walker called upon Mrs. Caviness for a rollcall vote: Mr. Busch voted "Aye", Mrs. Condom voted "Aye", Mr. Danielson voted "Aye", Mr. Sickinger voted "Aye" and Mayor Walker voted "Aye".

I. APPROVAL TO PURCHASE PROPERTY AT 1071 LAKE MURRAY BOULEVARD, LEXINGTON COUNTY TMS# 001925-03-009 FROM STONERIDGE, LLC. FOR THE SUM OF \$5.00 (STAFF):

Mr. Sickinger made a motion to approve and Mrs. Condom seconded it. Mayor Walker explained that this property is behind Jiffy Lube. He stated he is in favor of purchasing the property and then selling it. Mr. Danielson explained that a dual closing would be the best way to do this deal. Mr. Danielson made a motion to amend to accept the property and immediately sell it to the new buyer with the understanding that the new owner would immediately clean the property of debris and Mr. Busch seconded it. Mayor Walker called upon Mrs. Caviness for a rollcall vote on the amendment: Mr. Busch voted "Aye", Mrs. Condom voted "Aye", Mr. Danielson voted "Aye", Mr. Sickinger voted "Aye" and Mayor Walker voted "Aye". The amendment passed.

Then, Mayor Walker called upon Mrs. Caviness for a rollcall vote to approve to purchase the property: Mr. Busch voted "Aye", Mrs. Condom voted "Aye", Mr. Danielson voted "Aye", Mr. Sickinger voted "Aye" and Mayor Walker voted "Aye".

J. APPROVAL TO CLOSE PORTIONS OF ST ANDREWS ROAD, CHURCH STREET AND EASTVIEW DRIVE DURING THE OKRA STRUT FESTIVAL ON SEPTEMBER 25-26, 2021 (STAFF):

Mrs. Condom made a motion to approve and Mr. Busch seconded it. Mrs. Condom made a motion to amend the date to September 24-25, 2021 and Mr. Sickinger seconded it. Mayor Walker called upon Mrs. Caviness for a rollcall vote to amend: Mr. Busch voted "Aye", Mrs. Condom voted "Aye", Mr. Danielson voted "Aye", Mr. Sickinger voted "Aye" and Mayor Walker voted "Aye".

Then, Mayor Walker called upon Mrs. Caviness for a rollcall vote to approve to close the roads: Mr. Busch voted "Aye", Mrs. Condom voted "Aye", Mr. Danielson voted "Aye", Mr. Sickinger voted "Aye" and Mayor Walker voted "Aye".

K. HEARING TO REVOKE BUSINESS LICENSE #7284 'SPRING FOOT AND BODY MASSAGE' LOCATED AT 7534 WOODROW STREET, IRMO, SC 29063 DUE TO UNLAWFUL ACTIVITY (STAFF):

Mr. Sickinger and Mr. Danielson seconded it. Mr. Moore & Chief Dennis have reached an accord with the owner to permanently surrender the Irmo Business License and will no longer operate in Town. The owner will remove the furnishings at the end of rental contract which ends this month. The ticket will be nolle prossed and everyone accepts agreement. Council confirmed that all parties agree. Mr. Sickinger made a motion to table it and Mr. Busch seconded it. Mayor Walker called upon Mrs. Caviness for a rollcall vote: Mr. Busch voted "Aye", Mrs. Condom voted "Aye", Mr. Danielson voted "Aye", Mr. Sickinger voted "Aye" and Mayor Walker voted "Aye".

PRESENTATION BY CITIZENS:

Ms. Sheila Evans – 700 Chadford Road, thank the Council for use of park on behalf of the Baked Goods Committee

Mr. Wade Deloach – Irmo Outreach, thanked Council for their support

Ms. Shelby Hinricksen - 306 Shillingford, – Pace Academy – addressed Council on the water problems that was not disclosed at closing at her recently purchased home

DISCUSSION:


A. Discussion annexation/partnership of property located at 6354 St. Andrews Road as shown on Lexington County TMS #02799-01-01:

Mr. Danielson explained this property is at the tire location on St. Andrews Road across from Bergen Roofing. He stated he received an email from Mr. Mungo that he needed clarity as to why this proposal has not been accepted even with the contributions from Mr. Bergen and himself. Mr. Danielson explained that with a group effort where the town could turn it to a nicely landscaped park or parking lot to work

with a trail in the area. Mayor Walker stated the property is not in the town limits of Irmo and thinks Mr. Mungo and Mr. Bergen could complete the project on their own. Mrs. Condom explained that she remembers it being approved to purchase to move on some future plans that have been discussed. After some additional conversation, Mr. Danielson understood that Mr. Bergen would purchase the property and allow the town to annex it. Then, the town could help with the bike trail. Mr. Busch stated that he believes this item should be on the next workshop agenda and all of Council agreed.


EXECUTIVE SESSION: Mrs. Condom made a motion to go into executive session to discuss a contractual matter and Mr. Busch seconded the motion; and it passes unanimously. Therefore, the Mayor, Council, & the Town Attorney, Mr. Jake Moore went into executive session at 8:25 p.m. Mayor Walker called the meeting back to order at 8:45 p.m. and stated that no votes were taken while in executive session.

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 8:58 p.m.



Barry A. Walker, Sr., Mayor

ATTEST:



Renee Caviness, Interim Municipal Clerk