

# TOWN OF IRMO REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

**September 17, 2019**

The Irmo Town Council held a regular meeting on Tuesday, September 17, 2019 in the Municipal Building. Council members present were Mayor King, Councilmen Pouliot, Walker, Waites, and Councilwoman Condom. Others present were Mr. Robert Brown, Town Administrator; Chief Don Perry; Mrs. Renee Caviness, Clerk/Treasurer and Mr. Chip Burns, Town Attorney.

Mayor King called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Mr. Walker led the Pledge of Allegiance and gave the Invocation.

## READING OF THE MINUTES:

Mrs. Condom made a motion to approve the August 20, 2019 minutes and Mr. Waites seconded the motion. Mr. Pouliot requested that “directions” be changed to “direction” on page 4 in the second paragraph of item “D”. The vote to approve the minutes as amended was unanimous.

## REPORT OF STANDING:

A. Administrative Briefing – Mr. Brown furnished a written briefing to Town Council in their packets and had nothing else to add. Mr. Walker noted that the Accommodation Tax Committee made a unanimous decision on item “D” under New Business and wanted to know how many members attended the meeting. Mr. Brown stated they had a quorum of 4 members.

AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA: None

## CONSIDERATION OF COMMUNICATIONS:

A. Mr. Bill Ellen of Experience Columbia spoke about the types of marketing and advertising services they provided last year to include an ad placed in Southern Living magazine, digital billboards, Visitor’s Guide and on social media.

B. Mr. Larry Slaughter with the Irmo Okra Strut talked about item “F”. The Commission has been keeping their budget tight so they could build up the reserves and would like to use the reserve funds to do additions to the park, give funds to local civic organizations and get better bands.

C. Mr. Walker mentioned the smell, fishy taste and dirty water in town. He stated City of Columbia gets their water from Lake Murray and the problem is due to the lack of rain, and the algae growth.

D. Mr. Walker asked if the low income tax credit for Coopers Trace and Parkside had been approved. Mr. Brown stated that a decision has not been made but expected to hear something in the near future.

E. Mr. Walker stated there is a retention pond in the Ridgemont Subdivision that is overgrown and has created a breather ground for mosquitoes. Mr. Cline explained that Lexington County maintains the ponds but on a yearly basis.

PRESENTATION BY CITIZENS (AGENDA ITEMS ONLY):

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

Mr. Wade De Loach, 156 Finsbury Road, addressed Council on item "F" under New Business

Mrs. Lori Pouliot, 31 Castle Vale Court, addressed Council on items "D, E and F" under Unfinished Business

Mr. Mike Ward, 118 Ashbourne Road, addressed Council on "D, E and F" under Unfinished Business, and item "A" under New Business

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**A. SECOND READING OF ORDINANCE 19-14 TO ANNEX RICHLAND COUNTY TMS# 04004-01-09 (LOCATED AT 430 MISSION COURT) AS GENERAL COMMERCIAL (CG) (STAFF):**

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

**B. SECOND READING OF ORDINANCE 19-16 TO AMEND THE IRMO TOWN CODE, CHAPTER 10, BUSINESSES; SECTION 10-33 – PURPOSE AND DURATION (MAYOR):**

Mayor King made a motion to approve and Mr. Walker seconded it. The vote for approval was unanimous.

**C. SECOND READING OF ORDINANCE 19-17 TO AMEND THE IRMO TOWN CODE, CHAPTER 10, BUSINESSES; SECTION 10-34 – LICENSE TAX (MAYOR):**

Mayor King made a motion to approve and Mr. Pouliot seconded it. The vote for approval was unanimous.

**D. SECOND READING OF ORDINANCE 19-18 TO AMEND THE IRMO TOWN CODE, CHAPTER 2, ADMINISTRATION; ARTICLE II, COUNCIL; DIVISION 2, MEETINGS; SECTION 2-65 – ADDRESSING COUNCIL AND DECORUM (MAYOR):**

Mayor King made a motion for approval and Mr. Waites seconded it. Mayor King stated that he drafted some changes for the ordinance to address some concerns from the last Council Meeting. Mr. Pouliot made a motion to amend the ordinance to the following:

".....member must first be recognized by presiding officer and agree that they will not: (a) Interrupt other speakers without proper reason (point of order, point of information, etc), (b) Carry on private conversations during the meeting, (c) Questions or make comments not relevant to the business at hand, (d) Involve personalities in comments, (e) Make frivolous motions, (f) Argue with presiding officer, (g) Make unnecessary points of order or appeals from the ruling of the chair, (h) Make political speeches, (i) Refuse to abide by a legitimate ruling or order of the presiding officer".

Mr. Waites seconded the motion and the vote to amend was unanimous.

Mr. Walker voiced his concerns regarding items “(d), (e), (f), (g), (h) and (i)” as to how these items will be determined. Mr. Walker made a motion to delete items “(b), (c), (d), (e), (g), and (h)”. The motion died due to a lack of a second. The vote for second reading of Ordinance 19-18 as amended was 4 to 1 with Mr. Walker voting in opposition.

**E. SECOND READING OF ORDINANCE 19-19 TO AMEND THE IRMO TOWN CODE, CHAPTER 2, ADMINISTRATION; ARTICLE II, COUNCIL; DIVISION 2, MEETINGS; SECTION 2-69 – APPEARANCE BY CITIZENS (MAYOR):**

Mayor King made a motion to approve and Mr. Pouliot seconded it. The vote for approval was unanimous.

**F. SECOND READING OF ORDINANCE 19-20 TO AMEND THE IRMO TOWN CODE, CHAPTER 2, ADMINISTRATION; ARTICLE II, COUNCIL; DIVISION 2, MEETINGS; SECTION 2-70 – CITIZEN, AUDIENCE DECORUM DURING COUNCIL MEETINGS/PUBLIC HEARINGS AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION BY CITIZENS (MAYOR):**

Mayor King made a motion to approve and Mr. Pouliot seconded it. The vote for approval was unanimous.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**A. FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE 19-21 TO AMEND THE IRMO TOWN CODE, CHAPTER 24 PEDDLERS AND SOLICITORS; SECTION 24-3 – EXEMPTIONS (WALKER):**

Mr. Walker made a motion to approve. The motion failed due to a lack of a second.

**B. FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE 19-22 TO AMEND THE IRMO TOWN CODE, APPENDIX A ZONING ORDINANCE; ARTICLE VII, GENERAL PROVISIONS AND REGULATIONS; SECTION 7-7 ACCESSORY BUILDINGS AND USES (WALKER):**

Mr. Walker made a motion to approve. The motion failed due to a lack of a second.

**C. APPROVAL TO AWARD ACCOMMODATION TAX FUNDS TO EXPERIENCE COLUMBIA IN THE AMOUNT OF \$9,034.72 (STAFF):**

Mrs. Condom made a motion to give \$9,034.72 to Experience Columbia and Mr. Pouliot seconded it. Mrs. Condom is very impressed with the marketing they have done over the past year which included billboards, and the ad in Southern Living magazine. Mr. Waites stated that he was pleased that they showed where the money was spent. The vote for approval was unanimous.

**D. APPROVAL TO AWARD ACCOMMODATION TAX FUNDS TO THE OKRA STRUT COMMISSION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$ 15,000.00 (STAFF):**

Mr. Waites made a motion to give \$15,000 to the Okra Strut and Mr. Pouliot seconded it. Mr. Waites stated that he is very pleased with how well the Okra Strut has been doing in the last several years and believes this is money well spent. Mr. Walker voiced concerns that the Okra Strut does not have their own checking account and believes the Okra Strut needs to be allowed to keep the funds that are left over each year. The vote for approval was unanimous.

**E. APPROVAL TO AWARD ACCOMMODATION TAX FUNDS TO THE IRMO INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL COMMITTEE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$ 6,081.00 (STAFF):**

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

**F. APPROVAL TO AWARD \$10,000.00 TO SHARING GOD’S LOVE FROM OKRA STRUT RESERVES (MAYOR):**

Mayor King made a motion to approve and Mr. Walker seconded it. Mr. Walker thinks this is a great organization. He furthered explained that the Okra Strut should be able to keep their money or make recommendations on how to spend it. His concern is that Sharing God’s Love did not request the funds and the Okra Strut commission has not discussed it. Mrs. Condom made a motion to defer this until October 1st meeting for Council to get approval from the sponsors. Mr. Waites agrees with Mrs. Condom and voiced his concerns about giving the money when Sharing God’s Love did not ask for it. Mayor King believes that the sponsors will be happy donating the funds to charitable organizations. Mrs. Condom believes the Okra Strut should make the recommendation to Council. The vote to defer failed 2 to 3 with Mayor King, Mr. Walker and Mr. Pouliot voting in opposition. The vote for approval to award the funds was unanimous.

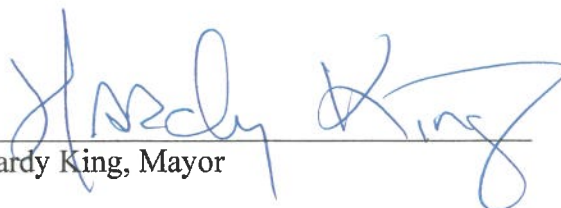
**PRESENTATION BY CITIZENS:**

Ms. Patricia Whitt, 213 Minehead Road, addressed Council on meeting decorum

**DISCUSSION:** None

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** None

**ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further business, Mr. Pouliot made a motion to adjourn and Mr. Waites seconded it. The motion was approved unanimously; therefore, the meeting was adjourned at 8:36 p.m.

  
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Hardy King, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
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Renee Caviness, Clerk/Treasurer