

TOWN OF IRMO REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

September 18, 2018

The Irmo Town Council held a regular meeting on Tuesday, September 18, 2018 in the Municipal Building. Council members present were Mayor King, Councilmen Pouliot, Waites, Walker and Councilwoman Condom. 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.

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

READING OF THE MINUTES:

Mr. Pouliot made a motion to approve the August 21, 2018 minutes and Mr. Waites seconded the motion. The vote for approval as submitted was unanimous.

REPORT OF STANDING:

A. Administrative Briefing – The Administrator furnished a written briefing to Council in their agenda packets. Mr. Walker asked Mr. Brown if he had received a call regarding spraying for mosquitos due to the West Nile virus. Mr. Brown had not received a call but stated he would check with the county about spraying for mosquitos.

B. Code Enforcement Update – Chief Perry gave a brief presentation on Code Enforcement activities including front yard parking. Mr. Walker asked how many renters have been ticketed and Chief Perry stated he would look into it.

AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA: None

CONSIDERATION OF COMMUNICATIONS: None

A. Mr. Walker called upon Mrs. Michelle Carpenter who read a letter from Mrs. Diane Dininno about her disapproval of the parking and grass ordnances.

B. Mayor King called upon Mr. Bill Ellen and Mr. Jason Outman of Experience Columbia to speak about the types of marketing and advertising services they offer to include co-op advertising. They work with the City of Cayce and the Town of Lexington.

PRESENTATION BY CITIZENS (AGENDA ITEMS ONLY):

Mrs. Gloria Jordan, 560 Kenton Drive, addressed Council on item “D” under New Business

Mr. Kevin Miller, 105 Wells Garden Court, addressed Council on item “D” under New Business

Mrs. Cindy Miller, 105 Wells Garden Court, addressed Council on item “D” under New Business
Mr. Wade DeLoach, 156 Finsbury Road, addressed Council on item “D” under New Business
Mr. John Southerland, 212 Serpentine Road, addressed Council on item “D” under New Business
Mr. Richard Friend, 400 Doncaster Road, addressed Council on item “D” under New Business
Mr. Vincent Hall, 107 Charlwood Court, addressed Council on item “D” under New Business
Mrs. Jessica Canaday, J. King Real Estate, addressed Council on item “D” under New Business
Mrs. Brandi Clarkson, 318 Lord Howe Road, addressed Council on item “D” under New Business
Mr. George Glassmeyer, 100 Denbeck Road, addressed Council on item “D” under Unfinished Business and items “F”, “H”, “I”, “J” under New Business
Mrs. Vickie Davis, Lake Murray Country, addressed Council on items “H” and “I” under New Business
Mr. Wade DeLoach, 156 Finsbury Road, addressed Council on item “J” under New Business

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. SECOND READING OF ORDINANCE 18-22 AMENDING THE IRMO TOWN CODE, CHAPTER 2, ADMINISTRATION; ARTICLE I, IN-GENERAL; SECTION 2-4 – RECOVERY COLLECTION COSTS OF DELINQUENT DEBTS (STAFF):

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

B. SECOND READING OF ORDINANCE 18-23 TO DECREASE THE FRANCHISE PAYMENTS FROM 4% TO 3.5% FROM ALL ENTITIES THAT COLLECT AND SUBMIT A FRANCHISE FEE ON BEHALF OF THE TOWN OF IRMO (MAYOR):

Mr. Pouliot made a motion to approve and Mayor King seconded it. Both Mayor King, and Mr. Pouliot agree that Council should only increase rates slowly and as needed. Mayor King stated that once the Honda Dealership, and other companies open, the town’s revenue will increase. Mrs. Condom had read recently that growth in revenue has not increased enough to keep up with inflation. Mr. Waites stated that we should not depend on Honda Dealership business license revenue due to not knowing if, or when, they will open. He mentioned the increase in Richland County’s jail fee that is on tonight’s agenda. Mr. Walker agreed that Council should only increase what is needed but there are several items on tonight’s agenda where Council will be voting to increase revenue. Instead of nickel and diming the residents, he feels leaving the franchise fees at 4% is best. The vote failed 2 to 3 with Mr. Waites, Mr. Walker and Mrs. Condom voting in opposition.

C. SECOND READING OF ORDINANCE 18-24 AMENDING THE IRMO TOWN CODE, CHAPTER 20, MUNICIPAL COURT; SECTION 20-3 - MUNICIPAL JUDGE (MAYOR):

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

D. SECOND READING OF ORDINANCE 18-25 AMENDING THE IRMO TOWN CODE, APPENDIX A, ZONING ORDINANCE; ARTICLE VI, SUPPLEMENTAL OFF-STREET PARKING AND LOADING REGULATIONS; SECTION 6-4 PARKING, STORAGE AND USE OF VEHICLES AND EQUIPMENT IN RESIDENTIAL ZONES (WALKER):

Mr. Walker made a motion to approve and Mrs. Condom seconded it. After a brief discussion, the vote for approval was unanimous.

NEW BUSINESS

A. FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE 18-26 AMENDING THE IRMO TOWN CODE, CHAPTER 10, BUSINESSES; ARTICLE II, LICENSES; SECTION 10-32 – DEFINITIONS (STAFF):

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

B. FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE 18-27 AMENDING THE IRMO TOWN CODE, CHAPTER 10, BUSINESSES; ARTICLE II, LICENSES; SECTION 10-35 – REGISTRATION REQUIRED (STAFF):

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

C. FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE 18-28 AMENDING THE IRMO TOWN CODE, APPENDIX A, ZONING ORDINANCE; ARTICLE VI, SUPPLEMENTAL OFF-STREET PARKING AND LOADING REGULATIONS; SECTION 6-4 PARKING, STORAGE AND USE OF VEHICLES AND EQUIPMENT IN RESIDENTIAL ZONES (WALKER):

Mr. Walker made a motion to approve and Mrs. Condom seconded it. Mr. Walker believes there are flaws in the current ordinance which were not addressed when the ordinance was written. He mentioned that Council did not define “visitor” or “temporary” parking. Mr. Walker stated that there was a resident who lives on a corner lot and had an approved parking pad but was recently approached about parking on their side front yard. Due to the flaws, he put this item on the agenda to rescind it.

Mrs. Condom agrees that visitor parking and side yard parking is a problem and Council needs to address it. Mr. Pouliot stated that the Irmo Police Officers can make a note of the infraction and after a period of time, stop and talk to the residents. Mr. Pouliot asked Chief Perry if there was a registry and Chief Perry replied no, but residents send an email to the Police Department when they are having overnight visitors and it has been working. He has not received any complaints.

Mayor King called upon Mr. Brown to explain the situation on the corner lot property that Mr. Walker talked about earlier. Mr. Brown stated that a mistake was made and was resolved with one phone call. He explained there are several properties that have room to park on the side of their house which is fine. Mayor King stated that the town is looking better since the parking ordinance has been in place. He explained that residents can and do get exemptions from the Town Administrator. The vote to approve failed 2 to 3 with Mayor King, Mr. Waites and Mr. Pouliot voting in opposition.

D. FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE 18-29 TO ANNEX LEXINGTON COUNTY TMS #02799, BLOCK 06, LOT (S) 002 AND 043 (LOCATED AT 6365 AND 6371 ST ANDREWS ROAD) (STAFF):

Mayor King made a motion to approve and Mrs. Condom seconded it. Mayor King explained that both properties are requesting to be zoned General Commercial and are currently owned by the Chavez family. The properties are located at 6365 and 6371 St. Andrews Road. The vote for approval was unanimous.

E. APPROVAL TO ACCEPT THE RICHLAND COUNTY JAIL INCREASE TO HOUSE PRISONERS (FROM \$43 TO \$71 PER DAY) (MAYOR):

Mayor King explained that he wanted Council to approve prior to a budget amendment for the increase in detention fees. He explained that detention fees are paid on property taxes for both Lexington and Richland County. Richland County is double dipping and the town's only recourse is for individuals to contact their Legislators. Mr. Walker asked Mr. Brown to find out what Richland County uses the money for. The vote for approval was 4 to 1 with Mr. Pouliot voting in opposition.

F. APPROVAL TO INCREASE GARBAGE FEE \$4.00 ANNUALLY, PER RESIDENCE, TO CONTINUE RECYCLING SERVICES TO THE TOWN (MAYOR):

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

G. APPROVAL TO RAISE JUDGE ADAM'S SALARY FROM \$25,000 TO \$29,000 AND INCREASE THE CONTRACT AMOUNT WITH LEXINGTON COUNTY (MAYOR):

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

H. APPROVAL TO AWARD ACCOMMODATION TAX GRANT FUNDS TO A CERTIFIED DESTINATION MARKETING ORGANIZATION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$13,300 (DMO'S ARE: LAKE MURRAY COUNTRY AND EXPERIENCE COLUMBIA) FOR ADVERTISING AND PROMOTING THE TOWN OF IRMO (STAFF):

Mayor King made a motion to give \$13,300 to Experience Columbia and Mr. Pouliot seconded it. The vote for approval was 4 to 1 with Mr. Walker voting in opposition.

I. APPROVAL TO AWARD ACCOMMODATION TAX GRANT FUNDS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$31,350 (\$15,675 TO LAKE MURRAY COUNTRY AND \$15,675 TO THE OKRA STRUT COMMISSION) FOR TOURISM RELATED ACTIVITIES (ATAX ADVISORY COMMITTEE):

Mayor King made a motion to give \$26,000 to Okra Strut and \$5,350 to Lake Murray Country and Mr. Pouliot seconded it. Mr. Walker made a motion to amend it to give \$31,350 to Lake Murray Country and the amended motion failed due to not being seconded.

Then, Mr. Walker asked what was the recommendation from the ATAX Advisory Committee? Mayor King explained that they recommended to give \$15,675 to Lake Murray Country and \$15,675 to the Irmo Okra Strut. Mr. Walker made a motion give \$15,675 to Lake Murray Country and \$15,675 to the Okra Strut and it failed because it was not seconded.

The vote to approve to give \$26,000 to the Okra Strut and give \$5,350 to Lake Murray Country was 4 to 1 with Mr. Walker voting in opposition.

J. APPROVAL TO SUBMIT APPLICATION FOR RURAL INFRASTRUCTURE GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$500,000 (WALKER):

Mr. Walker made a motion to approve and Mrs. Condom seconded it. Mr. Walker stated that this is a grant that can help the town with stormwater. He explained that the engineering study is already completed on the flooding issues in Friarsgate and believes the town needs to apply for this grant. Mr. Pouliot stated it is either the county or state's responsibility to maintain their roads and storm drains. Mayor King explained that it was not an engineering study but an estimate to make repairs that is 3 years old. He also mentioned that DOT had told him that the repairs would not correct the problem because of the drainage problems from Broad River Road to the river. The vote for approval failed 1 to 4 with Mr. Waites, Mayor King, Mrs. Condom, and Mr. Pouliot voting in opposition.

PRESENTATION BY CITIZENS:

Mrs. Brandi Clarkson, 318 Lord Howe Road, addressed Council on fines, and parking.

Mrs. Vickie Davis, Lake Murray Country, addressed Council on items "H" and "I" under New Business

Mr. Kevin Miller, 105 Wells Garden Court, addressed Council on visitor parking

Mr. Mike Ward, 118 Ashbourne Road, addressed Council on off-street parking, temporary parking, and Council's behavior

Mr. George Glassmeyer, 100 Denbeck Road, addressed Council on amendments, and grants

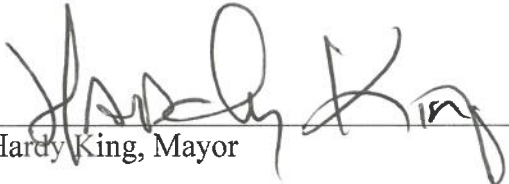
Mrs. Susan Pope, 581 Cornerstone Circle, addressed Council on visitor parking

DISCUSSION: None

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

A. Legal Matter (Lawsuit): Mr. Waites made a motion to go into executive session for a legal issue dealing with a lawsuit. Mr. Pouliot seconded the motion and it passed unanimously; therefore, the Mayor, Council, Mr. Brown, and Mr. Hale went into executive session at 10:14 p.m. Following "Executive Session", Mayor King called the meeting back to order at 10:35 p.m. and stated no action was taken.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, Mr. Walker made a motion to adjourn and Mr. Waites seconded it. The motion was approved unanimously; therefore, the meeting was adjourned at 10:36 p.m.


Hardy King, Mayor

ATTEST:


Renee Caviness, Clerk/Treasurer