

**TOWN OF IRMO
COUNCIL WORKSHOP
October 5, 2021**

The Irmo Town Council held a workshop on Tuesday, October 5, 2021, in the Municipal Building located at 7300 Woodrow Street, Irmo, SC 29063. Council members present were Mayor Walker, Mayor Pro Tem Condom, Councilmen Busch, Danielson and Sickinger. Others present were Mr. Courtney Dennis, Town Administrator, Police Chief Bobby Dale, Mrs. Renee Caviness, Municipal Clerk, Mr. Jake Moore, Town Attorney and Ms. Callee Jumper, Attorney.

The agenda was published and posted on Friday, October 1, 2021, to meet FOIA requirements.

Mayor Walker called the workshop to order at 7:00 p.m.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Council took item "B" out of to accommodate Mr. Moore needing to leave early.

A. Discussion on C-Funds and their uses (Sickinger):

Mr. Sickinger wants the Town of Irmo to get the Town's portion of the C-Funds from both Lexington and Richland Counties which would allow the Town to repair roads and sidewalks. Mayor Walker explained the C-funds are from the gas tax and is distributed to the counties. He also explained that there are more items involved with repairing roads. After some additional conversation, it was decided that Mr. Sickinger will talk to both counties to get their feedback.

OUT OF ORDER B. Discussion on Moseley Road Improvements (Sickinger):

Mr. Sickinger wanted to know what the steps are to get the improvements to Moseley Road at the top of the list. Mr. Dennis explained he would put out a RPF to get a design to build bid. Then, get bids to complete the work. Mr. Moore stated that he believes Council should hold off until he hears back from the owner to find out the cost to purchase the 6 acre property. Mr. Dennis will research and come up with a strategy to move this project forward.

C. ARPA Funds update and discussion on uses (Danielson):

Mr. Danielson started the discussion by stating that he put this on the agenda so Council could get on the same page as to how to spend the ARPA Funds. He explained he would like the money to be use on the lost revenue and the negative impacts the pandemic put on small business, households, and non-profits.

Mayor Walker agreed with Mr. Danielson and added that use some of the money to revitalize tourism and travel in the Irmo. He would also like to use the money to upgrade the technology for the town including providing broadband services at the Town's Park.

Mr. Dennis mentioned that during his research he believes that some of the funds could be used to offset payroll expenses. Mr. Busch followed by saying the funds should be used on the approved internal list that was created earlier in the year. It was mentioned that the Town has until 2026 to spend the funds. Mr. Danielson would like the list discussed again at a future workshop.

D. Discussion on Employee Christmas Bonus Program (Condom):

Mrs. Condom stated that Irmo employees did not miss a day of work during the pandemic and wants to give each one \$1,500 after tax to reward these loyal employees. Mayor Walker stated that he wants to include both the Town Judge & Town Attorney for the \$1,500 bonus. All of Council agreed to put this on next agenda as an action item.

E. Discussion on Broad River Road widening (Mayor):

Mayor Walker discussed the rescoping of the Broad River Road widening project back to 5-lanes. Mr. Walker mentioned that he and Mr. Busch have been working with Richland County to get the Broad River Road widened from 3 to 5 lanes. They have gotten the project moved up to where Richland County will start the project in about 18 months. During the discussion Mr. Dennis mentioned that he has a meeting with the Council of Governments to discuss their project of beautifying the interchange on Broad River Road as well will have more information about the Regional Gateway Project soon.

F. Discussion on property adjoining the Irmo Community Park (Staff):

Mayor Walker explained that this property is adjacent to Mosley Street and Church Street and would allow for expansion of the Community Park. Both Mayor Walker and Mr. Moore will continue to reach out to the owner about the property.

G. Open Discussion:

Mr. Busch asked if the ARPA Funds could be deposited into interest bearing accounts. Mayor Walker understood that the funds cannot be deposited into an interest-bearing account. Mr. Dennis was not familiar with this and will look into the type of account the funds can be deposited in.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further items to discuss, Mr. Sickinger made a motion to adjourn, and Mr. Busch seconded it. The motion was approved unanimously; therefore, the workshop was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.



Barry A. Walker, Sr., Mayor

ATTEST:



Renee Caviness, Municipal Clerk