

TOWN OF IRMO REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

October 15, 2019

The Irmo Town Council held a regular meeting on Tuesday, October 15, 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. and Mrs. Condom led the Pledge of Allegiance and gave the Invocation.

READING OF THE MINUTES:

Mr. Pouliot made a motion to approve the October 1, 2019 minutes and Mr. Waites seconded the motion. The vote for approval 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.

AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA: None

CONSIDERATION OF COMMUNICATIONS:

A. Mr. Brian Pena stated that Irmo has had 31 Police Chiefs and recognized the chiefs and their families that are still alive.

B. Mayor King and Council presented a Proclamation which honors the former Irmo Police Chief John Bouknight.

C. Mr. Whitt Cline, Director of Public Services, updated Council on the recent Lexington and Richland Counties recycling event held at Irmo High School. He explained that there were over 1,000 residents that dropped off items including paper shredding, electronics, scrap metal, etc. He stated that it was a successful event and wanted to thank his employees for all their hard work during the event.

D. Mr. Walker voiced his concerns regarding the live streaming and stated that it needs to get repaired before the next meeting.

E. Mr. Walker asked Mr. Brown about getting the roads in Rose Oaks accepted by the County and wants Bob to stay on top of it. Mr. Brown stated he was in constant contact with the developer, Mr. John Moore and Richland County Representatives.

PRESENTATION BY CITIZENS (AGENDA ITEMS ONLY): None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. SECOND READING OF ORDINANCE 19-23 TO ANNEX RICHLAND COUNTY TMS # 04000-02-04 (LOCATED AT 10020 BROAD RIVER ROAD) AS GENERAL COMMERCIAL (STAFF):

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

NEW BUSINESS

A. FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE 19-24 TO REZONE RICHLAND COUNTY TMS #03300-0403; TMS #04100-01 (LOTS) 04 AND 05 (LOCATED AT 715, 719 AND W/S ALONG KOON ROAD) FROM PDD TO CG (STAFF):

Mr. King made a motion to approve and Mrs. Condom seconded it. Mrs. Condom voiced her concerns about this item and Mr. Walker made a motion to defer Ordinance 19-24 to the next Council Meeting on November 19, 2019. Mrs. Condom seconded it and the vote for approval to defer was unanimous.

B. FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE 19-25 TO AMEND THE IRMO TOWN CODE, APPENDIX A, ZONING ORDINANCE: ARTICLE II, ZONE DISTRICT REGULATIONS: SECTION 2-2, USE OF TABLES, TABLE II – SCHEDULE OF LOT AREA, YARD, SETBACK, HEIGHT, DENSITY, FLOOR AREA, AND IMPERVIOUS SURFACE REQUIREMENTS BY DISTRICT (WALKER):

Mr. Walker made a motion to approve and Mrs. Condom seconded it. Mr. Walker explained that he put this item on the agenda because the affordable income housing has been decided. He stated Cooper's Trace was approved, and Parkside was not. Therefore, he thought it would be an appropriate time for Council to lower the density in General Commercial. Mrs. Condom stated that the town does not know the impact of apartments on our services and is concerned about it. Mrs. Condom and Mr. Waites agrees with Mr. Walker that density should be lowered. Mayor King explained that he is against changing the density due to potential lawsuits and addressed some concerns regarding the impact of the infrastructure to include traffic, property values, and safety in the Irmo community. He made a motion to amend the ordinance to the following:

“Maximum Residential density in General Commercial zoning to be based upon frontage road classification:

- a. 16 units per acre for arterial road with 5 lanes
- b. 10 units per acre for collector road and 2-lane state or federal highway
- c. 7 units per acre for local road

Any multi-family housing projects that abut single-family residential neighborhoods must increase the buffer zone by 20% for density of 10 or more units per acre and add 10' setback for a density of 15 units or more per acre.”

Mr. Pouliot seconded the motion and the vote for approval was 4 to 1 with Mr. Walker voting in opposition.

Mr. Pouliot made a motion to defer Ordinance 19-25 until the Council Meeting on January 21, 2020 and Mr. Walker seconded it. The vote for approval was 3 to 2 with Mrs. Condom and Mr. Walker voting in opposition.

C. APPROVAL OF OKRA STRUT PARADE POLICY FOR IRMO TOWN COUNCIL (MAYOR):

Mayor King explained that after the October 1, 2019 Council Meeting, Town Attorney, Mr. Chip Burns, did some research on the words, “active campaigning” and believes it will be best to change “active campaigning” “to electioneering”.

Mayor King made a motion to approve the change to Okra Strut Parade policy to reflect the change:

“Each Town Council Member is entitled to one (1) upfront spot in the annual Irmo Okra Strut Parade, at no charge. Only passenger size vehicle, passenger trucks and SUV’s may be used. No floats, no long vehicles and no trailers can be used. No electioneering: signs, walkers, banners and/or handouts may be used. Any electioneering by incumbent Irmo Town Council Members must be done from another paid spot in the parade and assigned by the Okra Strut Commission.

Electioneering is defined as the active advocating for or opposition to a political candidate or party in an election.”

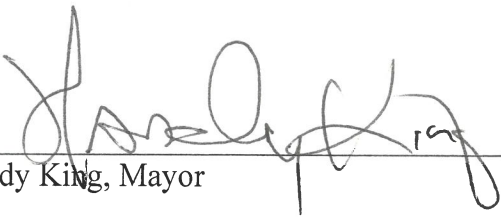
Mr. Walker stated that he does not believe Council needs to update this policy and feels Council needs to be working on more important items. Mr. Pouliot seconded the motion and the vote for approval was 4 to 1 with Mr. Walker voting in opposition.

PRESENTATION BY CITIZENS: None

DISCUSSION: None

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None

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 8:30 p.m.



Hardy King, Mayor

ATTEST:



Renee Caviness, Clerk/Treasurer