

**TOWN OF IRMO  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
November 16, 2021**

The Irmo Town Council held a regular meeting on Tuesday, November 16, 2021 beginning at 7:00 p.m. Council Members in attendance were Mayor Walker, Mayor Pro Tem Condom, Councilmen Busch, Danielson and Sickinger. Others present were Mr. Courtney Dennis, Town Administrator, Rodney Tucker, Assistant 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, November 12, 2021 to meet FOIA requirements.

**REGULAR MEETING**

Mayor Walker 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. Sickinger made a motion to approve the October 19, 2021 minutes and Mr. Busch seconded it. The vote for approval as submitted was unanimous.

Mr. Sickinger made a motion to approve the October 27, 2021 minutes and Mr. Busch seconded. The vote for approval as submitted was unanimous.

**REPORT OF STANDING:**

A. Administrative Briefing – Mr. Dennis furnished a written briefing to Town Council in their packets and took a moment to introduce Mrs. Mia Wilkins as the new Economic Development and Communications Director.

B. Mr. Sickinger welcomed the following new businesses to the Town of Irmo:  
Carolina Physicians & Rehab, LLC. – 7021 St. Andrews Road  
Cola Wash Pros, LLC. – 200 West Royal Tower Drive  
Elite Angles Homecare – 6236 St. Andrews Road  
Mid Carolina Electrical Inc. – 6021 St. Andrews Road  
Sharpvue, LLC. – 1085 Lake Murray Boulevard

**AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA:**

A. Mr. Busch made a motion to add Resolution 21-04. Mayor Walker stated that the motion was out of order and explained that this item is not an emergency and therefore stated this item does not need to be added to the agenda. He further explained the resolution can be added to the agenda once the information is given to Mr. Dennis. Therefore, the motion failed.

**CONSIDERATION OF COMMUNICATIONS:**

A. Mayor Walker and Council presented the November 2021 Small Business of the Month award to Irmo Drug.

B. Mr. Todd Highsmith of Highsmith & Highsmith, LLC gave a brief presentation on the FY20/21 Audit Report. He informed Council that the audit of the Town's financial statements as of June 30, 2021 have been completed and stated they are in compliant with Federal and State Statues. He reviewed the financial statement with Council and answered their questions.

C. Mr. John Lindower, Okra Strut Chairman, gave a summary of the 2021 Okra Strut and stated it was a successful event.

D. Mayor Walker asked Ms. Jessica Carswell, owner of TFA Cafe, to give a brief proposal on the Irmo Holiday Market that she would like to have at Steve Padgett's Honda of Columbia on December 11, 2021 from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. She ended her presentation by asking the Town of Irmo to give \$5,000 for this event. Mayor Walker requested Ms. Carswell to send in a budget.

E. Mr. James Bennet of the Midland Business Leadership Group gave a presentation on the Regional Gateway Project that will beautify key gateways coming into Columbia Region. They are in the process of developing a unified plan for landscaping, signage, and improvement for the selected gateways. There are several local governments participating project and would like the Town of Irmo to join. He explained that the Town would contribute funds to the project based on population and would be required to maintain the Irmo gateway going forward. He then ended the presentation stating that Council will need to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement before January 2022 if they want to participate. Therefore, Council stated they would like this item to be on next Council meeting.

F. Mayor Walker confirmed that the contract has been signed to purchase the property near the Community Park of Irmo. Council requested Mr. Moore proceed with the title search and would like to close on the property as soon as possible.

G. Mayor Walker requested that appointments to the Irmo Future Growth Corporation will be on the next agenda and clarified that citizens can still apply to be on the board.

H. Mayor Walker stated that with the passing of the 1.7 trillion Infrastructure bill by the Federal Government and stated to Mr. Busch that now is the time to contact SCDOT about Salem Church Road project because South Carolina will be getting money for roads, bridges, and other infrastructure.

I. Mr. Sickinger stated that he has received complaints from residents regarding water leaks, and high water bills. He wanted to let residents know that Council is aware of the issues and is working on a program to help with the issues. Mayor Walker added that residents need to continue to report to their issues to City of Columbia.

BY CITIZENS (Agenda Items IX and X Only): None

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** None

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**A. APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION 21-06 RECOGNIZING NOVEMBER 16, 2021, AS “KATHY CONDOM DAY” IN THE TOWN OF IRMO (COUNCIL):**

Mr. Sickinger made a motion to approve and Mr. Danielson seconded it. Council presented Mrs. Condom a plaque recognizing her 18 years of service and recognizing November 16, 2021 as Mrs. Kathy Condom Day. Mayor Walker called upon Mrs. Caviness for a rollcall vote: Mr. Busch voted “Yes”, Mr. Danielson voted “Yes”, Mr. Sickinger voted “Yes” and Mayor Walker voted “Yes”. Mrs. Condom did not vote and the vote for approval was unanimous.

**B. APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION 21-05 ADOPTING THE TOWN OF IRMO SAFETY POLICY (STAFF):**

Mrs. Condom made a motion for approval and Mayor Walker seconded it. Mayor Walker called upon Mrs. Caviness for a rollcall vote: Mr. Busch voted “Yes”, Mrs. Condom voted “Yes”, Mr. Danielson voted “Yes”, Mr. Sickinger voted “Yes” and Mayor Walker voted “Yes”. The vote for approval was unanimous.

**C. APPROVAL TO ACCEPT BID FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES FOR THE NEW RAWLS CREEK PARK (STAFF):**

Mayor Walker made a motion for approval and Mr. Sickinger seconded it. Mr. Sickinger made a motion to amend to accept Hybrid Engineering’s bid for professional services for the Rawls Creek Park and Mrs. Condom seconded the motion. Mayor Walker called upon Mrs. Caviness for a rollcall vote: Mr. Busch voted “Yes”, Mrs. Condom voted “Yes”, Mr. Sickinger voted “Yes” and Mayor Walker voted “Yes”. Mr. Danielson recused himself from the vote and did not vote. The vote to approve the amendment was unanimous.

Mayor Walker called upon Mrs. Caviness for a rollcall vote to approve the contract with Hybrid Engineering in the amount of \$127,110: Mr. Busch voted “Yes”, Mrs. Condom voted “Yes”, Mr. Sickinger voted “Yes” and Mayor Walker voted “Yes”. Mr. Danielson recused himself and did not vote. The vote for approval was unanimous.

**D. APPROVAL TO PURCHASE A 2014 TAURUS POLICE INTERCEPTOR IN THE AMOUNT OF \$15,279 FROM SOUTH CAROLINA STATE SURPLUS (STAFF)**

Mr. Sickinger made a motion to approve and Mrs. Condom seconded it. This will replace the police vehicle that was wrecked. Mayor Walker called upon Mrs. Caviness for a rollcall vote: Mr. Busch voted “Yes”, Mrs. Condom voted “Yes”, Mr. Danielson voted “Yes”, Mr. Sickinger voted “Yes” and Mayor Walker voted “Yes”. The vote for approval was unanimous.

**E. APPROVAL OF THE 2022 COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE (STAFF):**

Mr. Sickinger made a motion to approve and Mr. Busch seconded it. Mr. Sickinger stated that he would like to change the July 5th meeting to July 12th and Mayor Walker stated he wanted to change the January 4th meeting from to January 11th. Mayor Walker called upon Mrs. Caviness for a rollcall vote: Mr. Busch voted “Yes”, Mrs. Condom voted “Yes”, Mr. Danielson voted “Yes”, Mr. Sickinger voted “Yes” and Mayor Walker voted “Yes”. The vote for approval as updated was unanimous.

PRESENTATION BY CITIZENS:

Mr. Chris Gaither, 7725 St. Andrews Road, addressed Council on Irmo Future Growth Corporation  
Mr. Wade Deloach, 156 Finsbury Road, thanked Mrs. Condom for her service to the Town  
Ms. Kimberly Case, 129 Grey Side Road, addressed Council wanting to see more art displays in Irmo  
Ms. Labrina Myers, Elstow Road, thanked Mr. Nicholas Corley for cleaning up the old tennis center

DISCUSSION: None

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

- A. Legal Matter – Receipt of legal advice from labor attorney on personnel issue (Staff)
- B. Legal Matter – Receipt of legal advice on the Irmo Future Growth Corporation (Danielson)
- C. Legal Matter – Receipt of legal advice on Okra Strut Commission Members (Danielson)

Mr. Sickinger made a motion to go into executive session to receive legal advice on a personnel issue, Irmo Future Growth Corporation, and the Okra Strut Commission Members. Mr. Busch seconded the motion and it passed unanimously; therefore, the Mayor, Council, Mr. Dennis, Mr. Moore, Dr. Waldman, and Ms. Gaffney, Labor Attorney went into executive session at 8:24 p.m. Mayor Walker called the meeting back to order at 9:11 p.m. and stated that no votes were taken.


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 9:17 p.m.



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Barry A. Walker, Sr., Mayor

ATTEST:



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Renee Caviness, Municipal Clerk