

**TOWN OF IRMO
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
November 17, 2020**

The Irmo Town Council held a regular meeting on Tuesday, November 17, 2020 beginning at 7:00 p.m. Council Members in attendance were Mayor Walker, Councilwoman Condom, Councilmen Busch, Danielson and Sickinger. Others present were Mr. Robert Brown, Town Administrator; Police Captain Bobby Dale, Mr. Whitt Cline, Director of Public Services; Mrs. Vi Racine, Municipal Clerk and Mr. Jake Moore, Town Attorney.

The agenda was published and posted on Friday, November 13, 2020 to meet FOIA requirements.

REGULAR MEETING

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

READING OF THE MINUTES:

Mr. Sickinger made a motion to approve the October 6, 2020 minutes and Mr. Busch seconded. Mayor Walker called upon Mrs. Racine for a rollcall vote: Mr. Busch voted “Aye”, Mrs. Condom voted “Aye”, Mr. Danielson voted “Aye”, Mr. Sickinger voted “Aye” and Mayor Walker voted “Aye”.

Mrs. Condom made a motion to approve the October 20, 2020 minutes and Mr. Sickinger seconded. Mayor Walker called upon Mrs. Racine for a rollcall vote: Mr. Busch voted “Aye”, Mrs. Condom voted “Aye”, Mr. Danielson voted “Aye”, Mr. Sickinger voted “Aye” and Mayor Walker voted “Aye”.

REPORT OF STANDING:

A. Administrative Briefing – Mr. Brown furnished a written briefing to Town Council in their packets.

AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA: None

CONSIDERATION OF COMMUNICATIONS:

A. Mayor Walker and Council presented a “Key to the City” to Mr. Willm on behalf of his mother, Barbara Willm. Mayor Walker stated that Barbara is a long term dedicated patron of the Town of Irmo and has been instrumental in helping the Irmo Okra Strut with her support and service as well as financially with Lexington Medical Center. She is greatly appreciated and now has the key to our hearts. Mr. Willm stated that his mother loves the Town of Irmo, and the platform Lexington Medical Center has given her. He further stated she was released from the rehabilitation center and he would deliver the Key to the City to her at home.

B. Todd Highsmith of Highsmith & Highsmith, LLC gave a FY19/20 Audit Report. He informed Council that the audit of the Town's financial statements as of June 30, 2020, had been completed and found them in compliance with Federal and State Statutes. He reviewed a few of the financial statements and answered questions.

C. Mayor Walker and Council presented the November Small Business of the Month award to Linda Ingle, owner of Jo-Lin's Bridal, located at 7585 St. Andrews Road.

D. Whitt Cline, Director of Public Services, gave an update report on the recent recycling event held on October 3, 2020 at the Irmo High School. Mr. Cline reported the event was the biggest yet with approximately 1260 people participating and 125 people working. He said it was busy and successful, receiving 67 tons of recycle items to include electronics, tires, hazardous waste, oil, etc.

E. Mr. Sickinger stated he got several resident calls thanking him for the CSX railroad repair at the intersection of Woodrow Street and N. Royal Tower Drive.

F. Mayor Walker stated that a resident on Finsbury Road called asking for help to resolve a water leak with City of Columbia, which with the help of the Town was discovered and repaired.

G. Mayor Walker stated former Irmo resident, Dustin Johnson, recently won the Master's Tournament at the Augusta National Golf Club and would like a unanimous vote to pass a Resolution and name a Town owned street in Dustin's honor. He hopes to get Mr. Johnson present to dedicate the street and rename it Dustin Johnson Drive.

H. Mayor Walker stated he and Council received a copy of a letter from Miriam Atria, President and CEO of Lake Murray Country, addressed to Irmo resident George Glassmeyer asking to meet with him to work out any animosity between them.

PRESENTATION BY CITIZENS:

Mr. David Stewart, 101 Glossop Circle, addressed Council on Item "F" under New Business

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

A. SECOND AND FINAL READING OF ORDINANCE 20-23 TO REZONE PROPERTY AT 10534 BROAD RIVER ROAD AS SHOWN ON RICHLAND COUNTY TMS# 03300-03 (LOTS) 13 AND 38 NOW OR FORMERLY OWNED BY VICKIE TOWNSEND, FROM SINGLE-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL (RS) TO GENERAL COMMERCIAL (CG) (STAFF)

Mr. Sickinger made a motion to approve and Mr. Busch seconded the motion. Mr. Sickinger stated his concern for the traffic in that area on Broad River Road and would like to see it widened. Mr. Busch stated that SCDOT has a plan to widen Broad River Road but has been delayed. Mayor Walker called upon Mrs. Racine for a rollcall vote: Mr. Busch voted "Aye", Mrs. Condom voted "Aye", Mr. Danielson voted "Aye", Mr. Sickinger voted "Aye" and Mayor Walker voted "Aye".

B. APPROVAL OF SISTER HAZEL CONTRACT FOR THE 2021 OKRA STRUT FESTIVAL (BUSCH)

Mr. Sickinger made a motion to approve and Mr. Busch seconded. Mr. Larry Slaughter stated that Sister Hazel Band agreed to a 30-day cancellation notice in the case of a national disaster and the terms were written in an addendum to the original contract. Mayor Walker called upon Mrs. Racine for a rollcall vote: Mr. Busch voted “Aye”, Mrs. Condom voted “Aye”, Mr. Danielson voted “Aye”, Mr. Sickinger voted “Aye” and Mayor Walker voted “Nay”.

NEW BUSINESS

A. FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE 20-24 TO AMEND THE IRMO TOWN CODE, CHAPTER 2, ADMINISTRATION; ARTICLE II, COUNCIL; DIVISION 2, MEETINGS; SECTION 2-61 – DATE, TIME, AND PLACE (STAFF)

Mrs. Condom made a motion to amend Ordinance 20-24 to remove from first sentence, “first and...” and also change Tuesday from plural to singular (remove “s”). Mayor Walker seconded the motion and called upon Mrs. Racine for a rollcall vote: Mr. Busch voted “Aye”, Mrs. Condom voted “Aye”, Mr. Danielson voted “Aye”, Mr. Sickinger voted “Aye” and Mayor Walker voted “Aye”.

B. FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE 20-25 PROVIDING FOR A LOCAL HOSPITALITY TAX ON SALES OF PREPARED MEALS AND BEVERAGES IN ESTABLISHMENTS (SICKINGER/BUSCH)

Mr. Sickinger made a motion to approve and Mr. Busch seconded it. Mr. Sickinger stated the Town’s funds are carefully managed and a hospitality tax would be a significant source of revenue without raising franchise fees on businesses or imposing a property tax mileage on residents. Mr. Busch agreed and thinks it is the best option. Mr. Danielson expressed not wanting to add pressure to small businesses; however, historically the hospitality tax is shouldered by visitors and not residents. Mrs. Condom stated it is a reasonable source of revenue for the Town. Mayor Walker stated he realizes the burden of accounting for and remitting the tax collected by the businesses, and feels the timing is not right during the Covid-19 pandemic. Mayor Walker called upon Mrs. Racine for a rollcall vote: Mr. Busch voted “Aye”, Mrs. Condom voted “Aye”, Mr. Danielson voted “Aye”, Mr. Sickinger voted “Aye” and Mayor Walker voted “Nay”.

C. FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE 20-26 TO AMEND THE IRMO TOWN CODE, APPENDIX A ZONING AND LAND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS; ARTICLE 12, ADMINISTRATION; SECTION 12-3 – BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS (STAFF)

Mr. Sickinger made a motion to approve and Mr. Busch seconded it. With no further discussion, Mayor Walker called upon Mrs. Racine for a rollcall vote: Mr. Busch voted “Aye”, Mrs. Condom voted “Aye”, Mr. Danielson voted “Aye”, Mr. Sickinger voted “Aye” and Mayor Walker voted “Aye”.

D. APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION 20-06 TO RESCIND APPOINTMENT OF SUBSTITUTE MUNICIPAL JUDGE AND COURT ADMINISTRATOR (STAFF)

Mr. Busch made a motion to approve and Mrs. Condom seconded it. All members agreed it was an administrative decision and with no discussion, Mayor Walker called upon Mrs. Racine for a rollcall vote: Mr. Busch voted "Aye", Mrs. Condom voted "Aye", Mr. Danielson voted "Aye", Mr. Sickinger voted "Aye" and Mayor Walker voted "Aye".

E. APPROVAL TO AWARD \$250,000 TO THE IRMO FUTURE GROWTH CORPORATION (DANIELSON)

Mr. Danielson made a motion to defer this item to the next regular meeting on December 15, 2020 and requested a council workshop prior to the meeting to discuss further. Mr. Sickinger seconded the motion, and Mayor Walker called upon Mrs. Racine for a rollcall vote: Mr. Busch voted "Aye", Mrs. Condom voted "Aye", Mr. Danielson voted "Aye", Mr. Sickinger voted "Aye" and Mayor Walker voted "Aye".

F. APPROVAL TO SET THE GARBAGE FEE FOR THE RESIDENTIAL PORTION OF TOWN AT \$300 PER YEAR TO BECOME EFFECTIVE WITH THE 2022 TAX BILLS (MAYOR)

Mayor Walker made a motion to approve and Mrs. Condom seconded. Mayor Walker stated the Town just received an increase notification for garbage tipping fees and the budget can no longer subsidize any sanitation bills. He feels by raising the residential fee to \$300 per year will keep all services functioning for several years without any further increases. Mrs. Condom apologized for the necessary increase but stated the bills must be paid. Mr. Busch stated that the cost of business will continue to go up. Mr. Danielson stated the Town needs to be more transparent and prove to the citizens that the increase is necessary. Mr. Sickinger stated his frustration of the prior board who voted to increase the fees over time which led to this breakeven situation. Mrs. Condom asked the Town Administrator to put the monthly costs of sanitation out to the public. Mayor Walker called on Mrs. Racine for a rollcall vote: Mr. Busch voted "Aye", Mrs. Condom voted "Aye", Mr. Danielson voted "Nay", Mr. Sickinger voted "Nay" and Mayor Walker voted "Aye".

G. APPROVAL TO PURCHASE 300 RECYCLE ROLL-CARTS FROM OTTO ENVIRONMENTAL IN THE AMOUNT OF \$15,425.12 (STAFF)

Mr. Sickinger made a motion to approve and Mr. Mrs. Condom seconded it. After a brief discussion about 300 roll carts fulfilling the need for 250 proposed new homes, Mayor Walker called upon Mrs. Racine for a rollcall vote: Mr. Busch voted "Aye", Mrs. Condom voted "Aye", Mr. Danielson voted "Aye", Mr. Sickinger voted "Aye" and Mayor Walker voted "Aye".

H. APPROVAL TO CANCEL THE DECEMBER 1, 2020 COUNCIL MEETING (STAFF)

Mr. Danielson made a motion to approve and Mr. Sickinger seconded. Mayor Walker called upon Mrs. Racine for a rollcall vote: Mr. Busch voted "Aye", Mrs. Condom voted "Aye", Mr. Danielson voted "Aye", Mr. Sickinger voted "Aye" and Mayor Walker voted "Aye".

I. APPROVAL OF THE 2021 COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE (STAFF)

Mr. Sickinger made a motion to approve and Mr. Busch seconded the motion. After a brief discussion,

Mayor Walker called upon Mrs. Racine for a rollcall vote: Mr. Busch voted "Aye", Mrs. Condom voted "Aye", Mr. Danielson voted "Aye", Mr. Sickinger voted "Aye" and Mayor Walker voted "Aye".

J. APPROVAL TO FILE LAWSUIT IN CIRCUIT COURT ON DILAPIDATED PROPERTY AT 1250 LAKE MURRAY BOULEVARD (TOWN ATTORNEY)

Mr. Sickinger made a motion to approve and Mrs. Condom seconded the motion. Mrs. Condom stated she has heard complaints about the building for the 39 years she has lived in Irmo and sees no other way to correct the undesirable problem. Mrs. Busch stated he is favor of property owner's rights; however, the problems are infringing on others. Mayor Walker stated he has a dossier on the asbestos emanating from the building which must be irradiated sooner than later to protect Irmo citizens. Mayor Walker called upon Mrs. Racine for a rollcall vote: Mr. Busch voted "Aye", Mrs. Condom voted "Aye", Mr. Danielson voted "Aye", Mr. Sickinger voted "Aye" and Mayor Walker voted "Aye".

XI. PRESENTATION BY CITIZENS:

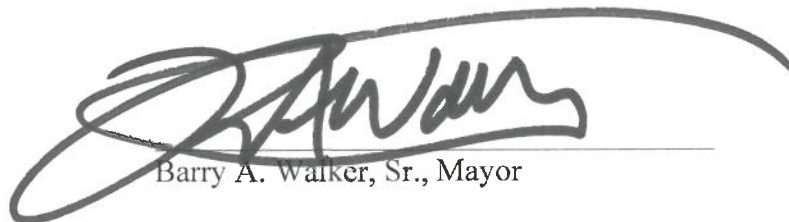
George Glassmeyer of 100 Denbeck Road addressed council on garbage tipping fees, as well as his meeting with President and CEO of Lake Murray Country, Miriam Atria.

David Stewart of 101 Glossop Circle addressed council on garbage tipping fees and being transparent with the citizens.

DISCUSSION: None

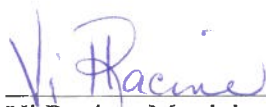
EXECUTIVE SESSION: None

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 8:32 p.m.



Barry A. Walker, Sr., Mayor

ATTEST:



Vi Racine, Municipal Clerk