

**TOWN OF IRMO  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
December 15, 2020**

The Irmo Town Council held a public hearing and regular meeting on Tuesday, December 15, 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 Chief Courtney Dennis, 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, December 11, 2020 to meet FOIA requirements.

**PUBLIC HEARING**

Mayor Walker called the public hearing to order at 7:02 p.m. and asked if anyone was present to speak on Ordinance 20-25 providing for a local Hospitality Tax on the sales of prepared meals and beverages in establishments. Being none, the public hearing was closed at 7:03 p.m.

**REGULAR MEETING**

Mayor Walker called the regular meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance and gave the Invocation.

**READING OF THE MINUTES:**

Mr. Busch made a motion to approve the November 17, 2020 minutes and Mr. Sickinger seconded. The vote to approve the minutes as submitted was unanimous.

Mr. Sickinger made a motion to approve the November 24, 2020 minutes and Mr. Busch seconded. The vote to approve the minutes as submitted was unanimous.

Mrs. Condom made a motion to approve the December 8, 2020 minutes and Mr. Busch seconded. The vote to approve the minutes as submitted was unanimous.

**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 the December Small Business of the Month award to Sammy and Lisa Mathias, owners of “*Mathias Sandwich Shop*” located at 7235 St. Andrews Road. Mayor Walker stated it was a pleasure to recognize entrepreneurs Sammy and Lisa for their many years of service to the community. He also said Mathias Sandwich Shop had become a local meeting spot over the 75 years in business.

B. Russel Dean, President of SC King Foundation, stated his passion for having coached over one hundred (100) young men since 2004. The purpose of his foundation is to showcase their skills and achieve scholarships on a collegiate level; therefore, he was proposing a new facility for basketball and volleyball. Allison Hewitt of Hewitt & Associates has partnered with Sports Facility Management (SFM) and reported the impact for Irmo as an estimated 11.9 billion indirect spending for the first five (5) years as well as 27,800 hotel night stays in the Irmo area. She stated that some banks were on board and she would appreciate a letter of support and recommendation from the Town of Irmo.

PRESENTATION BY CITIZENS:

Mayor Walker stated the Municipal Association of South Carolina (MASC) would host a Zoom meeting on December 16<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. regarding the Business License Standardization Act.

Mr. Sickinger stated a receipt of communication from Barbara Waldman asking to incorporate public input during the workshop sessions. Also, she is in favor of the Hospitality Tax and supports the Irmo Future Growth Corporation.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

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

Mr. Sickinger made a motion to approve and Mr. Busch seconded the motion. Mr. Sickinger stated by having a workshop to discuss items will still give the same time frame as it was with three readings. 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. SECOND AND FINAL READING OF ORDINANCE 20-25 PROVIDING FOR A LOCAL HOSPITALITY TAX ON THE SALES OF PREPARED MEALS AND BEVERAGES IN ESTABLISHMENTS (SICKINGER / BUSCH)**

Mr. Sickinger made a motion to approve and Mr. Danielson seconded. Mr. Sickinger stated he is in favor of the Town having a diverse stream of income that will not directly tax the citizens. Mr. Danielson stated he was also in favor of a revenue stream outside their constituents. Mayor Walker stated the Town is missing out on the opportunity of additional revenue and needs to take advantage of it. 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”.

**C. SECOND AND FINAL 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. 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. APPROVE TO AWARD \$250,000 TO THE IRMO FUTURE GROWTH CORPORATION (DANIELSON)**

Mr. Danielson made a motion to approve and Mr. Sickinger seconded. Mr. Danielson made a motion to amend the motion and award \$125,000.00 to the Irmo Future Growth Corporation (IFGC). He stated the IFGC has a simple approach to help small businesses, beautification and keeping young folks active in programs. The program has already received a donation of 6.4 acres by Dr. Surb Guram and survey costs were paid by the Irmo Arbor Day Commission. Mr. Sickinger seconded the amended motion. Mayor Walker called upon Mrs. Racine for a rollcall vote for the amendment: Mr. Busch voted “Aye”, Mrs. Condom voted “Aye”, Mr. Danielson voted “Aye”, Mr. Sickinger voted “Aye” and Mayor Walker voted “Aye”.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**A. APPOINTMENT TO THE PLANNING COMMISSION – 1 OPENING (STAFF)**

Mr. Danielson made a nomination to appoint Audra Hawisher and Mayor Walker made a nomination to appoint Judy DeLoach. The vote to appoint Audra Hawisher was unanimous, thereby closing the nominations.

**B. APPOINTMENT TO THE OKRA STRUT COMMISSION – 3 OPENINGS (STAFF)**

Mr. Busch made a nomination to reappoint James Mack and Marnie Robinson. Mrs. Condom made a nomination to appoint Lauren Sherr. There were no other nominations. The vote to reappoint James Mack and Marnie Robinson along with Lauren Sherr was unanimous.

**PRESENTATION BY CITIZENS:**

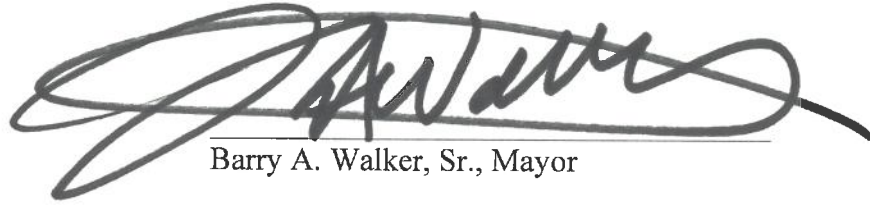
**DISCUSSION:**

None

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**


None

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, Mr. Sickinger made a motion to adjourn and Mr. Busch seconded it. The vote was unanimous; therefore, the meeting was adjourned at 7:45 P.M.



Barry A. Walker, Sr., Mayor

ATTEST:



Vi Racine, Municipal Clerk