

Moscow City Council



Regular Meeting ~Minutes~

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Laurie M. Hopkins
City Clerk

208.883.7015

Monday, August 17, 2020

7:00 PM

**Council Chambers
206 E. Third St.**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Mayor Bill Lambert, Art Bettge (video), Sandra Kelly, Maureen Laflin, Brandy Sullivan, Gina Taruscio, Anne Zabala (video)

STAFF: Gary J. Riedner, Mia Bautista (video), Bill Belknap (video), James Fry, Sarah Banks (video), Jesse Flowers (video), Tyler Palmer (video), Laurie M. Hopkins (video)

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Council Member Laflin led the Pledge of Allegiance.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. All Consent Items (ACTION ITEM)

A. Approval of Moscow City Council August 17, 2020 Minutes - Laurie M. Hopkins

Minutes provided for approval.

ACTION: Approve minutes.

B. Disbursement Report July 2020 - Sarah Banks

Accounts Payable Report for the month ending July 2020.

ACTION: Approve the Disbursements Report for the month of July 2020.

C. CARES Act Idaho Commission on the Arts Grant Application - Megan Cherry

The Idaho Commission on the Arts is facilitating the disbursement of CARES Act Round 1: Relief for Organizations funds to all current recipients of its Entry Track and Public Programs in the Arts grants. The Arts Department is a participant in both grant programs, and has been assigned funding in the amount of \$4826 to support operations in FY21. This opportunity requires the completion of a simple application followed by final reporting at the end of the fiscal year. If Council approves this application, the funding will support the presentation of a third exhibition at the Third Street Gallery during the year.

ACTION: Direction to staff to complete ICA CARES Act Round 1: Relief for Organizations grant application.

Sullivan moved and Taruscio seconded to approve the consent agenda as presented. Roll Call Vote:
Ayes: Unanimous. Nays: None. Abstentions: None. Motion carried.

REGULAR AGENDA

2. Staff Recognition Report - Gary J. Riedner

None offered.

3. Mayors Appointments (ACTION ITEM)

None offered.

4. Public Comment and Mayor's Response Period (limit 15 minutes)

None offered.

5. MPD Body-Worn Camera Proposal (ACTION ITEM) - Gary J. Riedner

The Moscow Police Department has been employing a Community Policing model which emphasizes education over enforcement and acts as a basis for professional, ethical and respectful law enforcement. This Community Policing philosophy has been employed for many years and as a result the MPD continues to support high standards of fairness, integrity, compassion and transparency. The use of individual body-worn cameras by law enforcement has increased over the past several years, and as the memo from Chief James Fry indicates, use of body-worn cameras has been identified in MPD's strategic planning process. Further, body-worn cameras have several advantages, including providing additional evidence, enhancing transparency of contacts between officers and community members, and increasing accountability of all parties to a law enforcement contact. The memo in the Council meeting packet discusses the various factors to be considered when making the decision to deploy body-worn cameras, in addition to the funding of a body-worn camera initiative. This was reviewed by the Public Works/Finance Committee on August 10, 2020 and was forwarded to the full Council for discussion, with a recommendation for approval.

PROPOSED ACTIONS: Approve the purchase and deployment of body-worn cameras by officers of the Moscow Police Department, including approval of funding proposal, all as included in the memo from the City Supervisor, or take such other action deemed appropriate.

Riedner introduced the item as written above and described startup and continuing costs including the cameras and storage for the footage. If the workload of curating and redacting the footage for public records requests is too much, there is some capacity to increase part-time to full time and would be included in the FY2022 budget. There is a need to protect privacy with public records but would not be an invasion of privacy because a citizen didn't want to have a recording. Cameras will be used when responding to high risk calls such as traffic stops and domestic violence calls. There will be an education piece in the implantation and will include why the department will utilize cameras. Bettge expressed concern with the additional ongoing personnel costs is a concern. Taruscio moved, Zabala seconded to approve the purchase and deployment of body-worn cameras by officers of the Moscow Police Department, including approval of the funding proposal, all as included in the memo from the City Supervisor. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Unanimous. Nays: None. Abstentions: None. Motion carried.

6. Draft Revision and Acceptance of Updated L-2 and Appropriation Ordinance (ACTION ITEM) - Gary J. Riedner / Sarah Banks

At the August 3, 2020 City Council meeting, Ordinance 2020-07 (the FY2021 Appropriations Ordinance) was approved under suspension of the rules requiring three complete and separate readings and that ordinance be read by title and published by summary. The City Council also

authorized the Mayor to execute the L-2 property tax certification in the aggregate amount of \$7,276,525. As staff reported at that meeting, Governor Little had proposed the Public Safety Grant Initiative, which provided funding for public safety payroll expenses to city and county governments that agreed to participate in the Initiative and further agreed to provide the resulting savings as property tax relief to the taxpayers of the participating units of local government by foregoing the taxes that would otherwise traditionally have been collected. The City Council had approved the filing of a Letter of Intent to participate in the Initiative. The City of Moscow was notified that it had been approved to receive \$1,646,816, in Public Safety Grant Initiative funds, which includes 3% allowed Administrative Expenses, and Moscow Urban Renewal Agency (MURA) increment, both of which are deducted from the amount to be used for property tax relief. At this time staff has not been advised of the amount of MURA increment. This amount is necessary in order to revise the City's FY2021 Appropriations Ordinance, as well as the final L-2 Property Tax Certification. The final date for submittal of the L-2 to Latah County is September 10, 2021. Staff has attached drafts of the revised Appropriations Ordinance and L-2 for illustrative purposes. If information is received on Monday, August 17, the final documents will be submitted for City Council approval.

PROPOSED ACTIONS: Review the draft revised Appropriations Ordinance and L-2 Property Tax Certification and provide staff direction.

Riedner introduced the item as written above and explained the changes to the L-2 due to receiving the Moscow Urban Renewal Agency increment amount. There are questions that the CARES act funding according to treasury regulation is not to be used for revenue replacement. A question has arisen whether this public safety personnel reimbursement proposal actually replaces funding and therefore would not be in conformance with the CARES Act. The governor issued an executive order last week indicating his office has been in contact with White House staff and treasury staff and were assured the program is valid. Urban renewal agencies receive their tax increment from a calculation of the property tax levy and is received from the counties. Because this is property tax replacement funding, the City will need to be pay the Moscow Urban Renewal Agency from this funding, rather than Latah County. To participate in the program and receive the funding, the City must reduce property taxes in a commensurate amount. The allowable 3% tax increase would then be available next year. Public education that this is a one-time program is extremely important. Sullivan moved and Kelly seconded to approve the FY2021 amended appropriations ordinance under suspension of the rules requiring three complete and separate readings and that the ordinance be read by title and published by summary. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Unanimous. Nays: None. Abstentions: None. Motion carried.

Mayor Lambert read Ordinance 2020-08:

AN ORDINANCE REPLACING AND SUPERSEDING ORDINANCE 2020-07, ENTITLED ANNUAL APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE; THIS NEW ORDINANCE IS ENTITLED "AMENDED ANNUAL APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE" APPROPRIATING NINETY-SIX MILLION ONE HUNDRED THIRTY-THREE THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED THIRTEEN DOLLARS (\$96,133,513) FOR THE PURPOSE OF DEFRAYING ALL NECESSARY EXPENSES AND LIABILITIES OF THE CITY OF MOSCOW, LATAH COUNTY, STATE OF IDAHO, FOR THE 2021 FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING THE FIRST DAY OF OCTOBER, 2020, AND ENDING THE THIRTIETH DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2021, AND ALLOTING RESOURCES BY FUND FOR SAID APPROPRIATION FOR THE OBJECTS AND PURPOSES SET FORTH IN THIS ORDINANCE; LEVYING AD VALOREM TAXES IN THE AMOUNT OF SEVEN MILLION FOUR HUNDRED TWENTY THOUSAND SIX HUNDRED EIGHTY-EIGHT (\$7,420,688) FOR THE 2021 FISCAL YEAR; PROVIDING THAT THE PROVISIONS OF THIS ORDINANCE BE

DEEMED SEVERABLE; PROVIDING FOR THIS ORDINANCE TO BE IN FULL FORCE AND EFFECT FROM AND AFTER ITS PASSAGE, APPROVAL AND PUBLICATION ACCORDING TO LAW.

Sullivan moved and Laflin seconded to approve the revised 2021 L-2 property tax certification and authorize Mayor's signature and transmittal to Latah County by September 10, 2020. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Unanimous. Nays: None. Abstentions: None. Motion carried.

REPORTS

City Council

Fair and Affordable Housing Commission – Taruscio said the Commission is drafting a response and collaboration letter for the housing study completed by PEP, for representation on the leadership team.

Planning and Zoning Commission – Kelly said the items being reviewed by the Commission will be brought forward to Council.

1912 Center Facilities Committee – Kelly reported the floors are being finished, lights are installed and final drywalling is beginning.

Moscow Pathways Commission – Kelly said August is bicycle month and rather than a public bike tour, the commission will go on a bike tour and take photographs and video of the various paths.

Moscow Volunteer Fire Department – Laflin said the annual fundraising event is usually in conjunction with the homecoming parade and in light of COVID, the Department is trying to decide whether to request closure of the street for take-out orders.

Sustainable Environment Commission – Laflin reported the Commission is trying to promote Moscow as a bee city and drafting a climate report.

Human Rights Commission – Laflin said the Commission finalized the letter to Council regarding gender neutral bathrooms; the theme for the Commission this year is Intersectionality.

Moscow Tree Commission – Sullivan said the Arbor Day event requirement is being waived by Tree City USA; discussed the commission alone planting a tree; a member will participate in the climate discussions with SEC; discussed downtown tree replacement plan.

Mayor

The Mayor thanked the citizens in Moscow for doing the best they can during this pandemic. There are good things on the horizon. Keep spirits high as Moscow moves forward.

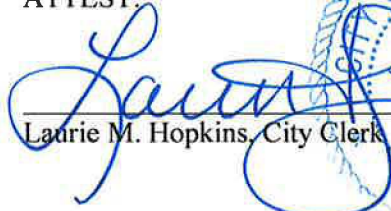
Staff

No report.

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 7:57 p.m.

ATTEST:


Laurie M. Hopkins, City Clerk




Bill Lambert, Mayor