

Moscow City Council



Regular Meeting ~Minutes~

www.ci.moscow.id.us

Laurie M. Hopkins
City Clerk

208.883.7015

Monday, October 5, 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, Sandra Kelly, Maureen Laflin, Brandy Sullivan, Gina Taruscio, Anne Zabala (virtual)

STAFF: Gary J. Riedner, Mia Bautista (virtual), Bill Belknap (virtual), Tyler Palmer (virtual), Brian Nickerson (virtual), David Schott, Nate Suhr, James Fry, Laurie M. Hopkins (virtual)

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Lambert led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PROCLAMATION – ARBOR DAY

Mayor Lambert read the Arbor Day proclamation. David Schott encouraged citizens to plant a tree in honor of Arbor Day. The Moscow Tree Commission will be planting apple trees at Harvest Park.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. All Consent Items (ACTION ITEM)

A. Approval of Moscow City Council September 21, 2020 Minutes - Laurie M. Hopkins

Minutes presented for approval.

ACTION: Approve minutes as presented.

B. Moscow City-Wide Sidewalk Replacement Project FY2020 Bid Results and Contract Award - Nate Suhr

The 2020 Moscow City-Wide Sidewalk Replacement Project will construct sidewalk and pedestrian ramp improvements in various locations with City funds and will perform additional sidewalk replacements under the Property Owner Assistance Program at the owner's expense. An electronic bid solicitation for this year's Sidewalk Program was issued to four area contractors on September 4th, 2020, giving them two weeks to respond. The project was advertised with known quantities for City funded jobs and with four homeowner jobs as additional alternatives to allow homeowners the opportunity to accept or reject offered prices. This was reviewed by the Public Works/Finance Committee on September 28, 2020 and recommended for approval.

Three responsive bids were received on September 18th, 2020. Of the responsive bids received, numbers ranged from \$58,039.80 to \$112,591.02 for the Base Bid and Additional Alternatives A-D. McCall's Classic Construction of Clarkston, Washington submitted the low bid on the

project of \$58,039.80. The Engineer's Estimate for the Base Bid and Additional Alternatives A-D was \$60,530.49.

ACTION: Accept the low bid including Base Bid and Additional Alternatives A and C and the rejection of Additional Alternatives B and D from McCall's Classic Construction, Inc., award the contract in the amount of \$54,709.60, and authorize staff approval of construction change orders in an amount not to exceed 10% of the contract amount (\$5,470.96).

C. Steve Vachon Troy Road Right-of-Way Dedication - Bob Buvel

The Idaho Transportation Department, the City of Moscow and Steve Vachon have been in negotiations to add a second eastbound lane to the Troy Road leg of the south couplet along Mr. Vachon's street frontage at 211 Troy Road (the former site of Stubb's Seed Service). Mr. Vachon has agreed to dedicate the additional right-of-way the second lane will require.

ACTION: Accept the right-of-way dedication.

Bettge moved and Laflin 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

Riedner commended staff for their hard work during this COVID situation. There has been a group of kind citizens thanking City employees with cards and treats. Staff greatly appreciates it.

3. Mayors Appointments (ACTION ITEM)

None offered.

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

Heather Stout (Moscow) thanked the Mayor and Council for the decision to continue the mask order and close Farmers Market to protect the Moscow community. She expressed concern for the vendors as for some this is their only time to sell. Many vendors had to throw out vegetables due to the armed protesters and singers. She requested City Council to find out what average total sales garnished for one day at the market and read it into the record.

5. Citizen Commission Report – Parks and Recreation Commission – Dwight Curtis / Robert Cooper

The report was delayed for 2 weeks.

6. Utility Hearing for Local Highway Safety Improvement Program Third Street PH 1 & 2 (ACTION ITEM) - Nate Suhr / Alisa Anderson

The Third Street Local Highway Safety Improvement Program Grant Phase I & II projects will replace broken and non-compliant sidewalks, adjust curbs to improve drainage, and install lighting to improve the illumination at the intersections on Third Street from Jackson Street to Lieouallen Street. As part of the construction process, franchise utility companies with infrastructure in the public right of way may be required to relocate portions of their infrastructure to accommodate the project. To this end the franchise utility companies have been notified of the proposed project and given the opportunity to sign waivers and/or given an opportunity to provide input on the scope of

work. Recently, many of the franchise utility companies have become uncomfortable signing the waivers which has resulted in the need to conduct a utility hearing to allow the utility providers an opportunity to provide comments upon the proposed project.

PROPOSED ACTIONS: Conduct the utility hearing and upon consideration of testimony, affirm the requirement that the franchise utility companies accommodate the project and relocate the utility facilities (if needed) or as required during construction, for the Third Street Safety Project Phases I & II (Key Numbers 20430 & 21997); or take other action as deemed appropriate.

Suhr introduced the item as written above.

Darrel Hart, Avista project coordinator for Moscow area, said there a couple poles that need right-of-way but willing to work with City to accommodate that.

There was no representative from Ziply or Spectrum. The comment will be passed onto the project engineers and there is no action required of Council.

7. Authorization for Purchase of Mask Fitting Machine (ACTION ITEM) - Brian Nickerson

The Moscow Volunteer Fire Department is requesting the authorization to purchase a mask-fitting machine, the Quality Guard Mask Fit Test Machine, which allows the Department to conduct annual required certifications for the fitting of Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA). Previous certifications have been accomplished by borrowing a testing machine from a vendor, which is dependent upon availability of the machine. The Department's response to the COVID-19 pandemic has required members of the Department to wear N95 face masks. The borrowed testing machine does not have the ability to test N95 masks, while the requested machine has that capability. In addition, the purchase of the machine will provide mask-fitting services to other City departments, as well as opportunities for other local emergency services departments. Staff has determined that as an apparatus necessary to assist in the City's COVID-19 response, it is appropriate to seek reimbursement from the City's CARES Act allocation. This was reviewed by the Public Works/Finance Committee on September 28, 2020 and recommended for approval.

PROPOSED ACTIONS: Approve the purchase of the Quality Guard Mask Fit Testing Machine, and seek reimbursement through the City's CARES Act allocation, or take such other action deemed appropriate.

Nickerson introduced the item as written above adding borrowing a machine causes scheduling issues as well. Staff has been reviewing the purchase for 3-4 years. With the CARES Act option, and the need to mask fit everyone on an annual basis for both masks, staff thought it was a great opportunity. OSHA and NFPA require annual testing and maintaining of one style of mask. If more concerns arise, more testing can be done. The purchase will be applied for preauthorization through CARES Act reimbursement. Sullivan was concerned about a possible motion, her understating purchase if preapproval, request preapproval first and only purchase if preapproval was authorized.

Sullivan moved to pursue pre-approval for funding through the CARES Act allocation and once received, proceed with purchasing the mask fitting equipment without further Council action. Taruscio seconded. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Unanimous. Nays: None. Abstentions: None. Motion carried.

The Federal CARES Act distributed \$1.25 billion to the State of Idaho for COVID-19 relief, with Moscow's distribution at \$887,100 (population based) to be used for reimbursement of city expenses in dealing with COVID. This reimbursement includes personnel costs of emergency personnel. The funds are not dependent on a city having an emergency order in place. No reimbursement has been received. Staff is accumulating expenses and will send in for reimbursement no later than November 11, 2020.

8. Palouse Basin Aquifer Committee Alternative Water Supply Management Contract (ACTION ITEM) - Tyler Palmer

For several years the Palouse Basin Aquifer Committee (PBAC) has been evaluating water supply alternatives to relieve pressure on the existing aquifers. A comprehensive analysis report has identified the most promising alternatives. PBAC has identified the need to retain a consultant to provide professional management services to further refine the alternatives, and to assist PBAC in developing a proposal to the Idaho Water Resource Board (IWRB) to fund the \$60-\$86 million project. Although PBAC has the funding for the contract, PBAC relies upon its contributing partner agencies to provide administrative services for contracts. PBAC has requested the City of Moscow to issue the RFP and provide administrative services for the consultant agreement. This came before City Council Administrative Committee on March 9, 2020 and received the unanimous consensus of the Committee and was to be placed on the City Council consent agenda. Unfortunately, due to an administrative oversight, it was not scheduled and approved by City Council. In the meantime, the RFP was issued, and PBAC selected a successful consultant, Alta Science and Engineering of Moscow. Staff has prepared a Professional Services Agreement between the City and Alta, as well as a Financial Agreement between PBAC and the City. The Financial Services Agreement obligates PBAC to be responsible for the funding of the City-Alta agreement. The funding from PBAC has already been received by the City.

PROPOSED ACTIONS: (1) Approve the Financial Agreement between the Palouse Basin Aquifer Committee and the City of Moscow; and
(2) Approve the Professional Services Agreement between the City of Moscow and Alta Science and Engineering; or
(3) Take such other action deemed appropriate.

Palmer introduced the item as written above. The Council had no questions. Sullivan moved and Bettge seconded to approve the Financial Agreement between the Palouse Basin Aquifer Committee and the City of Moscow. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Unanimous. Nays: None. Abstentions: None. Motion carried. Bettge moved and Taruscio seconded to approve the Professional Services Agreement between the City of Moscow and Alta Science and Engineering. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Unanimous. Nays: None. Abstentions: None. Motion carried.

REPORTS

City Council

Moscow Urban Renewal Agency – Sullivan reported they are moving forward exploring the southeast industrial park.

Historic Preservation Commission – Bettge reported the Commission got caught up on projects.

Fair and Affordable Housing Commission – Taruscio reported finalized response to housing study and looking at ways to gather citizen data that isn't survey work.

SMART Transit – Taruscio said they are still working on a third route.

Planning & Zoning Commission – Kelly said the Commission is discussing lighting and will take a field trip to see how to keep light sky at the same time.

Councilmembers spoke on other meetings and events.

Mayor

Mayor Lambert attended an Airport Board meeting. Flights for August are down 52% from the previous year. The airport is running two flights a day and will add as it picks up. Also took part in an airport design project meeting and saw different terminals built over the last decade and how something similar could fit in Pullman/Moscow. Mayor Lambert thanked the citizens of Moscow. The City is trying to keep businesses open, keep the University open and we will work through this together.

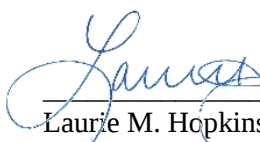
Staff

Council tasked staff for objective criteria to gauge health of community. Riedner met with Carol Moehrle, Public Health. They are constantly reviewing information to see if the methodology they are using correctly reflects what is going on. Criteria used to gauge risk is new daily cases per 10,000 population, number of confirmed hospital admissions, and test results. The rates in the last week have been quite high. Staff will continue researching and report back when more information is available.

ADJOURN

By consensus of the Council, the meeting adjourned at 7:44 p.m.

ATTEST:


Laurie M. Hopkins, Clerk




Bill Lambert, Mayor