

Moscow City Council



Regular Meeting ~Minutes~

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Laurie M. Hopkins
City Clerk

208.883.7015

**Monday
February 7, 2022**

7:00 PM

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

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

PRESENT: Mayor Art Bettge, Hailey Lewis, Sandra Kelly, Julia Parker, Gina Taruscio, Anne Zabala

ABSENT: Maureen Laflin

STAFF: Gary J. Riedner, Mia Bautista, Bill Belknap, Roger Lanier, Megan Cherry, Laurie M. Hopkins

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Bettge led the Pledge of Allegiance.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. All Consent Items (ACTION ITEM)

A. Approval of Moscow City Council January 18, 2022 Minutes - Laurie M. Hopkins

B. Idaho Commission on the Arts (ICA) Arts Education Annual Project Grant Application - Megan Cherry

The Arts Department seeks approval to apply for an annual grant administered by the Idaho Commission on the Arts (ICA). The Arts Education Annual Project is a grant program that supports activities that unite education and the arts. These grant funds will sustain the MAC and Arts Department's MACTivities Toolbox program, which is part of the MAC's fulfillment of the arts education component of their mission. The Toolbox program was initiated during the early days of the 2020 pandemic as a way to support arts education while maintaining social distance. The Toolboxes contain art supplies and National Core Arts Standards-aligned curriculum designed to serve ages 5 - 13+. The Arts Department successfully applied for funding through this grant program in 2021, and funds received in July 2021 were held back to support the program in FY22. The fourth edition of the program is currently in development, with a fifth edition slated to be produced by the end of June 2022. If received, this grant funding would represent off-setting revenue for operations in FY23. The grant request, if approved, will be for \$2500, and the program requires a 1:1 match.

PROPOSED ACTIONS: Ratify approval and submission of the Arts Education Annual Project grant application for the current cycle.

Taruscio moved and Kelly 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 - Bill Belknap

None offered.

3. Mayors Appointments (ACTION ITEM)

None offered.

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

Jake Garringer, policy advisor to Governor Little, said he is the local contact to the Governors office. He is available should the City want to reach out.

5. Citizen Commission Report - Moscow Arts Commission - Megan Cherry/Lauren McCleary

Cherry introduced Lauren McCleary, chair for the MAC. McCleary listed the MAC members and spoke on their volunteer hours. Projects and programs in 2021 included the introduction of an arts style guide, continuation of the Palouse Plein Air and MACtivities toolbox. Artwalk expanded with a new program called 3rd Thursday. McCleary described the exhibitions in the Third Street Gallery and the new public art. Projects for 2022 include Mayor's Arts Awards, installation of the Andrew Becker Memorial sculpture garden, and more MAC outreach.

Stacy Boe Miller, Moscow Poet Laureate, read a poem called Meadowlark.

6. Amendment to Title 11, Chapter 2 of Moscow City Code (ACTION ITEM) - Cody Riddle

Staff has prepared a draft amendment to City Code to address the use of E-bikes, E-scooters and similar devices on the City's streets, sidewalks and pathways in anticipation of the likely increased use. Additionally, Staff has prepared a draft license agreement for shared mobility providers that would regulate their operations and standards of performance. Both the code amendment and license agreement were reviewed and previously recommended for approval by the Transportation Commission. The Administrative Committee recommended approval of both documents on January 24, 2022. Staff will present the final ordinance for the Council's consideration.

PROPOSED ACTIONS: Approve the Ordinance under suspension of the rules requiring three complete and separate readings and that it be read by title and published by summary; or consider the Ordinance on first reading and that it be read by title; or reject the Ordinance; or take other action deemed appropriate.

Riddle introduced the item as written above and highlighted the changes. Changes include established definitions, operating standards including speed limits, parking, storage, and maintenance, clarification of enforcement. There is support from shared mobility providers and the University of Idaho. License agreement highlights include 24-hour contact, reporting structure, maintenance requirements, and will be re-evaluated annually. Dismount zones would be effective June 1, 2022 to allow staff to install the areas. Regulation does not include electronic wheelchairs. Press releases, social media, etc. will educate the citizens on dismount zones. A second round of education would be in the fall when students arrive back at school. Reckless riding is a misdemeanor which follows state law. Only dismount areas are the downtown core but staff can monitor abandonment of vehicles in other areas of the city. Staff can bring Council an update on how the program is working. The pathways have a 15 mph speed limit and feedback can be encouraged and enforcement is complaint based. Zabala wanted to discuss Section 2-4.D where it speaks on moving as far to the right of the traveled roadway. She wanted to add as safely far right as they could. Belknap said as the paragraph goes on, it says "as is safe under the conditions..." Discussion ensued regarding how to rephrase and if it was needed. Taruscio felt it was more syntax than anything. Kelly felt the paragraph already speaks on moving to the right safely and didn't think approving on first with a second reading was necessary.

Taruscio moved to approve the Ordinance under suspension of the rules requiring three complete and separate readings and that it be read by title and published by summary. Kelly seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Four (4). Nays: One (Zabala). Abstentions: None. Motion carried.

Mayor Bettge read Ordinance 2022-04 by title:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF MOSCOW, IDAHO, A MUNICIPAL CORPORATION OF THE STATE OF IDAHO; PROVIDING FOR THE AMENDMENT OF MOSCOW CITY CODE TITLE 11,

CHAPTER 2, RELATING TO WALKWAYS AND BIKE PATHS; PROVIDING FOR THE REGULATION OF ELECTRIC POWER-ASSISTED BICYCLES, SCOOTERS, AND BOARDS; PROVIDING FOR THE REGULATION OF SHARED MOBILITY PROGRAMS; PROVIDING THAT THE PROVISIONS OF THIS ORDINANCE BE DEEMED SEVERABLE; AND PROVIDING FOR THIS ORDINANCE TO BE IN FULL FORCE AND EFFECT FROM THE DATE OF ITS PASSAGE, APPROVAL AND PUBLICATION ACCORDING TO LAW.

Taruscio moved, Kelly seconded to approve the accompanying resolution. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Unanimous. Nays: None. Abstentions: None. Motion carried.

7. Emergency Radio Professional Services Agreement – Bill Belknap

In 2015, the City Council identified the City's emergency radio communications system's deficiencies as a Tier 1 major challenge for the City. The City's current communication system has only one channel and three repeaters for an area of less than seven square miles. Because repeaters aren't trunked or coordinated, officers must hunt for channels to locate the appropriate repeater to transmit calls, which places officers at risk. Officers currently experience a 5-10% transmittal failure due to dead zones throughout the patrol area, resulting in delayed notification and delayed officer response, both of which have escalated risk to citizens, officers and property. Overall, the ability to quickly intervene has declined as the communication system has deteriorated and calls for service have increased.

The City has commissioned several studies, including a needs assessment, radio coverage assessments, as well as an implementation plan and cost estimate. The current estimate for the project is \$3.4 Million, including the installation of a new simulcast system backbone and the replacement of all existing mobile and handheld radios. The City has accumulated funding for the project and is ready to begin the final design and construction of the communication network. The attached professional services agreement covers the design, FCC licensing, cost estimation, system procurement, and acceptance testing of a new VHF simulcast system and microwave radio interconnect system for the City of Moscow Public Safety radio system. It is anticipated that it will take approximately 24 months to complete the project.

PROPOSED ACTIONS: Approve the proposed Professional Services Agreement with Hatfiled & Dawson Consulting Engineers; or take other action deemed appropriate.

Belknap introduced the item as written above and clarified this radio system is full public safety system, police, fire and Whitcom. Belknap explained accumulation of funds. This radio project is a major challenge area in the strategic plan. Zabala moved, Lewis seconded to approve the Professional Services Agreement with Hatfiled & Dawson Consulting Engineers. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Unanimous. Nays: None. Abstentions: None. Motion carried.

8. Economic Development Administration Sixth Street Bridge Disaster Recovery Grant Agreement - Bill Belknap

After the Sixth Street Bridge was damaged by flooding events in 2019, the City applied for a disaster recovery grant administered by the Economic Development Administration (EDA) to assist with funding the construction of a new Sixth Street bridge over Paradise Creek near Mountain View Road. On January 12, 2022, EDA announced the grant award in the amount of \$955,000 for the project. The new 24-foot, single-span bridge will replace the existing culvert system and will include sidewalks, bike lanes, and be elevated to reduce future flooding in the area. This EDA grant, to be matched with \$515,000 from the City and project construction is anticipated to begin this summer and be completed by the end of 2022.

PROPOSED ACTIONS: Ratify acceptance of the grant award in the amount of \$955,000 and approve the associated Council Resolution; or take other action as deemed appropriate.

Belknap introduced the item as written above adding staff hopes to get the project out to bid by the end of the month and construction at the same time as the round-about so that the street is closed once. Kelly moved to ratify acceptance of the grant award in the amount of \$955,000 and approve the associated Council

Resolution. Zabala seconded. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Unanimous. Nays: None. Abstentions: None. Motion carried.

REPORTS

City Council

Human Rights Commission – Kelly said the Commission is working on a lot of projects.

Historic Preservation Commission – Kelly reported the Commission had a recap of the Orchid awards.

Planning and Zoning Commission – Taruscio said they discussed PBAC. Lewis added she appreciates all the extra readings the commission does.

Moscow Tree Commission – Taruscio reported the Commission discussed heritage trees, budget, and seedlings for Arbor Day.

Farmers Market Commission – Lewis reported the Commission discussed design guidance and requirements for vendors and focusing on meeting the mission.

Parks and Recreation Commission – Zabala said the Commission is taking survey's for what they would like to see in facilities; discussed the Milton Arthur park playground bids; Anderson frontier park will be the pesticide-free park for the year.

Fair and Affordable Housing Commission – Parker said the Commission will be sending a small sample survey to 300 households; will be tabling at the health fair March 10.

Mayor

Mayor Bettge had an AIC legislative update. Legislature is discussing URA limits; limitations of what cities can charge to new construction revenue; income tax decrease and rebate of \$75. He attended the Airport Board and terminal funding is close; ordering structural steel and sending bids for delivery in October. Terminal completion should be December 2023. February 23rd is the state of the city address.

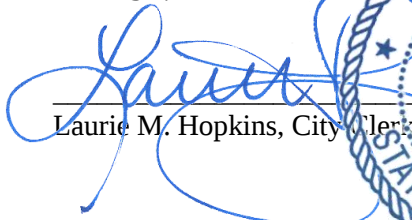
Staff

No report.

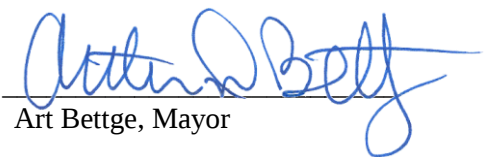
ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION PER IDAHO CODE 74-206 (1)(F) - THE MEETING WILL NOT RECONVENE.

Kelly moved, Taruscio seconded to adjourn to executive session at 8:09 p.m. per Idaho Code 74-206 (1)(F) and the meeting will not reconvene. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Unanimous. Nays: None. Abstentions: None. Motion carried.

ATTEST:


Laurie M. Hopkins, City Clerk




Art Bettge, Mayor

**CITY OF MOSCOW
MINUTES OF CITY COUNCIL EXECUTIVE SESSION
February 7, 2022**

Present: Mayor Bettge, Sandra Kelly, Hailey Lewis, Julia Parker, Gina Taruscio, Anne Zabala

Also Present: Bill Belknap, City Supervisor; Mia Bautista, City Attorney

The executive session was called to order at 8:14 p.m.

Item discussed pursuant to I.C. 74-206(1)(f)

The executive session was adjourned at 8:46 p.m.