

Public Works / Finance Committee



Regular Meeting ~Minutes~

Laurie M. Hopkins
City Clerk

www.ci.moscow.id.us

208.883.7015

**Monday
May 23, 2022**

3:00 PM

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

The meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Gina Taruscio, Hailey Lewis, Maureen Laflin

OTHERS: Mayor Art Bettge, Council Member Julia Parker,

STAFF: Bill Belknap, Cody Riddle, Mia Bautista, Alisa Anderson, Nate Suhr, Megan Cherry, Taylor Riedner

REGULAR AGENDA

1. Approval of Public Works/Finance Committee May 9, 2022 Minutes (ACTION ITEM) - Laurie M. Hopkins

The minutes were approved as presented.

2. Transportation Alternatives Program South Main Pedestrian Underpass UPDATED State/Local Agreement (ACTION ITEM) - Nate Suhr / Alisa Anderson

In 2018, the City and the Moscow Urban Renewal Agency (MURA) jointly funded a study to assess the feasibility of the construction of a pedestrian underpass on South Main/U.S. 95 just south of the US Hwy. 95/S.H. 8 intersection. In February of 2020, the City applied for a Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) grant administered by the Idaho Transportation Department (ITD). On March 18, 2020, ITD announced the City received a notification of award to receive federal funding of \$499,644 for the project. On April 1, 2022, the City received communication from ITD to increase the federal funding up to \$994,612 for the project. On April 4, City Council approved Resolution 2022-08 accepting the grant award. The awarded project will construct a bike/pedestrian underpass on the existing stream banks of Paradise Creek at the US Hwy. 95 crossing. The underpass will allow pedestrians and bicyclists to cross under US Hwy. 95 on a new Paradise Path connection without needing to cross US Hwy. 95, disrupting traffic flow on a busy section of the highway. The underpass will significantly improve pedestrian connectivity and safety and be constructed similar to the recently completed Styner/White underpass on Hwy. 8. The new path extension will be 710 feet long and 10 feet wide connecting to an existing route on Paradise Path leading to the Intermodal Transit Center, the University of Idaho campus with adjacent connections to Gritman Medical Center, student housing and downtown Moscow. The project is scheduled to be designed in 2022 and construction during the summer of 2023. The original award has been amended to increase the grant from \$500,000 to \$1 million.

PROPOSED ACTIONS: Recommend approval to execute the updated State/Local Agreement (Design and Construction) Project No. A022(943) Key 22943 US-Highway 95 Pedestrian Underpass to accompany previously approved Resolution 2022-08; or provide staff further direction.

Suhr introduced the item as written above. There will be no changes to the project as previously presented. The City's match to the grant award is 7.34%. The Committee recommended approval and that it be placed on the Council consent agenda.

3. Leading Idaho Local Bridge Program Grant Application (ACTION ITEM) - Nate Suhr / Alisa Anderson

SB 1359 authorized \$200 million in one-time funding for the repair or replacement of bridges greater than 20' in length. Bridges must be in poor condition or be posted for load weight limits to qualify.

The goal of the program is to replace 1/3 of local bridges in poor or posted conditions. The only qualifying bridge in the City of Moscow is the Sand Road Bridge over the South Fork of the Palouse River. This 51' long bridge is posted with a load restriction and recommended for replacement due to its decreased load capacity. The Leading Idaho Local Bridge Grant has no maximum request amount and no local match requirement. The Local Highway Technical Assistance Committee (LHTAC) will be managing the program with support from local staff and the design firms will be contracting directly with LHTAC, reducing the City of Moscow's required management time. Based on preliminary estimates and recently submitted prices, the bridge is estimated not to exceed the cost of \$1.8 million.

PROPOSED ACTIONS: Authorize City staff to submit a Leading Idaho Local Bridge Program Grant request with total project costs not to exceed \$1,800,000 and Approval for the Mayor to sign the attached Memorandum of Understanding; or provide staff further direction.

Suhr introduced the item as written above. Anderson mentioned that an updated Resolution would be included with the next Council packet. Belknap shared a project that may be proposed in the future regarding the second bridge crossing on the same road which is maintained by the county. The Committee recommended approval and that it be placed on the Council consent agenda.

4. Andrew Becker Memorial Public Artwork (ACTION ITEM) - Megan Cherry

The family of Andrew Becker has donated funds to support the installation of a permanent public art piece at the Intermodal Transit Center Sculpture Garden. In January 2022, City Council voted to approve a contract with J. Casey Doyle to create two designs to be considered for the Becker Memorial at the ITC Sculpture Garden. Doyle's designs have been reviewed by the donor, whose recommendation was presented to the MAC during the Commission's regular meeting on Tuesday, May 10. The MAC echoes the donor's recommendation for the design with the working title of "Ribbon Clouds." If approved by City Council, staff will complete an artwork commission agreement approved by City Council in January 2022. The project timeline indicates installation of the artwork at the Intermodal Transit Center Sculpture Garden in October 2022.

PROPOSED ACTIONS: Recommend approval of the "Ribbon Clouds" design by J. Casey Doyle, or provide staff further direction.

Cherry introduced the item by reflecting on the project over the last year and a half. \$3,000 of the \$8,000 project was provided by the City to support the use of longer lasting materials. Cherry shared the reflections of both the donor and the artist regarding the art piece. The Committee recommended approval and that it be placed on the Council consent agenda.

5. Approval of Liquor License and Request for Waiver for Neat (ACTION ITEM) - Bill Belknap

On May 18, 2022, AA&T Moscow LLC, dba Neat applied for a new liquor license including beer, wine and restaurant certification. Moscow City Code Title 9, Section 7-3 requires approval from the City Council prior to the City Clerk issuing a license to sell liquor. Inspections, background checks, State license and County license are pending. Idaho Code 23-913 prohibits the retail sale of alcohol within 300 feet of a public school, church, or any other place of worship except with the approval of the governing body of the municipality. The proposed location for the liquor license is within 300 feet of NSA North Campus building (previously CJ's) which due to church services taking place every Sunday, is being considered a place of worship. Neat is asking the City Council to approve a waiver from the City to obtain a liquor, beer and wine license. Both New Saint Andrews and Kings Cross Church have been invited to attend the Committee meeting.

PROPOSED ACTIONS: 1. Recommend approval of a waiver allowing alcohol within 300 feet of a place of worship, or provide staff further direction;
2. Recommend approval of the alcohol license and restaurant certification for Neat conditioned upon the passing of inspections, background checks and approval of licenses from the State and County, or provide staff further direction.

Belknap introduced the item as written above, shared background of the business and location, and reflected on conversations with the Idaho State Police and Alcohol Beverage Control. The Moscow United Church is located just outside of the 300-foot boundary and does not impact the license. The State and County are not able to process the license until the Council approves the waiver of the application. The anticipated occupancy load is 10 to 15 people but will be determined based on the building code and after the inspection is completed.

Andy Severson (Neat Manager and Applicant) shared the location is 728 square feet and food will not be served. The location would be at the east end of the building above where the Mingles kitchen would be.

The Committee recommended approval and that it be placed on the Council consent agenda.

REPORTS

Staff Report (if needed)

No report needed.

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 3:37 p.m.

