

Moscow City Council



Regular Meeting ~Minutes~

Laurie M. Hopkins
City Clerk

www.ci.moscow.id.us

208.883.7015

**Tuesday
February 21, 2023**

7:00 PM

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

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

PRESENT: Mayor Art Bettge, Drew Davis, Sandra Kelly, Maureen Laflin, Hailey Lewis, Julia Parker, Gina Taruscio

STAFF: Bill Belknap, Mia Bautista, Cody Riddle, James Fry, David Schott, Tyler Palmer, Laurie M. Hopkins

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Council Vice President Taruscio led the Pledge of Allegiance.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. All Consent Items (ACTION ITEM)

A. Approval of Moscow City Council February 6, 2023 Minutes - Laurie M. Hopkins

B. Disbursement Report for January 2023 - Sarah Banks

Staff presented the January 2023 Accounts Payable Report to the Public Works / Finance Committee on February 13th, 2023. The Committee received the report and approved the disbursements as presented.

PROPOSED ACTIONS: Accept the Disbursements Report for the month of January 2023.

C. Good Samaritan Pathway Reconstruction - Bid Results & Contract Award - Bob Buvel

The Good Samaritan Pathway Reconstruction project includes the reconstruction of the public pathway through the Good Samaritan Property from F Street to Eisenhower Street. The bid consists of the full replacement of portions of the pathway destroyed by tree roots and the 2019 floods as well as an overlay of the rest of the pathway. The City solicited semi-formal bids on January 20, 2023, and the Engineer's Estimate for construction is \$124,320.00.

Bids were opened on January 27, 2023, at which one (1) bid was received. The single responsive bid received was submitted by Motley-Motley Inc. with a bid of \$106,428.00. This was reviewed by the Public Works/Finance Committee on February 13, 2023, and recommended for approval.

ACTION: Accept the bid from Motley Motley Inc., award the contract in the amount of \$106,428.00, and authorize staff approval of construction change orders in an amount not to exceed 10% of the contract amount.

D. Palouse Groundwater Basin Water Alternatives Supply Contract Extension - Tyler Palmer

The City of Moscow is administering a contract with Alta Science and Engineering Inc. on behalf of the Palouse Basin Aquifer Committee (PBAC). The contract is for continued work toward the selection and implementation of an alternate water supply project. At their meeting on July 28, 2022, PBAC approved an extension of the contract to facilitate Alta's support of the project as it enters a public involvement phase. The work is billed on a time and materials basis not to exceed \$50,000. The City invoiced PBAC for the entire amount, and will reimburse any funds not

expended. The contract is set to expire on March 1, 2023. There are remaining tasks and funding that will require an extension of the contract period to May 31, 2023. This was reviewed by the Public Works/Finance Committee on February 13, 2023 and recommended for approval.

ACTION: Approve the contract extension with Alta Science and Engineering Inc.

E. Lincoln South of Public Sewer Project - Bid Results & Contract Award - Nate Suhr

The Lincoln South of Public Project extends from the intersection of North Lincoln Street and East Vandal Drive, continues north to Public Avenue and then traverses west on Public Avenue beyond Moore Street and terminates East of East F Street. This project includes the removal of an eight inch concrete sanitary sewer pipe on North Lincoln Street and East Public Avenue for the purposes of replacing sanitary sewer pipe experiencing root intrusion and also to reroute the sewer pipe onto the public right of way. The base bid consists of the removal and replacement of sanitary sewer service pipe, the removal and installation of sanitary sewer manholes, reconnection of existing sanitary sewer services, the paving of all removed asphalt roadway, placement of asphalt tailings on similar roadway, and the operation of a temporary bypass pump to allow connection of the new sanitary system to the existing without disruption of sewer service. The City published an advertisement for bids on January 14, 2023. The Engineer's Estimate for construction was \$411,405.00. Bids were opened on January 31, 2023, at which five (5) bids were received. The bids ranged from \$352,426.00 to \$461,990.00. Of those bids, the lowest responsive bid received was submitted by Big Sky Corporation of Hayden, ID with a bid of \$352,426.00. A bid analysis is included in the packet.

ACTION: Accept the bid from Big Sky Corporation, award the contract in the amount of \$352,426.00, and authorize staff approval of construction change orders in an amount not to exceed 10% of the contract amount.

F. Inland Cellular Wireless Lease Agreement Amendment - Bill Belknap

Inland Cellular currently holds a wireless communications facility lease with the City for cellular communications equipment on the City's Residence Street water tower. The current agreement includes lease fee escalation every 5 years based on the Consumer Price Index (CPI). The City began with the CPI-based escalators in 2002 with the initial wireless communications facility leases on the City's water reservoirs, but due to the complexity of the calculation and the potential for errors, more recent leases approved by the City have included a more simplistic 3% annual escalation provision. Inland Cellular has requested to amend the existing agreement to replace the current CPI escalator with the City's current standard 3% annual escalation. Staff has prepared an agreement amendment to make that change to the agreement. The new 3% annual escalator would remain in place until the agreement expires in 2028. This was reviewed by the Public Works/Finance Committee on February 13, 2023 and recommended for approval.

ACTION: Approve the proposed wireless communications agreement amendment.

Kelly 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. Mayor's Appointments (ACTION ITEM)

Mayor Bettge presented to the City Council for consideration the appointment of JacQueline Walker to the Moscow Arts Commission. Lewis moved and Kelly seconded approval of the appointment. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Unanimous. Nays: None. Abstentions: None. Motion carried.

Walker said she moved from Spokane to Moscow in 2021 to work on her Masters degree. She has

appreciated how important the arts culture is in Moscow and is excited to meet people in the city and learn how it supports the arts.

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

None offered.

4. Whitcom Report - Wendy Berrett

Berrett said Whitcom began in 1996, was consolidated in 2004 and has 55 agencies participating (25 fire, 14 law, 15 EMS, 2 Universities). Whitcom is the Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) for the region. Every 911 call for Whitman County, Asotin County and Moscow, Idaho come to Whitcom and are dispatched. Whitcom is one of only three PSAP's in the nation crossing state boundaries. They cover 2,940 square miles and serve over 83,000 citizens. She listed the partners and employee positions. There are four stages to become a dispatcher: testing and hiring process; training; time as a mentee; and the dispatcher. The top four priorities are customer service, responder safety, technical support and citizen safety. There are 10 dispatch workstations, each with 6 monitors. The biggest thing to remember when calling 911 is know your location. Fire and medical calls are processed through priority dispatch which are internationally used protocols. All dispatchers are fire and medical certified and trained. Whitcom is equipped to receive texts to 911 but cannot receive photos and videos through texting.

Taruscio said she is impressed with what Whitcom is doing, especially with the lack of employees. Recruitment. Parker said the dispatchers are all polite and knowledgeable as she calls often in her position at a nursing home. Berrett said they are the heroes that sit in the dark. Lewis said this is another example of cross community collaboration.

5. 1912 Center Northeast Room, Second Floor Naming Proposal (ACTION ITEM) - David Schott

Heart of the Arts, Inc. (HAI) is proposing to permanently name the newly remodeled 1912 Center game room the "Chin Lew Green Dragon Game Room" in honor of the Chin and Lew families (please see attached proposal). The game room is the room on the northeast corner of the second floor of the 1912 Center. Funds in the amount of \$80,000 were donated by Claire Chin and Merry Lew to complete the renovation of the game room that is now home to the old back bar that was in the family's downtown restaurant since 1947. This donation was made to name the room in honor of the families who have shared their culinary culture with Moscow since 1931.

The Parks and Recreation Commission reviewed the proposal and recommended City Council approval during their January 26, 2023 meeting. The Public Works / Finance Committee considered and recommended approval on February 13, 2023.

PROPOSED ACTIONS: Approve naming the northeast room of the second floor of the 1912 Center the "Chin Lew Green Dragon Game Room"; or take other action as deemed appropriate.

Schott introduced Jenny Kostroff. Kostroff introduced the item as written above. The Chin's brought the first Asian influence food to Moscow. Having no questions, Laflin moved to approve naming the northeast room of the second floor of the 1912 Center the "Chin Lew Green Dragon Game Room". Lewis seconded. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Unanimous. Nays: None. Abstentions: None. Motion carried.

6. 1912 Center Southwest Room, Second Floor Naming Proposal (ACTION ITEM) - David Schott

Heart of the Arts, Inc. (HAI) is proposing to permanently name the newly remodeled 1912 Center historic classroom the "Barr Family Historic Classroom" in honor of the Barr family (please see attached proposal). The historic classroom is the room on the southwest corner of the second floor of the 1912 Center. Funds in the amount of \$80,000 were donated by Steve Barr to complete the renovation of the Historic Classroom. This donation was made in order to name the room in honor of his parents, longtime Moscow residents William and Audrey Barr.

The Parks and Recreation Commission reviewed the proposal and recommended City Council approval during their January 26, 2023 meeting. The Public Works / Finance Committee considered and recommended approval on February 13, 2023.

PROPOSED ACTIONS: Approve naming the southwest room of the second floor of the 1912 Center the “Barr Family Historic Classroom”; or take other action as deemed appropriate.

Kostroff introduced the item as written above. Steve Barr is a regular at the building and supporter of learning. His family was involved education in Moscow both at the U of I and in arts education. The classroom houses a program called “Pen and Primmer” where fourth grade students come to the building and experience a day in the life of a 1913 fourth grader. When not in use for the program, the classroom can be rented. The rental funds go back to the program.

Taruscio moved to approve naming the southwest room of the second floor of the 1912 Center the “Barr Family Historic Classroom”. Kelly seconded. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Unanimous. Nays: None. Abstentions: None. Motion carried.

7. Basin 87 General Provision Agreement Approval (ACTION ITEM) - Bill Belknap

The Idaho Department of Water Resources (IDWR) is currently conducting adjudication of water rights within the Palouse River Basin (Basin 87). When IDWR established the general provisions governing the adjudication process, they included a provision that water rights (both surface diversions and groundwater diversions) within Basin 87 would be administered as connected sources of water in the Palouse River Basin in accordance with the prior appropriation doctrine. Prior research of the Palouse Basin aquifer system has revealed that there is no definitive evidence of a significant connection between surface water bodies and the underlying aquifers that supply drinking water to the City of Moscow and other domestic wells in the basin due to the geologic structure and thick confining clay layers present within the basin. The City filed a timely objection to IDWR’s general provisions due to this condition. IDWR has consented to the removal of this provision and indicated that the inclusion of this provision was unintentional. The attached Standard Form 5 agreement between the City and the State of Idaho will remove the connected source general provision subject to the approval of the Presiding Judge over the Palouse River Basin Adjudication. Staff has also prepared a Resolution to record the Council’s approval of the proposed agreement and authorizing our legal counsel Candice McHugh to execute the Standard Form 5 on behalf of the City of Moscow.

PROPOSED ACTIONS: Approve the proposed Standard Form 5 Agreement and Resolution authorizing Candice McHugh to execute the Agreement on behalf of the City of Moscow; or take other action as deemed appropriate.

Belknap introduced the item as written above. Having no questions Kelly moved to approve the proposed Standard Form 5 Agreement and Resolution authorizing Candice McHugh to execute the Agreement on behalf of the City of Moscow. Laflin seconded. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Unanimous. Nays: None. Abstentions: None. Motion carried.

REPORTS

City Council

Moscow Volunteer Fire Department – Kelly said the Department is smooth sailing.

Palouse Basin Aquifer Committee – Kelly said there are changes but nothing earth shattering.

Moscow Arts Commission – Parker reported there are many RFP's out for opportunity for local artists.

Farmers Market Commission – Parker said for 2023 the market has 136 vendors signed up. There are 10 new ag vendors and 72 vendors competing for the 9 remaining spaces.

Moscow Tree Commission – Taruscio said the Commission designed t-shirts; setting goals for next year; drafted a budget; increased the amount of seedlings; created a new class for spring called “Conifers of Idaho.”

Sustainable Environment Commission – Laflin said they opened nominations for the Mayor's Earth Day awards; a high school student representative spoke on a solar project at the middle school; the climate action plan group is collaborating on a workshop with contractors.

Council members also spoke on other events and meetings.

Mayor

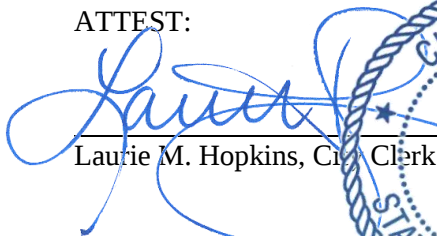
Mayor Bettge said he attended the Borah Symposium; the United Way fund raiser; spoke to Leadership Moscow on how municipal government works; MLK essay and awards; presented \$100 to the Russell School third graders for Readers to Leaders; presented the State of the City address; weekly AIC legislative review.

ADJOURN

It was moved, seconded and mutually agreed upon to adjourn at 7:53 p.m.


Arthur D. Bettge, Mayor

ATTEST:


Laurie M. Hopkins, City Clerk

