

Moscow City Council



Regular Meeting ~Minutes~

Laurie M. Hopkins
City Clerk

www.ci.moscow.id.us

208.883.7015

**Monday
April 3, 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, Brian Nickerson, David Schott, Aimee Hennrich, Laurie M. Hopkins

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Former Captain Len Crosby, Purple Heart City representative led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PROCLAMATION

Purple Heart City

Mayor Bettge read the proclamation. Len Crosby, former Army Ranger and Captain, presented the Mayor with a Purple Heart City sign to display in the City. He said the Purple Heart is America's oldest military declaration which was designed and instituted by General Washington in the revolutionary war. He provided additional background on the award. More than 1.8 million American citizens have been awarded purple hearts, and more than 3800 Idaho veterans have been awarded. He greatly appreciates the actions of Moscow in the support of veterans and their families. Major Dale Wilson accompanied Crosby.

Fair Housing Month

Mayor Bettge read the Fair Housing Month proclamation. Casey Holcomb-Hawkes accepted the proclamation.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. All Consent Items (ACTION ITEM)

A. Approval of Moscow City Council March 20, 2023 Minutes - Laurie M. Hopkins

B. Consideration of Custodial Services For Certain City Buildings - David Schott

The City published an invitation to bid for custodial services for certain City buildings on February 11, 2023 and February 18, 2023. Bid opening occurred on March 3, 2023 for Module #1 (Police Station) and Module #3 (Hamilton Indoor Recreation Center (HIRC) and Eggan Youth Center) for custodial services beginning May 1, 2023 and continuing through September 30, 2025. The City received three bids for each module. GG Gutter, Inc. dba, Creative Cleaning Connections was the low bidder for Module #1 and Module #3 in the amount of \$72,626.59 and \$107,637.94, respectively. This was reviewed by the Administrative Committee on March 27, 2023 and recommended for approval.

ACTION: Accept the low bid from GG Gutter, Inc. dba, Creative Cleaning Connections for Module #1 (Police Station) and Module #3 (HIRC and Eggan Youth Center) for custodial services beginning May 1, 2023 and continuing through September 30, 2025 in the amount of \$180,264.53.

C. Approval of Resolution for Moscow Police Department Parking Enforcement Specialists and Code Enforcement Officers to perform the function of removal of Abandoned or Junk Vehicles - Anthony Dahlinger

Idaho Code Title 49, Chapter 18 governs the towing and storage of motor vehicles. Pursuant to Idaho Code § 49-1804, “authorized officers” are permitted to have an abandoned vehicle removed from a highway or from public or private property to a garage or nearest place of safety. Idaho Code § 49-102 (19) defines an “authorized officer” as “...any regularly employed and salaried city peace officer or other city employee designated to perform the function of removing abandoned vehicles or junk vehicles by the city council...” Moscow Police Department’s Parking Specialists and Code Enforcement Officers, who are not POST-certified law enforcement officers and therefore not considered peace officers, currently have job duties which include the enforcement of parking regulations through the City of Moscow. Both Parking Enforcement Specialists and Code Enforcement Officers currently assist with tagging of abandoned and junk vehicles, but are not currently authorized to perform the function of removing abandoned vehicles or junk vehicles. Pursuant to Idaho Code 49-102(19), the Moscow Police Department is requesting City Council to designate MPD’s Parking Enforcement Specialists and Code Enforcement Officers to have the authority to complete the abandoned and junk vehicle process by performing the function of removing abandoned or junk vehicles from a highway or from public or private property to a garage or nearest place of safety. This was reviewed by the Administrative Committee on March 27, 2023 and recommended for approval.

ACTION: Approve the Resolution for the Moscow Police Department’s Parking Enforcement Specialists and Code Enforcement Officers to perform the function of removal of abandoned or junk vehicles.

D. Transportation Alternatives Program North and South Mountain View Pedestrian Improvements State/Local Agreement - Nate Suhr / Alisa Anderson

In 2022, as a result of the increased federal funding due to COVID, the City of Moscow was asked to submit two (2) applications for Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) funding rather than the typical requirement of one project per municipality per year. The Mountain View Road corridor was selected as a prime candidate for TAP funding, which prioritizes, as the name suggests, non-vehicular modes of transportation. After identifying the corridor, further investigation led to the selection of the areas from 'F' Street to Slonaker Drive in the north and from Joseph Street to the Paradise Creek Bridge in the south. The current scope of the northern project includes the installation of approximately 1,600 LF of curb, gutter, green strip, and sidewalk on the west side of Mountain View Road from 'F' Street to Slonaker Drive. The proposed improvements would close the second-largest gap in the Mountain View pedestrian corridor, creating an additional north-south pathway for non-motorized road users. The current scope of the southern project includes the installation of approximately 900 feet of curb, gutter and sidewalk on both sides of Mountain View Road, the installation of a pedestrian warning beacon where Paradise Path meets Mountain View Road and 900 feet of sidewalk along the Latah Fairgrounds access road. This corridor will connect to the south end of the Mountain View road project that was completed in Fall of 2022 and will close a gap in the pedestrian infrastructure between Joseph Street and White Avenue. These improvements will result in a continuous sidewalk corridor from Slonaker Drive to White Avenue. This item was reviewed by the Administrative Committee on March 27, 2023, and recommended for approval.

ACTION: Approval to execute State/Local Agreement (Design and Construction) Project No. A023(902) and A023(903) Key 23902 and 23903 North Mountain View Pedestrian Improvements and South Pedestrian Improvements and the corresponding Resolution.

E. Proposed Lot Line Adjustment between Lots 1 and 2, Block 1 of Woodbury 1st Addition and 1309 Slonaker Drive (ACTION ITEM) - Aimee Hennrich

The applicants, Mark Wintz and Joe May, are requesting a lot line adjustment between three properties described as Lot 1 and Lot 2, Block 1 of Woodbury 1st Addition and 1309 Slonaker Drive. The proposed lot line adjustment would reduce Lot 1, Block 1 from 13,893 sf to 13,486 sf and reduce Lot 2, Block 1 from 14,049 sf to 13,407 sf. The lot addressed as 1309 Slonaker Drive would increase from 44,651 sf to 45,700 sf. The applicants are requesting the lot line adjustment in order to accommodate the existing landscaping at 1309 Slonaker Drive. The two lots within Woodbury 1st Addition are vacant land and are located in the Moderate Density Residential Zoning District (R-2). Within the R-2 Zoning District, lots are required to be 7,000 sf and have a minimum lot width of 60 feet. 1309 Slonaker contains a single-family home as well as a detached garage and is located within the Low Density, Single-Family Residential Zoning District (R-1). Within the R-1 Zoning District, lots with single-family dwellings require a minimum area of 9,600 sf and a minimum lot width of 80 feet. All three proposed lots meet the requirements of their respective zoning designations. The Administrative Committee reviewed and recommended approval of this lot line adjustment to City Council on March 24, 2023.

ACTION: Approve the lot line adjustment request with no conditions.

F. Pullman Highway Transmission Line Project - Bid Results & Contract Award - Bob Buvel

This project's scope includes construction of approximately 3079 linear ft of 24" C900-16 water main, 292 additional linear ft of various size C900 water main, as well as surface restoration of parking lots, highway, street, sidewalks, and green strips. Construction of water main includes new hydrants, associated fittings/valves, thrust restraint, and connection to existing water mains. The City advertised for bids on February 25, 2023 & March 4, 2023, and the Engineer's Estimate for construction was \$1,115,390.00. Bids were opened on March 14, 2023, at which four (4) bids were received. The bids ranged from \$1,519,761.00 to \$2,333,027.50. Of those bids, the lowest responsive bid received was submitted by DEBCO Construction of Orofino, ID with a bid of \$1,519,761.00. A bid tabulation is included in the packet. This was reviewed by the Administrative Committee on March 27, 2023 and recommended for approval.

ACTION: Accept the bid from DEBCO Construction, award the contract in the amount of \$1,519,761.00, and authorize staff approval of construction change orders in an amount not to exceed 10% of the contract amount.

G. Memorandum of Understanding with the Moscow Rural Fire Department - Brian Nickerson / Bill Belknap

The City of Moscow provides a variety of services for the Moscow Rural Fire District under a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the two entities. The City and Rural Fire District Commissioners recently conducted a review of the MOU and developed a new agreement that reflects the current services and cooperative activities. The Moscow Rural Fire District Commissioners approved the new MOU at their meeting on March 21, 2023 and the updated agreement is now being presented to the Council for consideration of approval. This was reviewed by the Administrative Committee on March 27, 2023 and recommended for approval.

ACTION: Approve the updated MOU between the City of Moscow and the Moscow Rural Fire District.

Taruscio 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

None offered.

3. Mayors Appointments (ACTION ITEM)

Mayor Bettge presented to the City Council for consideration the appointment of Ducati Schiff to the Human Rights Commission. Kelly moved and Taruscio seconded approval of the appointment. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Unanimous. Nays: None. Abstentions: None. Motion carried.

Schiff said she is originally from Wisconsin and will take the LSAT in June. She provided additional background experience in advocating for human rights and is excited to take a more active role in Moscow both on and off campus and in the community.

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

None offered.

5. Citizen Commission Report - Fair and Affordable Housing Commission – Aimee Hennrich / Casey Holcomb-Hawkes

Hennrich introduced Casey Holcomb-Hawkes, current chair for the Fair and Affordable Housing Commission. Holcomb-Hawkes described the mission of the Commission and the members. This year, the Commission prepared and conducted a sample survey to gauge community perception of Fair Housing issues; held the annual Fair Housing Training where over 35 attendees joined the Zoom training; and tabled at the Farmers Market where a tenant rights and responsibilities brochure handed out. The Commission will continue to look at ways to promote Fair and Affordable Housing and make recommendations to Council when appropriate. In response to Parker's question regarding larger community issues, Holcomb-Hawkes said the bigger issues are cost of rent and reference letters for purchase of a home. New commission members will be bringing more issues. Lewis said she is interested in how short-term rentals effect on housing inventory and affordable housing. Holcomb-Hawkes said the commission hasn't yet discussed short term housing. Eija Sumner, Chamber of Commerce, said there were discussions regarding ADU's during the legislative session and whether an HOA can regulate them but doesn't know the outcome.

6. 1912 Center Annual Report - David Schott / Jenny Kostroff

Schott introduced Jenny Kostroff, Executive Director of Heart of the Arts. The Heart of the Arts includes a board of 10 members, an executive director and 12 staff members. The contract with the City renews in September 2031. This year saw the completion of the second floor. The Book Room is open to the public. The historic classroom has the Pen and Primer project where students learn what it was to live in 1913. The Dragon Game Room was also completed. A new community art program on the third Monday of every month was introduced. The winter market saw its 18th year. Next year will see a kid's classroom during the winter market. Plaza concerts are under discussion as many smaller groups in Moscow are now having music as part of what they do.

7. Moscow Volunteer Fire Dept Annual Report – Brian Nickerson

Last year was the largest incident year with a total of 2776 of which 75.5% of the calls were rescue and emergency medical service. Graphs showing incidents by month, day of week and time of day was illustrated. Inspections include semi-annual fraternity/sorority's, businesses, and multi-family buildings and 295 inspections were completed this past year. The new engine 20 is anticipated to be delivered in August or September. The Department is still trying to recruit/retain community volunteers and there are still challenges with paramedic coverage. There will be many events in the next six months including

graduation from the fire academy and the 75th anniversary of the student resident fire program. Moscow is growing and in relation, there is a desire to increase sleeping capacity for residents and forecasting for the probability of an additional station. Out of 19 applications, 11 students joined the Department. There are 24 beds for residents and 74-75 volunteers.

REPORTS

City Council

Historic Preservation Commission – Taruscio said the Commission is working on Orchid awards and a tour of Ridenbaugh Hall.

Planning and Zoning Commission – Taruscio said they have a lot of outside reading and discussed buffer yards.

Sustainable Environment Commission – Laflin said they reviewed the Mayor's Earth Day awards and are encouraging the planting of seeds to attract bees.

Palouse Basin Aquifer Committee – Kelly said the Committee is taking applications for executive director.

1912 Development Committee – Kelly said Jenny Kostroff touched on all items.

SMART Transit – Lewis said they launched a new website and hoping to get live tracking soon.

1912 Center Use Committee – Lewis said Jenny Kostroff touched on all items.

Parks and Recreation Commission – Davis reported youth sports are coming up and need volunteers; discussed aquatic positions and sponsorships for items such as funbrellas.

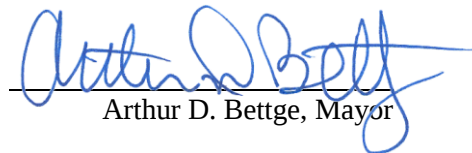
Council Members spoke on other events and meetings, including the National League of Cities conference.

Mayor

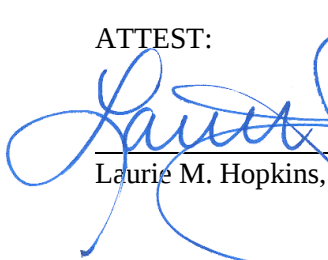
Mayor Bettge reported he attended the NLC conference and the USDA has monies for workforce housing and urban forestry and tree planting. He had meetings with Idaho senators and representatives and discussed funding for the airport. The Airport Board is lobbying for intra-aviation within the state. The Idaho Legislature session should be complete on the 6th.

ADJOURN

It was moved, seconded and mutually agreed upon to adjourn at 8:42 p.m.


Arthur D. Bettge, Mayor

ATTEST:


Laurie M. Hopkins, City Clerk

