

Moscow City Council



Regular Meeting ~Minutes~

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Laurie M. Hopkins
City Clerk

208.883.7015

Monday, June 3, 2024

7:00 PM

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

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

PRESENT: Mayor Art Bettge, Bryce Blankenship, Drew Davis, Hailey Lewis, Julia Parker, Gina Taruscio

ABSENT: Sandra Kelly

STAFF: Bill Belknap, Mia Bautista, Cody Riddle, Alisa Anderson, David Schott, Laurie M. Hopkins

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Council Member Blankenship led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PROCLAMATIONS

1. National Pollinator Week

Mayor Bettge read the National Pollinator Week proclamation and presented it to David Schott. Schott said the City has been a Bee City USA member since 2022 and there is information on the city website regarding pollinators and local nursery's.

REGULAR AGENDA

2. Mayors Appointments (ACTION ITEM)

None offered.

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

Kent Salisbury (Moscow) wanted to highlight public notice for planning developments such as the highway reconstruction, overall development of Home Depot, and proposal for new high school. Quite a few trees have been cut down recently and he listed them and requested to plant more trees. There is graffiti on a shed along Paradise Path on Highway 8. He suggested implementation of a public campaign to inform people of the correct procedures for public waste to prevent littering.

Laurie Smith, Renaissance Fair, commented the City isn't preparing the park prior to their event. The bathrooms weren't clean and trash cans were not emptied prior to their event. The utility room isn't organized enough. She requested more attention prior to the event.

4. Citizen Commission Report - Moscow Transportation Commission - Cody Riddle / Scott Sumner

Riddle introduced Scott Sumner, chair for the Commission. Sumner described the purpose, mission and members of the Commission. The Commission reviewed Wild Rose Court and Pine View Addition subdivisions. They made adjustments and improvements to the bike plan and shared roads. Items for the coming year are review the Multi-Modal Transportation Plan, public education and outreach on alternative transportation options, and establishing a system for providing input on gaps or deficiencies in the transportation system.

5. Public Hearing: Idaho Community Development Block Grant - Status of Grant Funded Park Project Activities (ACTION ITEM) - Alisa Anderson

In November 2020, the City of Moscow received an Idaho Community Development Block Grant (ICDBG), in the amount of \$225,000, from the Idaho Department of Commerce. This funding is allocated to the State of Idaho from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. The funds have been, and are currently being used, to remodel the Mountain View Park restrooms and to purchase and install a prefabricated restroom at Indian Hills Park. The hearing will include a review of project activities, schedule and accomplishments to date, a summary of all expenditures, a general description of remaining work, and any changes made to the scope of work, budget, schedule, location or beneficiaries. Verbal and written questions and comments will be accepted at the public hearing.

PROPOSED ACTIONS: Conduct a public hearing regarding project activities and accept public comment.

Mayor Bettge opened the hearing at 7:18 p.m. Anderson said much of the money received for the parks has been from the Idaho Community Development Block Grants through the Idaho Department of Commerce. She provided information on grant requirements and eligibility. Both Mountain View and Indian Hills parks received grant money of \$225,000. Mountain View was to receive a remodel on the restroom and an ADA pathway between the parking lots. Indian Hills would have a prefabricated restroom, installed as well as an ADA pathway and parking. Anderson went through the schedule of bidding with the end result of deciding to self-perform the project in order to complete. Project costs were provided. In response to a question from Parker, Anderson said the lack of bids were due to the high mobilization costs, labor costs are high, labor shortage, and contractors were already busy so bid high. No public comment was offered and Mayor Bettge closed the hearing at 7:40 p.m.

6. East City Park Stage Project Update - Cody Riddle

In 2010, the City contracted with Design West Architects to explore alternative designs for the replacement of the aging stage at East City Park. The project began with a series of stakeholder meetings that led to the creation of three alternative designs. These designs were presented to the broader community for input at various locations, and events throughout town over the summer and early fall. The effort culminated in a presentation to the City Council on September 20, 2010. The presentation included a summary of outreach, an overview of the design process, including the alternatives explored, and the results of public polling that occurred as part of the effort. Based on the 2010 effort, and with Council support for the overall concept, in the summer of 2012, the City proceeded with a detailed design for the first phase of the project, a restroom building that would serve as the backdrop for the full build-out. Construction of the restroom building was completed in the spring of 2013. The need to replace the wooden structure has been recognized for years, as reflected in the Capital Improvement Plan. However, the stage deteriorated quicker than anticipated, and during routine maintenance this spring, it became clear the cover would need to be removed immediately to ensure public safety. To advance the new stage construction, on May 6, 2024, the Council approved a design agreement with Design West Architects to prepare a 30% design and cost estimate based on the 2010 master plan. As that work begins, Ned Warnick from Design West Architects, along with City staff, will provide an overview of the East City Park Stage replacement project and outline a plan for a new round of public outreach.

PROPOSED ACTIONS: Accept report and provide feedback as appropriate.

Riddle introduced Ned Warnick who worked on the design back in 2010.

Warnick provided a background timeline. Workshops and open houses were held. The bathrooms were deteriorating faster than the stage so in 2012 it was decided to proceed with the bathroom project and hold off on the stage. Rotating the stage helped with less sun in performers eyes, being able to watch kids and

performance at the same time. The park evolved in the way it was expected and the amphitheater nature of the park is still intact. The stage features are all there as imagined in 2010. Three options were taken to the Farmers Market for opinions.

Riddle said they want to build on the work that has already been done. Outreach can include displays at events at the park and the Farmers Market and an open house at City Hall. He reiterated the current phase isn't authorizing anything but providing a 30% concept design and cost estimate to inform future budget request.

Lewis still hesitant and wants public opinions on moving the stage, not just what the stage would look like. Taruscio said she can speak as a performer, the sun bears down on the performers. She agrees the questions must be separated and both answered. She wants to identify the questions, answer them and move on as a community. She feels if the question of moving versus not isn't asked, it could be more damaging. Davis said engaging with the public is critical but difficult. His suggestions were how to design for the future and embrace the past; designing it for more than 40 years with a growing community; using an open minded approach. Parker feels there are real concrete reasons to move the stage: allow for better seating, more seating, views aren't blocked, no need to cut older trees. She understands the nostalgia and the reality is Moscow is growing and need to provide a stage that is usable for everyone.

Mayor Bettge summarized the feedback as asking for more community outreach, community input, and a financial comparison of locations. The Council accepted the report by consensus.

7. Homeland Security Investigations Joint Task Force Reimbursement Agreement (ACTION ITEM) – Anthony Dahlinger

Detective Mowery is a full-time affiliate member of the Idaho Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC), which is overseen by the Idaho Attorney General's office. He is also a Task Force Officer with Homeland Security Investigations (HSI), which allows him to assist in the investigation and prosecution of ICAC cases at the federal level. The Reimbursement of Expenses in the Joint Operations Agreement establishes procedures for reimbursement by HSI for overtime incurred while working these cases. Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) is the criminal investigative branch of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement. HSI is not involved with enforcing immigration laws but is directed to enforce federal criminal statutes nationwide. The Idaho Attorney General's Office is seeking this Agreement solely to reimburse Detective Mowery's overtime for investigations of ICAC cases.

PROPOSED ACTION: Approve the Agreement between the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Homeland Security Investigations, and the Moscow Police Department to allow for reimbursement by HSI; or provide staff with further direction.

Belknap introduced the item as written above. Taruscio moved to approve the Agreement between the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Homeland Security Investigations, and the Moscow Police Department to allow for reimbursement by HSI. Parker seconded. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Unanimous. Nays: None. Abstentions: None. Motion carried.

8. Moscow-Pullman Airport Federal Grant Preauthorization Request (ACTION ITEM) – Bill Belknap

The City of Moscow jointly operates the Pullman-Moscow Regional Airport with the City of Pullman and jointly serves as the sponsor for any federal grant funds. The airport has applied for Federal grant funds to support two projects at the airport. The first is to conduct the final phase of the airport master plan which will focus on the development of additional elements of the facility including general aviation, cargo, commercial, and charter operations. The airport has requested \$1.5 Million to support this work, which will have a local match requirement of between \$100,000-\$150,000 depending upon

the grant award. The second grant project includes Phase 4 of the terminal apron construction which will add 2,700 square feet of additional apron space. The grant request for the apron project is \$3.5 Million with a local match requirement of \$388,889. Local match requirements for both projects will be funded by the airport from airport revenues. It is anticipated that the turnaround time between receipt of the award and the time permitted to accept the grant and return the required grant documents will be limited, so staff is seeking the Council's preauthorization to accept the grant awards and execute any necessary documents. A resolution has been prepared for the Council to grant the preauthorization approval.

PROPOSED ACTIONS: Approve the resolution providing preauthorization to accept up to \$5 Million in federal grant funding; or take other action as deemed appropriate.

Belknap introduced the item as written above. having no questions, Parker moved to approve the resolution providing preauthorization to accept up to \$5 Million in federal grant funding. Blankenship seconded. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Unanimous. Nays: None. Abstentions: None. Motion carried.

REPORTS

City Council

Moscow Pathways Commission- Davis said the bike tour is scheduled for June 11th.

Human Rights Commission – Blankenship said the Commission is working on events for Juneteenth.

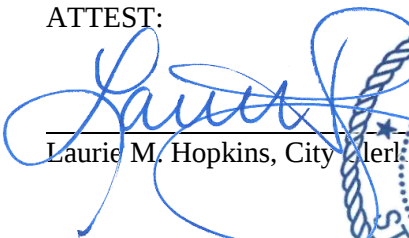
Mayor

The airport opened on May 22 and they are working on advertising contract and concessionaire.

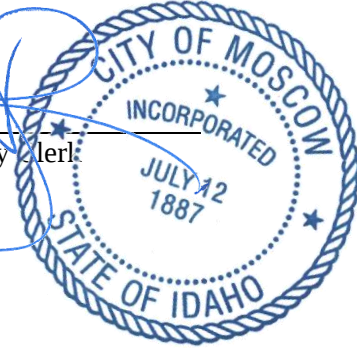
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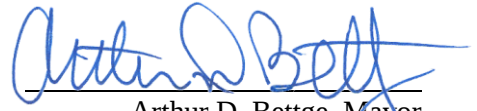
It was moved, seconded and mutually agreed upon to adjourn at 8:38 p.m.

ATTEST:



Laurie M. Hopkins, City Clerk





Arthur D. Bettge, Mayor