

Moscow City Council



Regular Meeting ~Minutes~

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Laurie M. Hopkins
City Clerk

208.883.7015

Monday, March 17, 2025

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, Sandra Kelly, Hailey Lewis, Julia Parker, Gina Taruscio

STAFF: Bill Belknap, Mia Bautista, Cody Riddle, Mike Ray, Bob Buvel, Laurie M. Hopkins

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Council Vice President Davis led the Pledge of Allegiance.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. All Consent Items (ACTION ITEM)

A. Approval of Moscow City Council March 3, 2025 Minutes - Laurie M. Hopkins

B. Approval of Payment of Claims - Sarah Decker

C. Disbursement Report February 2025 - Sarah Decker

Staff presented the February 2025 Accounts Payable Report to the Public Works / Finance Committee on March 10th, 2025. The Committee received the report and recommended approval of the disbursement report.

ACTION: Accept the Disbursements Report for the month of February 2025.

D. Fourth Quarter Financial Report July 1, 2024 to September 30, 2024 for FY2024 - Sarah Decker

Staff presented the financial report for the fourth quarter of Fiscal Year 2024 (July 1, 2024, to September 30, 2024) to the Public Works/Finance Committee on March 10th, 2025. The Committee received the financial report and approved it as presented.

ACTION: Accept the FY2024 Fourth Quarter Financial Report.

E. White Ave Pavement Preservation Project - Bid Results & Contract Award - Luke Hajda

The White Avenue Pavement Restoration Project extends from the intersection of SH8/Troy Road to Mountain View Road along White Ave. This project includes the removal and replacement of an approximately two-inch thick section of asphalt for the entirety of White Avenue within the project boundaries, as well as the installation of a ten-foot shared-use path to continue the existing path near the south Fairgrounds entrance east to Mountain View Road. The City published an advertisement for bids on February 8, 2025, and the Engineer's Estimate for construction was \$568,207.50. Bids were opened on February 25, 2025, at which three (3) bids were received. The bids ranged from \$458,764.00 to \$755,890.00. Of those bids, the lowest responsive bid received was submitted by Motley-Motley, Inc. of Pullman, WA with a bid of \$458,764.00. A bid tabulation is included in the

packet. This was reviewed by the Public Works / Finance Committee on March 10, 2025, and recommended for approval.

ACTION: Accept the bid from Motley-Motley, Inc., award the contract in the amount of \$458,764.00 and authorize staff approval of construction change orders in an amount not to exceed 10% of the contract amount.

F. Electrical Franchise Agreement Temporary Extension Memorandum of Agreement - Bill Belknap

The City of Moscow originally entered into a non-exclusive electrical franchise agreement dated September 8, 1998, with the Washington Water Power Company pursuant to Ordinance 98-31. Avista Utilities purchased Washington Water Power Company on January 1, 1999, and became the successor to the agreement and was assigned all rights, privileges, responsibilities and the franchise under the agreement. The original franchise agreement contained an initial ten-year term with an automatic renewal of fifteen years from the expiration of the initial term. The agreement has now expired and the City and Avista wish to continue operating under the original agreement until a new franchise agreement can be executed by both parties. Staff has prepared a Memorandum of Agreement to continue to operate under the prior agreement for 12 months or until a new agreement is executed by both parties. This was reviewed by the Public Works/Finance Committee on March 10, 2025, and recommended for approval.

ACTION: Approve the Memorandum of Agreement with Avista Utilities.

G. Slurry Seal Project 2025 - Bid Results & Contract Award - Bob Buvel

This project's scope includes the application of approximately 132,000 square yards of slurry seal street surface treatment. The City advertised for bids on February 8, 2025 and February 15, 2025, and the project was budgeted for \$250,000. The engineer's estimate for construction was \$265,196.00. Bids were opened on February 25, 2025, at which four (4) bids were received. The bids ranged from \$318,235.20 to \$393,816.06. Of those bids, the lowest responsive bid received was submitted by Blackline Inc. of Vancouver, WA with a bid of \$318,235.20. A bid tabulation is included in the packet. This item was reviewed by the Public Works/Finance Committee on March 10, 2025, and recommended for approval.

ACTION: Accept the bid from Blackline Inc., award the contract in the amount of \$318,235.20, and authorize staff approval of construction change orders in an amount not to exceed 10% of the contract amount.

H. Request for Waiver for On-Premises Consumption Within 300 Feet of a School or Church per Idaho Code - Laurie M. Hopkins

The owners of Village Center Cinemas Eastside are in the process of obtaining an alcohol license. Idaho Code § 23-913, 23-1011B, and 23-1307A, prohibits any business from selling liquor, beer and/or wine for on-premise consumption within three hundred feet (300') of any church, school or any other place of worship, unless the City Council approves waiver of the requirement. The Village Center is within 300 feet of a church, specifically Real Life. The state license has been issued. The county license has been applied for and is pending approval. Alcohol will be allowed in one auditorium which will be 21 and over only. Patrons will be required to present valid identification for age verification. Those who are 21 years of age or older will receive a wristband, which must be worn to purchase and consume alcohol. A letter of request for waiver has been submitted and is included in the meeting packet. Village Center also received letters of support from The Jubilee School and Real Life. This was reviewed by the Public Works/Finance Committee on March 10, 2025 and recommended for approval.

ACTION: Approve the waiver of the prohibition from selling alcohol for on-premises consumption

within three hundred feet (300') of any church, school or any other place or worship contingent on the issuance of the county alcohol license.

Kelly moved and Parker seconded to approve the consent agenda as presented. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Unanimous. Nays: None. Abstentions: None. Motion carried.

REGULAR AGENDA

2. Mayors Appointments (ACTION ITEM)

None offered.

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

Ryan Cook (Troy), State Pres of LDS church said there are six congregations in this region with three of them in Moscow. He thanked the City and civic leaders for supporting individuals in the community. They feel it is important to be involved in the community and offer their services should the City need a group to help out with anything.

Annette Pimentel, Communications Director for LDS. She expressed gratitude for all the city does. We depend on things like roads, sewer, garbage and those things can become invisible.

4. Citizen Commission Report - Planning & Zoning Commission - Mike Ray / Dennis Wilson

Ray introduced Dennis Wilson, chair of the P&Z Commission. Wilson provided a list of commission members. Projects the Commission worked on included developing design standards for self-storage facilities and allowance in a wider range of zoning districts; updating the Buffer Yard Matrix and Buffer Yard illustrations for ease of use and clarity; landscaping standards were made more consistent with industry standards regarding caliper and gallon sizing. The Commission receives an annual update regarding PBAC from Tyler Palmer and an annual update on Housing Trust projects from Nils Peterson.

5. Public Hearing: Slonaker Drive Turn-Around Easement Vacation (ACTION ITEM) – Bob Buvel

On November 27, 2024, the City received an application requesting the vacation of the Turn-Around Easement dedicated for the use of a vehicle turn-around at the northern terminus of Slonaker Drive of the Blackwood First Addition. The request was made by Mr. Paul Hendrix, who is the owner of 1306 Slonaker Drive, which underlies the subject easement. A copy of the application and Notice of Public Hearing, with a vicinity map of the proposed vacation area, are included in the packet. The Hearing Notice was advertised in the newspaper of record and mailed to properties within 300 feet of the subject property and all franchise and other utility providers were also given notice to comment. All comments received have been included in the packet. The easement was granted to provide public access to the turn-around at the terminus of Slonaker Drive with the development of The Blackwood First Addition. The turn-around is no longer necessary as Slonaker Drive has been extended with the Woodbury Addition development and the turn-around has since been deconstructed.

PROPOSED ACTIONS: Hold a public hearing and, after considering public testimony, approve the vacation 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 vacation Ordinance on first reading and that it be read by title; or reject the vacation Ordinance; or take such other action deemed appropriate.

Mayor Bettge opened the public hearing at 7:16 p.m.

Buvel introduced the item by providing the process for a vacation of City right-of-way. The turnaround was already removed. He provided the details as written above. State statute treats easements like right-of-way.

Mayor Lambert asked for testimony in favor, opposition and general nature. Hearing no testimony, he closed the hearing at 7:22 p.m.

Parker moved, Kelly seconded to approve the vacation Ordinance under suspension of the rules requiring three complete and separate readings and that it be read by title and published by summary. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Unanimous. Nays: None. Abstentions: None. Motion carried.

Mayor Lambert read Ordinance 2025-02 by title:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF MOSCOW, IDAHO, A MUNICIPAL CORPORATION OF THE STATE OF IDAHO; PROVIDING FOR THE VACATION OF TURN-AROUND EASEMENT LOCATED ALONG A PORTION OF LOT 9, BLOCK 1 OF THE BLACKWOOD FIRST ADDITION LOCATED WITHIN THE CITY OF MOSCOW AND LEGALLY DESCRIBED IN SECTION 2 OF THIS ORDINANCE; PROVIDING THAT TITLE TO SAID VACATED TURN-AROUND EASEMENT SHALL VEST WITH THE OWNERS OF THE PROPERTY AS SPECIFIED IN SECTION 4 OF THIS ORDINANCE; 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.

REPORTS

City Council

Fair and Affordable Housing Commission – Parker said the Commission had a discussion regarding the possibility of a housing authority.

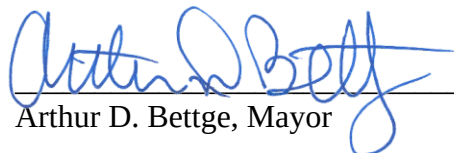
Moscow Arts Commission – Blankenship said the Commission discussed the 2026 shows and events.

Mayor

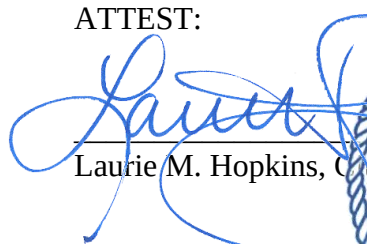
Mayor Lambert said he attended the Association of Idaho Cities legislative committee review and gave an update on proposed bills.

ADJOURN

It was moved, seconded and mutually agreed upon to adjourn at 7:30 p.m.


Arthur D. Bettge, Mayor

ATTEST:


Laurie M. Hopkins, City Clerk

