

Moscow City Council



Regular Meeting ~Minutes~

Laurie M. Hopkins
City Clerk

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208.883.7015

**Monday, November 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, Gina Taruscio

ABSENT: Julia Parker

OTHERS: Council Member-elect Evan Holmes, Council Member-elect Sage McCetich

STAFF: Bill Belknap, Mia Bautista, Brian Nickerson, Alisa Anderson, Laurie M. Hopkins

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Scout Troops 323, 325, 345, 344 led the Pledge of Allegiance.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. All Consent Items (ACTION ITEM)

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

B. Approval of Payment of Claims - Sarah Decker

C. Approval of Disbursement Report October 2025 - Sarah Decker

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

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

D. 2026 WHITCOM Emergency Dispatch Agreement - Anthony Dahlinger

The City currently contracts with the WHITCOM joint dispatch center for E911 emergency and non-emergency dispatch services. The proposed agreement would continue those services through the 2026 calendar year. The proposed fee for dispatch services has increased by \$4,000 over the 2025 agreement, with a total annual cost of \$780,601. Staff has prepared the agreement for the Council's review and approval. This was reviewed by the Public Works/Finance Committee on November 10, 2025 and recommended for approval.

ACTION: Approve the Emergency Dispatch Services Agreement.

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

REGULAR AGENDA

2. Public Comment (limit 15 minutes)

William (Moscow) customers came together and paid some of his wife's medical bills. He thought this would be a good place to say thank you. This community comes together. Hopefully signing a lease on a building for his bagel business.

3. Idaho Community Development Block Grant – Random Survey Update – Alisa Anderson

Postponed until survey is complete.

4. Adoption of the Latah County All-Hazards Multi-Jurisdictional Mitigation Plan 2025 (ACTION ITEM) - Alisa Anderson / Brian Nickerson

Latah County hired Integrated Solutions Consulting to update the existing 2021 All-Hazard Mitigation Plan, in collaboration with the Idaho Office of Emergency Management, and FEMA Region 10. City staff from Community Development, Fire, Grants, Police, and Public Works participated in the updates specific to Moscow. The updated plan, called the Latah County, Idaho, Multi-Jurisdictional All-Hazard Mitigation Plan 2025 (HMP), also includes several cities such as Moscow. Its purpose is to identify hazards across the county, assess their impact on vulnerable populations and infrastructure, and propose low-cost strategies to reduce risks to lives, property, and the environment. The plan emphasizes that hazard mitigation, through land use and emergency planning is effective in preventing new problems, and it sets short- and long-term goals to meet federal, state, and local requirements. It provides a comprehensive approach that includes hazard identification, risk assessment, vulnerability analysis, mitigation strategies, and an implementation schedule. This report includes the updated plan and a Resolution from the City Council supporting and adopting the new HMP. This item was reviewed by the Public Work/Finance Committee on November 10, 2025, and recommended for approval.

ACTION: Approve the resolution to support and facilitate the implementation of the new Latah County, Idaho, Multi-Jurisdictional All-Hazard Mitigation Plan 2025 or take other action deemed appropriate.

Anderson introduced the item as written above, explaining that this plan is required in all 50 states and is typically led by the Council. She noted that the County received a planning grant to update the program, which will ensure eligibility for related grant funding over the next five years. She explained that the plan focuses on identifying hazards across the county and its communities, assessing impacts on vulnerable populations and infrastructure, and proposing solutions to reduce risks to lives, property, and critical systems. Much of the mitigation work centers on land-use and emergency planning and includes many low-cost strategies with minimal community impact. The broader goal is to increase awareness and provide clear, actionable guidance for officials, agencies, and the public. The plan outlines potential hazards, develops risk-reduction strategies, and sets both short- and long-term mitigation goals to meet federal, state, and local requirements. It includes hazard identification, risk and vulnerability assessments, mitigation strategies, and an implementation schedule, all aimed at protecting residents, the economy, and the environment during emergencies or disasters. Some of Moscow's new mitigation goals include:

- Purchase Street Barriers – Reduce Vehicular Threats During Community Events.
- Support Programs to Address Bank Stabilization/Channel Restoration in the Floodplain.
- Create Capital Replacement Program for Aging/Failed Stormwater Infrastructure.
- Purchase & Install Natural Gas Backup Power Generator for HIRC – Emergency Shelter.
- Build Fiber to Utility Sites to Prevent Shutdown from Cellular Network Outage.
- Facilitate Continued Funding for MVFD PPE and Training.

Kelly asked about failed stormwater infrastructure. Anderson replied the stormwater system has been mapped and there are areas where the City knows the pipes are older and under the hazardous mitigation

program the City could apply to upgrade those areas.

Council Members appreciated the efforts, participation and collaboration of the outlining communities.

Davis moved to approve the resolution to support and facilitate the implementation of the new Latah County, Idaho Multi-jurisdictional All-Hazard Mitigation Plan 2025. Taruscio seconded. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Unanimous. Nays: None. Abstentions: None. Motion carried.

REPORTS

City Council

Farmers Market Commission – Davis said they are talking about policies for 2026.

Moscow Tree Commission – Taruscio said the Commission is working on testing for tree arborists and looking at seedlings for 2026.

SMART Transit – Lewis reported the executive director resigned.

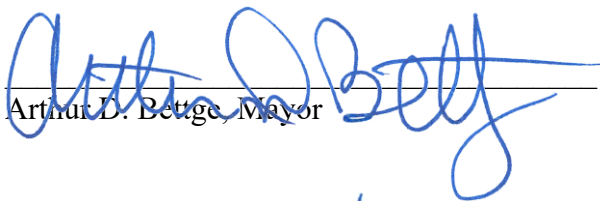
Council members spoke on other meetings and events they attended.

Mayor

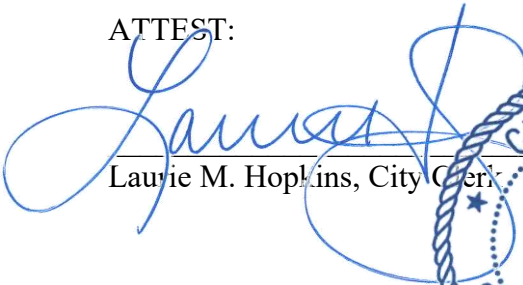
Mayor Bettge presented at the Sheik humanitarian awards ceremony, briefed with newly elected officials, presented the Orchid awards, and attended the Veteran's day dinner.

ADJOURN

It was moved, seconded and mutually agreed upon to adjourn at 7:33 p.m.


Arthur D. Bettge, Mayor

ATTEST:


Laurie M. Hopkins, City Clerk

