

# Moscow City Council



Regular Meeting  
~Minutes~

Laurie M. Hopkins  
City Clerk

[www.ci.moscow.id.us](http://www.ci.moscow.id.us)

208.883.7015

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Monday, May 18, 2026

7:00 PM

Council Chambers  
206 E. Third St.

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

PRESENT: Mayor Hailey Lewis, Bryce Blankenship, Drew Davis, Evan Holmes, Sandra Kelly, Sage McCetich, Scott Sumner

STAFF: Bill Belknap, Mia Bautista, Amanda Argona, Tyler Palmer Nichol Baird Spencer, Megan Cherry, Laurie M. Hopkins

## PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Lewis led the Pledge of Allegiance.

## PROCLAMATION

### Memorial Day

Mayor Lewis read the proclamation.

## CONSENT AGENDA

### 1. All Consent Items (ACTION ITEM)

#### A. Approval of Moscow City Council May 4, 2026 Minutes - Laurie M. Hopkins

#### B. Approval of Payment of Claims - Sarah Decker

#### C. Disbursement Report April 2026 - Sarah Decker

Staff presented the April 2026 Accounts Payable Report to the Public Works / Finance Committee on May 11th, 2026. The Committee received the report and recommended approval of the disbursement report.

**ACTION:** Accept the Disbursements Report for the month of April 2026.

#### D. Artwalk Season Finale Alcohol Use Request in Entertainment District - Amanda Argona

The Moscow Chamber of Commerce + Visitor Center is hosting the Artwalk Season Finale on Saturday, June 13th, from 4:00 pm to 8:00 pm on Main Street between 3rd and 6th Streets. This annual event concludes the 2025-2026 Artwalk Season in an artistic and festive manner. No more than 7 (seven) licensed vendors will be authorized for beer/wine sales, and a variety of activities will take place including live music, food sales, art demonstrations, and more. The event has been reviewed and approved as of March 10, 2026. Following standard operating procedures for events with alcohol that are within the Entertainment District boundaries, Artwalk is requesting a temporary suspension of the open container law by resolution. Per Moscow City Code, Section 10-1-12; a draft resolution has been prepared for Council's consideration. This was reviewed by the Public Works/Finance Committee on May 11, 2026 and recommended for approval.

**ACTION:** Approve the resolution allowing for the temporary suspension of the open container law within the event footprint of the Artwalk Season Finale for the duration of the event.

**E. Fullsterkur Strongman Alcohol Use Request in Entertainment District - Amanda Argona**

North Idaho Athletic Club is the host of the Fullsterkur Strongman competition on Saturday, June 27th, from 7:00 am to 4:00 pm on Main Street between 3rd and 1st Streets. This event is being hosted in the Entertainment District for the first time. No more than 1 (one) licensed vendor will be authorized for beer/wine sales during the hours of 11 am to 4 pm, with several weightlifting activities taking place. The event has been reviewed and approved as of March 10, 2026. Following standard operating procedures for events with alcohol that are within the Entertainment District boundaries, Fullsterkur is requesting a temporary suspension of the open container law by resolution. Per Moscow City Code, Section 10-1-12; a draft resolution has been prepared for Council's consideration. This was reviewed by the Public Works/Finance Committee on May 11, 2026 and recommended for approval.

**ACTION:** Approve the resolution allowing for the temporary suspension of the open container law within the event footprint of the Fullsterkur Strongman Competition during the hours of 11 am to 4 pm during the event.

**F. WaterSMART Small-Scale Water Efficiency Grant Application — Alisa Anderson / Justin Kilborn**

The WaterSMART Small-Scale Water Efficiency grant supports water programs by providing cost-sharing opportunities with the Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) for small-scale projects that conserve and improve water supply reliability in the western U.S. The City is eligible to apply as a local water authority in Idaho. Eligible projects include municipal metering, such as installing or upgrading water meters for residential and commercial buildings, along with related software, equipment, and training for meter monitoring. The maximum award is \$100,000, requiring a 50% match, with total project costs not exceeding \$225,000. The City previously applied for a grant under this program in January 2025 and received notification of an award in April 2026. Staff is currently collaborating with BOR to finalize the award Agreement. Although the City has already received an award, it remains eligible to apply for this upcoming round of funding. Staff is requesting authorization to submit an application for \$100,000 to purchase and install an additional 500 water meters, with total project costs not to exceed \$225,000. The application deadline is June 2, 2026. This was reviewed by the Public Works/Finance Committee on May 11, 2026 and recommended for approval.

**ACTION:** Approval to submit a grant application for \$100,000 to the WaterSMART Small-Scale Water Efficiency Program with the proposed corresponding Resolution.

Kelly moved and McCetich 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)**

None offered.

**3. Public Art Report – Megan Cherry**

Cherry said the ITC Sculpture Garden was created in 2012 and has had 61 sculptures in this garden. There were originally five pedestals but one was changed in 2022 to a permanent installation in memory of Andrew Becker. The vinyl wrap program also started in 2012 with the first wrap at the Wren Welcome Garden. The collection includes 23 traffic signal control boxes and are replaced approximately every 5-7 years. If someone isn't selected one year, they can submit the next. The storm drain murals were created

in 2022 to raise public awareness for the direct connection between storm drains and local streams. The call for artists is currently open so didn't have any new artwork to present. On average, there are 20-30 submittals for vinyl wraps and 12 for the ITC garden. Each takes a special skill set. such as transit center must be 3 dimensional. vinyl wraps need a digital art skill.

**4. Blue Cross of Idaho - Grant Agreement (ACTION ITEM) — Mayor Hailey Lewis / Amanda Argona**

City staff is pleased to announce it has received a \$7,000 grant from Blue Cross of Idaho Foundation for Health, Inc., to support two key Farmers Market initiatives: the Power of Produce (POP) Club and Bicycle Benefits programs, both aimed at promoting community health and sustainability. The POP Club engages children aged five to twelve with hands-on, sensory activities from June to September, providing \$5 vouchers to encourage healthy eating and curiosity about food sources. Bicycle Benefits incentivizes biking to the Market, with participants earning \$2 tokens each Saturday that can be redeemed with any vendor, often supporting local agricultural vendors. This funding will significantly enhance community health, promote sustainable transportation, and bolster local economic support. Staff is requesting approval to accept this grant award. This item was reviewed by the Public Works/Finance Committee on May 11, 2026, and recommended for approval.

**PROPOSED ACTIONS:** Approval to accept the grant award from the Blue Cross of Idaho Foundation and authorize the Mayor to execute the Grant Agreement, or take other action deemed appropriate.

Argona introduced the item as written above. The POP Club started in 2016, but they didn't start tracking numbers until 2018. Last year the program was not offered due to staff turnover. The program has had 4 sessions with a wide range of participants. Cap of 25 kids and complete activity will walk away with a \$5.00 voucher to be spent on fresh produce or items that grow food.

Bicycle Benefits is Seattle-based non-profit that approached Argona about participation in the Moscow Farmers Market. Weekly visits have increased and so have the reimbursements. Because the month of May is National Bike Month, they do a double payment. There is no exchange of money, only the \$2.00 tokens. Argona estimates the \$7,000 from BCI will be divided 75% to bicycle benefits and 25% to POP club. These programs have many incentives such as low barriers to entry, reinforcing the market as a place to shop, and lasting positive impacts on community and generational health.

Kelly asked if scooters were a part of the Bicycle Benefits. Argona said she hasn't been in an era of scooters yet but will check with the program director.

Sumner asked about the growth of the bike program. Argona responded that tokens have run out on a day basis. The program will not go above the \$7,000 grant.

Mayor Lewis answered Holmes question that this program is targeted for just this year, but the Foundation is open to Moscow reapplying next year.

Blankenship moved approval to accept the grant award from the Blue Cross of Idaho Foundation and authorize the Mayor to execute the Grant Agreement. Seconded by Davis. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Unanimous. Nays: None. Abstentions: None. Motion carried.

**5. Proposed Renewal of Licensing Agreement for Shared Mobility Program with Pheenix USH LLC D/B/A Spin (ACTION ITEM) — Tyler Palmer**

The City of Moscow entered into a Licensing Agreement for a Shared Mobility Program with Pheenix USH, LLC d/b/a Spin in June 2025 to allow the deployment of up to 150 shared mobility electric

scooters within the City of Moscow, subject to compliance with Moscow City Code Title 11, Chapter 2 governing bicycles and shared mobility programs. The program provides a multimodal transportation option for residents and visitors, supporting reduced traffic congestion, expanded mobility options, and carbon-free transportation alternatives. The current agreement has a term of one (1) year and is set to expire on June 2, 2026. Spin as requested to renew the license agreement for an additional one (1) year term under the same terms and conditions. This item was reviewed by the Public Works/Finance Committee on May 11, 2026, and recommended for approval.

**PROPOSED ACTIONS:** Approve the Licensing Agreement with Pheenix USH, LLC d/b/a Spin for a one-year term, or take other action deemed appropriate.

Palmer introduced the item as written above. MPD and U of I did review the renewal agreement and did not offer any edits. The agreement requires a local operator who will rebalance the scooters daily, provide maintenance and handle complaints. This past year the program data showed there were 16,000 total rides for 17,000 miles of distance traveled. There were 6,000 total users and the average trip length was 1.2 miles. A rider is required to sign up through an app and tutorials are required. This renewal agreement is for one year with the same dollar amount that is reflected in the fee resolution. The city is not paying to participate in this program.

Kelly said she is not fond of scooters but is encouraged with the data. She asked what happens if a rider violates a rule. Kylee Floodman (Spin) said they try to educate first but suspension and banning are options.

Blankenship asked how Moscow has compared to other cities over the last year. Floodman responded that 61% of riders are local which is very positive. The amount of CO2 saved is impressive and 35% of frequent routes is high.

Holmes asked about the risk to the city and if there are age requirements. Palmer said if accidents were reported, staff would be interested in tracking those that involve Spin scooters. There are age restrictions and insurance requirements within the program.

Davis said as society keeps progressing, there will be more modes of transportation. The safety and security of citizens is important.

McCetich asked about complaints. Palmer said the five complaints were regarding distribution and parking.

Sumner asked if there is a metric to compare safety scores with other towns. One of the benefits from this program is that there are measurements. Palmer responded from a City perspective, a top benefit is the data. The metrics provide the point of origin and point of destination which means it will show where the multi-modal transportation is being used. Floodman said she will need to ask the production team to see if scores can be compared. Sumner said this is another way to incentivize the use of alternate forms of transportation and could help alleviate parking downtown.

Davis moved to approve the licensing agreement with Pheenix USH, LLC DBA Spin. Seconded by Kelly. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Unanimous. Nays: None. Abstentions: None. Motion carried.

## **REPORTS**

### **City Council**

*Famers Market Commission* – Davis said the Commission is already talking about procedures for next year.

*Moscow Urban Renewal Agency* – Davis said the Agency is discussing an opportunity impact zone.  
*Transportation Commission* – Blankenship said the Commission discussed a right-of-way vacation on Lincoln St.

*Planning & Zoning Commission* – McCetich said they had a hearing on duplex code that will be forwarded to Council soon.

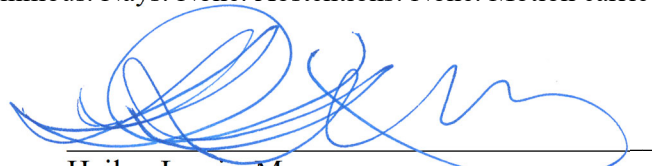
*Moscow Arts Commission* – Sumner reported they discussed the schedule for the Third Street Gallery and a summer poet laureate event.

**Mayor**

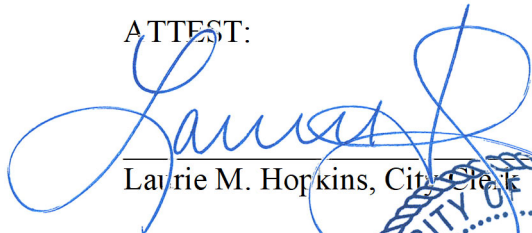
Mayor Lewis reported she attended a leadership academy in Boise; SMART Transit Board retreat; Vandal career fair; and other events.

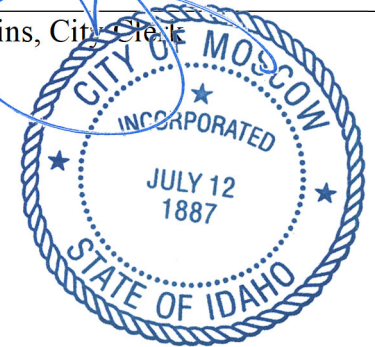
**ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION PER IDAHO CODE 74-206 (1)(C) AND (F) – THE MEETING WILL NOT RECONVENE.**

Blankenship moved, Kelly seconded to adjourn to executive session per Idaho Code 74-206 (1)(C) and (F) at 8:27 p.m. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Unanimous. Nays: None. Abstentions: None. Motion carried.

  
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Hailey Lewis, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
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Laurie M. Hopkins, City Clerk



**CITY OF MOSCOW  
MINUTES OF CITY COUNCIL EXECUTIVE SESSION  
May 18, 2026**

Present: Mayor Lewis, Bryce Blankenship, Evan Holmes, Sandra Kelly, Sage McCetich, Scott Sumner

Also Present: Bill Belknap, City Supervisor; Mia Bautista, City Attorney,

The executive session was called to order at 8:35 p.m.

- 1<sup>st</sup> item I.C. 74-206(1)(f) – communicate with legal counsel: 8:35 p.m. – 9:07 p.m.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Item I.C.74-206(1)(c) – labor negotiations/interest in real property: 9:08 p.m. – 9:42 p.m.

The executive session was adjourned at 9:42 p.m.