

MOSCOW BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
JULY 5, 2023

A meeting of the Moscow Borough Council was held on July 5, 2023 at 7:00 pm. at the Moscow Borough Building, 123 VanBrunt Street, Moscow, PA.

Opening of Meeting

Arthur Pencek, Council President, called the July 5, 2023 meeting to order at 7:00 pm. and also stated that meeting is being recorded.

The following Council members were either present or absent:

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|---------------------------------|---------|-----------------------|---------|
| Rosemarie Warner (Mayor) | Present | Joseph Castrogiovanni | Present |
| Arthur Pencek (President) | Present | Dennis Cawley | Present |
| Edward Gaughan (Vice-President) | Present | Marc Gaughan | Present |
| Paula Bechaver | Present | William Heim | Absent |

Also present were Amy Carlson (Administrative Assistant), Katherine Barker (Junior Council) George Parker (Zoning and Code Enforcement Officer) Ivy Brenzel (Police Chief), Colin Young (Fire Chief) Karen Clifford (Republican Moscow Borough Council Candidate), Mr. and Mrs. Barker and Family members.

Mayor Rosemarie Warner administered the oath of office to Katherine Barker as new Junior Council Member. Council President Art Pencek welcomed Katherine on behalf of the Moscow Borough Council.

Citizens Comments

Old Business was addressed by President Art Pencek regarding the copy of the letter dated June 8, 2023 to Robert Kretschmer District Traffic Engineer PA Department of Transportation, regarding request for traffic study. He stated that Chief Brenzel will be in contact with Robert who will advise as to when the traffic study will be scheduled.

Approval of Minutes

The regular monthly council meeting was held on June 5, 2023. Minutes were submitted for review and approval. Motion was made by Joseph Castrogiovanni to accept minutes as written. Motion was seconded by Paula Bechaver. The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor's Report

Saturday July 15, 2023 local news station WNEP will be at the Moscow Borough Building gazebo at 10:00 AM to film a promotional segment on the upcoming Moscow Street Fair.

Friday July 28, 2023 is the Moscow Street Fair Parade in which the Moscow Borough Junior Council members (if available) will be carrying the National Night Out Banner

Requesting the junior council (if available) to become involved in helping at the annual National Night Out on Tuesday August 1, 2023.

Moscow Volunteer Fire & Hose Company

Chief Colin Young reported on the following:

June 2023 monthly report had a total of 63 calls. The breakdown was 52 EMS calls and 11 fire calls.

Generator raffle is being conducted and raffle drawing will be held August 1, 2023 at Moscow Borough's Annual National Night Out Event. Tickets can be purchased from the fire company or also Venmo.

Motion made by Ed Gaughan to hire Angel Torres and Jake Derenzo as part-time EMT's. Marc Gaughan seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously with a roll call vote.

Treasurer's Report

Elizabeth Murray submitted the Treasurer's Report for the month of June 2023 and lists of bills to be paid from the general fund and liquid fuels fund. Marc Gaughan made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report as reported and to pay the bills as presented. Paula Bechaver seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously with a roll call vote.

Real Estate Tax Collector

The Real Estate Tax Collector's Report was provided for the month of June 2023.

Business Office

Letter dated June 21, 2023 from Jessica Edwards Lackawanna County Regional Planning Manager and Community Invest Coordinator regarding application for Community Re-Invest Program for Old Mill Park Trail Area. Re-Applying for same grant in next round.

The order for the ZOLL AED's for the police department was placed through Sean Riley AED Brands Territory Manager. Search for grants to support the purchases is still continuing. Copy of Final Overview Rule of American Relief Fund was submitted for discussion for partial use to purchase if no grants are awarded.

Email dated June 15, 2023 regarding Premium Pay Not an Eligible SLFRF Use for Work Performed after April 10, 2023 was submitted as an informational piece for review.

Lackawanna County municipalities responses of use of American Rescue Funds was submitted as an informational piece for review.

All in agreement to schedule an internal meeting at a later date as to prepare a plan for the use of the second round of American Rescue Funds with Bruce Zero, Esq., Robert Bochicchio, Greenman-Pedersen, Inc., State Representative Kyle Donahue, Marc Gaughan and Mark Mecca to see if the funds can be used for street projects already in progress.

Grants

Email dated June 28, 2023 from Mary Liz Donato Planning Department Manager Lackawanna County Dept of Planning & Econ Dev TA Set-Aside Applications Open Draft Copy Due July 17, 2023. Art Pencek suggested to maybe look into this for the traffic congestion situation. Marc stated he would spearhead this and talk to Mary Liz Donato and Robert Bochicchio, Greenman-Pedersen, Inc., to see if something can be drafted before the July 17, 2023 deadline for applications.

Police Department

There were at total of Chief Brenzel gave the Police report for the month of June 2023. There were 125 911-calls and 123 cleared calls. Also, several events and training.

Special Order 2023-03 regarding Methods of Humane Animal Dispatch Under Field Conditions was submitted as an informational piece for review.

North Pocono Council of Governments

The next North Pocono Council of Governments Meeting is scheduled for July 12, 2023 at the Moscow Borough Building at 7 PM. Mary Liz Donato, Planning Department Manager, Lackawanna County Dept of Planning & Economic Development presenting a cost estimate for the Regional Comprehensive Plan which will include eight municipalities.

Email dated July 5, 2023 from Mary Liz Donato, Planning Department Manager, Lackawanna County Dept of Planning & Economic Development regarding the cost estimates for the Regional Comprehensive Plan was submitted as an informational piece for review.

Article dated June 20, 2023 published in the Times-Tribune regarding the Comprehensive Plan was submitted as an informational piece for review.

North Pocono Council of Governments

Next COG Meeting scheduled for July 12, 2023 at the Moscow Borough Building at 7 PM. Mary Liz Donato, Planning Department Manager, Lackawanna County Dept of Planning & Economic Development presenting a cost estimate for the Regional Comprehensive Plan which will include eight municipalities.

Zoning Officer

George Parker, PE submitted Monthly Report for the month of June 2023.

Mark Koz Realty had crew excavating in the area of the proposed stream crossing at the terminus of Hideaway Dr, Harmony Hills Development. George directed them to stop the work and are not to do any other work on this PADEP permit until a valid Zoning Permit and Sewer Authority Permit have been issued.

Letter dated June 16, 2023 from Moscow Borough solicitor Bruce S Zero, Esquire to Mr. Thomas Reese, 822 Church Street, Moscow, PA regarding violation of Moscow Borough Ordinance # 214-2011. The letter states Mr. Reese must take action as indicated in Mr. Parker's previous correspondence or an enforcement action will be filed against Mr. Reese on July 14, 2023.

Parks and Recreation

Wednesday June 21, 2023 Paula, Mark Mecca and Amy Carlson met to discuss proposed plans for Lackawanna County / Monroe County LSA Grant application. Plan to apply for \$100,000.00 LSA Grant was presented to Council for permission to apply for \$100,000.00 grant for improvements to Harmony Hills Park, Clover Park and Golden Park.

Motion to approve Resolution #300-2023 which will need to be included with the application was made by Dennis Cawley. The motion was seconded by Ed Gaughan. The motion carried unanimously with a roll call vote.

Financial Report

Check L34672733 received for \$1,000.00 for reimbursement of deductible from accident on January 17, 2023 in which claim was filed for replacement of sign was submitted as an informational piece for review.

Email dated June 26, 2023 from Patrick Courtney, Senior Advisor, BUE Bidurenergy regarding Utility Supply Pricing /Energy Management was submitted as an informational piece for review.

Streets

Email dated June 15, 2023 from Robert Bochicchio, Greenman-Pedersen, Inc., regarding the Maple Street Overlay for informational purpose and review. Both Marc and Bobby will be reviewing this information with Borough solicitor Bruce Zero and Aqua Pennsylvania, Inc. in the upcoming weeks.

Marc Gaughan stated that Robert Bochicchio, Greenman-Pedersen, Inc., is drawing up plans for catch basins and drains regarding the flooding onto a property on 103 Willow Street. Liquid Fuels will be used for this project.

Spray patching was conducted for potholes that were located throughout the Moscow Borough.

Marc Gaughan attended a meeting on PA Route 6: Facade Grant Program by the Lackawanna County to enhance and beautify local towns. Funds have been already used for this year but encourage business owners to contact the county for next year. Lackawanna County businesses, nonprofits, and commercial property owners could be awarded matching funds up to \$5,000 to improve storefronts and exterior upgrades

Marc Gaughan attended two zoom meetings regarding trails and how they increase business within the municipalities.

Letter dated June 15, 2023 on behalf of Leeward Construction regarding replacement of sidewalks in the areas of the installation of water mains in various residents in the streets affected and was also submitted for as an informational piece for review.

Letter of support submission for review regarding the Multimodal Grant (combined with Roaring Brook Township) for DCED Spencer Road Project.

Adjournment

Motion was made by Ed Gaughan to adjourn the meeting. Motion was seconded by Marc Gaughan. The motion carried unanimously.

Minutes submitted by Amy Carlson