

**MOSCOW BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 5, 2023**

A meeting of the Moscow Borough Council was held on September 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 September 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:

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

Also present were George Parker (Zoning and Code Enforcement Officer) Ivy Brenzel (Police Chief), Colin Young (Fire Chief) Katherine Barker (Junior Council) Karen Clifford (Citizen)

Approval of Minutes

The regular monthly council meeting was held on August 7, 2023. Minutes were submitted for review and approval. Motion was made by Edward Gaughan to accept minutes as written. Motion was seconded by Dennis Cawley. The motion carried unanimously.

Moscow Volunteer Fire & Hose Company

Chief Colin Young reported on the following:

August 2023 monthly report had a total of 80 calls. The breakdown was 73 EMS calls and 7 fire calls.

The generator fundraiser raffle drawing will be conducted this evening, Tuesday September 5, 2023.

General Correspondence

A. Laurel Lines Vol 50, Issue 7 an informational piece was submitted for review.

Budget Transfers

Elizabeth Murray, treasurer submitted budget transfers for the month of August 2023. Dennis Cawley made a motion to accept the budget transfers reported. The motion was seconded by Paula Bechaver. The motion carried unanimously with a roll call vote.

Treasurer's Report

Elizabeth Murray submitted the Treasurer's Report for the month of August 2023 and lists of bills to be paid from the general fund and liquid fuels fund. Edward 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 August 2023.

Financial Report

Final Premium Audit from AmTrust North America was submitted for informational review.

2024 MMO Contribution Worksheets submitted for approval as needed to be done so by September 30, 2023 & submitted by October 4, 2023 to the state of Pennsylvania. Art Pencek read the following reports aloud for approval:

1. PMRS Pension Plan 2024 MMO Worksheet for 35-078-3 N - Moscow Borough (Non-Uniformed)
2. PMRS Pension Plan 2024 MMO Worksheet for 35-078-3 P - Moscow Borough (Police)

Invoices for all 4 new AED's were received for payment. Solicitor Bruce Zero reviewed the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund Final Rule and verbally stated that the invoices for the AED's can be expensed if council chooses, to the Rescue Funds received by the Moscow Borough.

Motion was made by Dennis Cawley to accept both PMRS Pension Plan 2024 MMO Worksheets listed and AED payments expensed to moneys received from the Local Fiscal Recovery Fund. The motion was seconded by Ed Gaughan. The motion carried unanimously with a roll call vote.

Streets

Thank you letter dated July 30, 2023 from the North Pocono Cultural Society for assistance during the Moscow Country Street Fair was submitted for informational review.

AQUA Moscow Project Paving for Borough for Maple Street and confirmation email for work beginning email dated August 31, 2023 from Aaron Pickarski, Leeward Construction, Inc. This matter was discussed and agreed upon to move forward with previous council meetings. Signed proposal from Arthur Pencek was submitted prior to this council meeting due to the nature of the dated deadline.

On behalf of Marc Gaughan, Art Pencek and Mayor Rosemarie Warner expressed what an asset DPW Summer Employee Jake Culkin was to the Moscow Borough. He has since gone back to college.

Engineer's Report

Motion was made by Paula Bechaver to approve an email dated August 7, 2023 from Robert Bochicchio, PE DBIA regarding revised estimate to begin work for the stormwater mapping project / 2024 Maple Street Paving. The motion was seconded by Ed Gaughan. The motion carried unanimously with a roll call vote. Mayor Rosemarie Warner publicly thanked Art Pencek for pursuing and his perseverance towards this project over the years as it would not have been possible without those efforts.

Hearing Notice

Civil action hearing notice was received of the Moscow Borough vs. Thomas Reese regarding Moscow Borough Ordinance 214-2011 violation on property of 822 Church Street, Moscow PA. Hearing is scheduled for Thursday October 5, 2023 at 1:30 pm at Magisterial District Court 45-3-02, 113 N. Main Street Moscow, PA.

Zoning Officer Report

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

George Parker, Zoning Officer gave a recap on permit #2023-026 issued to Paula Baker for installation of handicap restroom on main floor of commercial property at 410 N. Main St. UCC Permits 016-23B, 016-23M, 016-23E and 016-23P were also issued.

Zoning Hearing Board

Zoning Hearing Board Meeting was held Tuesday August 29, 2023 for a variance requested by John Pagotto for a property owned with Tara Pagotto at 400 Church Street, Moscow, PA. Currently hearing has been continued to an unspecified date.

Parks and Recreation

Paula Bechaver, Chairperson reported on August 17, 2023 the application for the 2023 LSA Grant for the 2024 Recreational Upgrade Project was submitted on behalf of the Moscow Borough by Louis LaFratte.

Police Report

Chief Brenzel gave the Police report for the month of August 2023. There were at total of 150 911-calls and 144 cleared calls. Also, several events and training.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Rosemarie Warner reported on the following:

The annual tree lighting ceremony will be Thursday November 30, 2023 and will have more details as we get closer to the dates.

St. Catherine of Sienna Church Youth Group to contact Moscow Borough Junior Council to possibly work together on projects for the community.

Decorations needed for the Moscow Borough this year as last years are no longer intact for use.

Recycling

Recycling Report totals submitted for the period of April to July 2023 for review.

Business Office

Amy Carlson, Business Office Manager reported as discussed in previous council meetings a newsletter supplement will be included with the October 2023 Moscow Sewer invoices. There will be only one newsletter per year in January going forward. Real time updates and pertinent Moscow Borough information will be posted on the Borough website.

Moscow Sewer Authority

Motion was made by Edward Gaughan to approve Resolution #301-2023 regarding LSA Monroe County Grant for the Church Street Sanitary Extension Construction Project. The motion was seconded by Paula Bechaver. The motion carried unanimously with a roll call vote.

Adjournment

Motion was made by Paula Bechaver to adjourn the meeting. Motion was seconded by Edward Gaughan. The motion carried unanimously.

Minutes submitted by Amy Carlson