



Borough Council
Meeting Minutes

Monday June 3, 2024
7:00 PM

Held at the Moscow Borough Municipal
Building 123 Van Brunt Street
Moscow, PA 18444
570.842.1699
www.moscowboro.com

Call Meeting to Order

President Art Pencek called the June 3, 2024 regular meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

The following Council members were either present or absent:

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	Present

Also present were: George Parker (Zoning and Code Enforcement Officer) Attorney Bruce Zero (Moscow Borough Solicitor) Amy Carlson (Business Office Manager) Colin Young (Chief Moscow Volunteer Fire & Hose Co) Ivy Brenzel (Police Chief), Katherine Barker (Junior Councilmember) Jason Castrogiovanni (Junior Councilmember) Carol Yanko (resident) Joan Thompson (resident) Mark Paradise (businessman PPS Management) Lisa Duffy (North Pocono Cultural Society) Mark Cordelli (Lackawanna County Director for Community Relations)

Approval of Minutes

The monthly Council meeting was held on May 6, 2024. Minutes were submitted for review and approval. Motion was made by William Heim.to accept council meeting minutes as written. Motion was seconded by William Heim. The motion carried unanimously

Citizen's Comments

Carol Yanko (resident) expressed concerns about people not stopping at stop signs at Aberdeen Road (intersection of Rt 690) Carol asked if it could be patrolled and tickets issued to violator. Chief Ivy Brenzel stated that would add the stop car to help.

Joanie Thompson (resident) 125 Maple Street with draining issues on her property. She is looking for suggestions from council as to how to protect her property regarding this problem due to the fact she is having an issue with neighbor the neighbor is threatening to sue her if she does anything if she does any contracted work between properties. Marc Gaughan stated the Maple Street project may give some relief when they put a catch basin that she can attach to. Bidding for the project is hopeful for July/August 2024. Marc stated he will keep Joanie updated on progress.

Mark Paradise, PPS Management made presentation to Council regarding proposed use/ land development 203 N Main St., Moscow, PA of branch site of Honesdale National Bank. He stated he would be at the July 1, 2024 council meeting for updates and potential approvals.

Lisa Duffy of the North Pocono Cultural Society, gave updates on the Moscow Street Fair being conducted July 25-27, 2024. She stated different events that will be at the fair and will have documentation for request of street closures and any additional requests for presentation at the next scheduled council meeting on July 1, 2024.

Mayor Rosemarie Warner stated that today was Jason Castrogiovanni's last day serving his two-year term as junior councilmember and thanked him for his service. Jason thanked everyone and stated he enjoyed his time on junior council as well.

Mark Cordelli, Lackawanna County Director for Community Relations briefly reviewed upcoming summer events and distributed corresponding flyers.

Moscow Volunteer Fire & Hose Company

Chief Colin Young, reported on the following:

There were 132 total calls 15 fire related calls and 117 EMS calls for the month of May 2024.

Annual Chicken BBQ was held on June 2, 2024. Chief Colin Young expressed thanked the Mayor for her help and local volunteers that made the fundraising event a success.

Conducting a raffle for (1) 2024 Honda FourTrax Rancher 4x4 ES with a drawing date on or around Labor Day 2024. For information and to purchase tickets visit the Moscow Volunteer Fire & Hose Co. Facebook page.

General Information

Email dated May 16, 2024 from Paige Gebhardt-Cognetti, Mayor, City of Scranton regarding representation from the Moscow Borough for the Lackawanna Regional Storm Water Initiative submitted for informational purposes.

Tuesday May 28, 2024 Amy Carlson, Art Pencek and Mayor Rosemarie Warner attended "Coffee with the Commissioners" at the Moffatt Estate in Covington Township with other North Pocono municipalities.

Laurel Lines Volume 51 Issue 4 and 5 were submitted for informational purposes.

Letter dated May 14, 2024 from Jim Strempek, Club Secretary, NP Minisink Lions Club regarding the annual Fireworks extravaganza scheduled for Saturday July 6, 2024 submitted for informational purposes.

Treasurer's Report

The treasurer's report was submitted by Elizabeth Murray, Treasurer for the month of May 2024 and lists of bills to be paid from the general fund and liquid fuels fund. Marc Gaughan made a motion to accept the transfer report and was seconded by Ed Gaughan. The Treasurers Report was read Paula Bechaver made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report as reported and to pay the bills as presented. Monthly Reports for May 2024 were submitted for review (payroll transactions by payee, deposit detail and general fund register for review) Dennis Cawley seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously with a roll call vote.

Real Estate Tax Collector's Report

Real Estate Tax Collector's Report from April and May 2024 was submitted for review.

Financial Report

Nothing to report for month of May 2024.

Business Office

William Heim made a motion to approve Resolution # **303-2024** of the specific listings of the destruction

of specific records and intent to follow the schedules and Procedures for disposition of records set forth in the Pennsylvania Municipal Manual. Ed Gaughan seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Ed Gaughan made a motion to approve Resolution # 304-2024 for approval regarding destruction of specific records and intent to follow the schedules and Procedures for disposition of records set forth in the Pennsylvania Municipal Manual. Dennis Cawley seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously

On Thursday June 6, 2024 Art Pencek, Dennis Cawley and Amy Carlson will attended a zoom meeting with Thomas Skoch of ClearGov regarding an overview of digital budgeting software and current pricing for the Moscow Borough.

Streets/Planning Commission and Council of Governments:

Marc Gaughan addressed the following:

Commended and thanked the DPW Department for the completion of the Jennifer Street Project.

Main Street Project with PennDOT. Penn Dot looking at making some improvements (over Van Brunt Street Bridge) replacement and maintenance on Van brunt Street Bridget and drainage clogging. Also, asking for sidewalk over Van Brunt Street Bridge to Dollar General.

200 block of Maple Street, GPI making formal engineering recommendations. Bidding for the project is hopeful for July/August 2024. Also, be an extra separate bid for paving over the park area instead of top coat.

Greenman-Pedersen Inc., has completed entire stormwater survey throughout the borough paid for through the American Rescue Plan money.

Decades of Development first committee meeting will be held Monday June 24, 2024 at 7:30 PM following the monthly planning commission meeting at the Moscow Borough Building.

Motion was made by Marc Gaughan to approve a letter dated May 22, 2024 from Mark Kozik, MarKoz Realty regarding request for an additional 120-day extension period for the Land Development Plans. Motion was seconded by William Heim. The motion carried unanimously.

Zoning Officer Report

George Parker, PE submitted Monthly Report for the month of May 2024 for review.

Parks and Recreation

Paula Bechaver Chairperson reported on the following listed below:

On May 21, 2024 \$57,626.00 of the \$100,000.00 LSA Grant was approved for Harmony Park & Clover Park. This will cover most if not all of Clover. Meeting with Lyons Recreation Friday June 7 to discuss how much of the money will be needed for Clover Park.

Applying for another LSA grant for \$100,000.00 for completion of Clover and the rest for Harmony Park. Louis LaFratte, grant writer will assist with process when application opens in July 2024.

2,000 pounds of rubber mulch from Lyons Recreation, Stratford NJ has been purchased for Clover Park from the Grant C000088297 received by the PA Department of Community & Economic Development in the amount of \$12,500.00.

Shade Tree Commission

Mark Paradise brought up discussion of Harmony Hills trees as to who the responsible party is to maintain or replace trees. Solicitor Bruce Zero will look into this.

Police Report

Chief Brenzel gave the police report for the month of May 2024. There were a total of 144 911-calls and 140 cleared calls for the month, also several events and training.

Thanked PennDOT for the speed trailer on Rt 435.

Officer Janniel DeJesus has returned to full-time status after being cleared to come back to work on after a brief leave.

Mayor's Report

Reiterated on the meeting with the "Coffee with the Commissioners" at the Moffatt Estate in Covington Township with other North Pocono municipalities stating it was very informative and is looking forward to attending more of these type of meetings with the commissioners.

Art Pencek said speaking for himself, after listening to the commissioners after that meeting they showed interest in the stormwater management plan. He asked Mark Cordelli if he would pass along that we would like to pursue through the commissioners opposed to the city of Scranton.

Request for approval of **one** junior council member application Submitted applications by deadline were Luis Arias, William Barker, Hailey Lesh and Kelly Mann for the 2024-2026 2-year term beginning July 1, 2024. All councilmembers were asked to submit ballot vote to Mayor Rosemarie Warner. After all ballot votes were submitted Luis Arias was majority of vote. Motion was made by Marc Gaughan to appoint Luis Arias to the 2024-2026 junior councilmember for the Moscow Borough. The motion was seconded by Paula Bechaver. The motion carried unanimously

Recycling

Joe Castrogiovanni asked if there were an abundance of calls to the business office concerning no spring clean up this year. Amy Carlson responded few calls have been received if any to her knowledge.

Moscow Sewer Authority:

Fee Schedule for ONLOT Sewage Systems dated June 2, 2024 from Paul Kozik, Sewage Enforcement Officer Moscow Borough.

A motion was made by Marc Gaughan for approval for pay rate for Sewage Enforcement Officer, Paul Kozik at an hourly rate at \$37.00 per hour and \$0.67 a mile for mileage. Motion was seconded by William Heim. The motion carried unanimously with a roll call.

Personnel Committee

Ed Gaughan, Chairperson stated he has updates for the handbook prepared and will be reviewing with council before adding this to the agenda for implementation.

Adjournment

Motion was made by William Heim to adjourn the meeting. Motion was seconded by Joseph Castrogiovanni. The motion carried unanimously.

Minutes submitted by Amy Carlson