



Moscow Borough Council
Meeting Minutes

Monday August 5, 2024
7:00 PM

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 August 5, 2024 regular meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

The following Council members were either present or absent:

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

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) Carol Yanko (resident) Mark Cordelli, (Lackawanna County, Director for Community Relations) Mark Paradise (PPS Management, LLC, Scandale Associated Builders, and SADGE Real Estate Development) Dave Lapotka (Reuther-Bowen Engineering Design, Construction Services)

Presentations:

On Thursday June 4, 2024 Art Pencek attended the Pennsylvania Association of Boroughs Annual Luncheon at the Hershey Lodge, Hershey, PA. Art presented Honor of Service award from luncheon to William Heim who has 38 years of service.

Art Pencek presented Attorney Bruce S. Zero with an Honor of Service Award from the Borough of Moscow for 32 years of dedicated service to the Moscow Borough

Approval of Minutes

The monthly Council meeting was held on July 1, 2024. Minutes were submitted for review and approval. Motion was made by Edward Gaughan.to accept council meeting minutes as written. Motion was seconded by Marc Gaughan. The motion carried unanimously.

Citizens Comments and/or follow up on previous requests

Marc Gaughan made a motion for conditional approval for construction of Honesdale National Bank, 203 North Main Street Moscow, PA. as presented by Mark Paradise (PPS Management, LLC, Scandale Associated Builders, and SADGE Real Estate Development) and Dave Lopotka (Reuther Bowen Engineering Design, Construction Services) The motion was seconded by William Heim. The motion carried unanimously with a roll call vote.

Mark Cordelli, Lackawanna County, Director for Community Relations presented upcoming events scheduled by Lackawanna County.

Moscow Volunteer Fire & Hose Company

Chief Colin Young, reported on the following:

There were 136 total calls 22 fire related calls and 114 EMS calls for the month of July 2024.

Thank you to the Moscow Police Department for their assistance with the "Run for the Hoses" on Saturday July 28, 2024.

William Heim made a motion to hire Harold Galey Jr. (EMT/\$16.00 per hour/ application for employment and all clearances and certifications on file) Motion was seconded by Dennis Cawley. The motion carried unanimously with a roll call vote.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer's Report was submitted and reported for the month of July 2024. A motion was made by William Heim to accept the treasurers report as reported and to pay the bills as presented. Ed Gaughan seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously with a roll call vote.

Real Estate Tax Collector's Report

Real Estate Tax Collector's Report submitted for the months of May, June and July 2024 for review.

Financial Report

Nothing to report for month of July 2024.

Meeting was not held for TCC due to no business content

Business Office

Advertisement for Ordinance 273-2024 was submitted for informational piece

A motion was made by Marc Gaughan for submitted Ordinance 273-2024 for approval regarding Intergovernmental Cooperative Agreement. Dennis Cawley seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously with a roll call vote.

William Heim made a motion to apply for additional Golden Park Fencing from Lackawanna County in the second round of the 2024 Reinvestment Applications. Ed Gaughan seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously with a roll call vote.

Dennis Cawley made a motion to approve Resolution 304-2024 regarding LSA Grant 2025 Recreational Upgrade Project. Ed Gaughan seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously with a roll call vote.

Marc Gaughan made a motion to approve the allocation Letter for LSA Grant 2025 Recreational Upgrade Project. Ed Gaughan seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously

Streets/Planning Commission and Council of Governments:

Marc Gaughan addressed the following:

Maple Street project estimates from Greenman-Pedersen Inc. making formal engineering recommendations/agreement. Steering away from advertising to bid project out due to insufficient borough DPW road funds and if the borough bids out we are not eligible for grants. Working with Lou LaFratte to see if grant funding is available for the project. In addition, discussed with William Heim and will ask council for 1.5 mills in 2025 budget to fund the Maple Street project and other projects within the borough.

DPW Department next curbing and minor draining project to start on Greenfield Road. Savings from Jennifer Street project and Liquid Fuels will cover Greenfield Road Project.

Marc complimented DPW for their efforts with setting up for the Moscow Street Fair as needed on July 26-28. Also, he stated the borough looks good for Tuesday August 5 National Night Out Event.

Zoning and Code Enforcement Officer George Parker, PE

Monthly Report for July 2024 was submitted for review. There were no questions or comments for George Parker.

Zoning Hearing Board comments by George Parker, PE

Planning Commission approved special exception zoning application on July 29, 2024 from Rejendra R. Russell (copy provided to council as informational piece-no action needed) Amy Carlson with guidance from Attorney Brian Yeager and George Parker has scheduled, advertised finalized correspondence for the Special Exception Zoning Hearing to be held on Wednesday August 21, 2024 at 7:00 PM at the Moscow Borough Building.

Parks and Recreation

Information for LSA Grant application for Harmony Hills / Golden Park in progress to submit to Lou LaFratte for processing.

Police Report

Chief Brenzel gave the police report for the month of June 2024. There were at total of 133 911-calls and 132 cleared calls for the month, also several events and training.

Art Pencek questioned Right to Know requests on Police Report. Will advise.

Recycling

Joe Castrogiovanni led discussion on increase of comingle recycling fee from \$40.00 to \$120.00 per ton Lackawanna County Recycling Center as of August 1. Budget to year end is sufficient as projected tonnage and budget amount for 2025. Discussion concluded to monitor the situation and can be brought up for discussion as deemed necessary.

Municipal Building

Dennis Cawley recognized Dan Schilling complimenting him on the beautiful landscaping work in the front of the Municipal Building.

MOSCOW SEWER AUTHORITY:

On August 22, 2024 at noon at the North Pocono Public Library there will be a ribbon cutting ceremony for the Sewer Extension Project if anyone can attend. (flyer provided)

Marc Gaughan asked question when they did the expansion if there will be no additional cost to the rate payers. Art Pencek stated that from his understanding there is no rate increase at this particular time.

Solicitor's Report

Attorney Bruce S. Zero again thanked council for the Honor of Service plaque. He stated that he has had the pleasure servicing the borough and giving back to the community. He will continue to represent the borough and as long as long as Council will have him. Attorney Zero also stated that we should all be proud of the beautiful Borough of Moscow and the congratulates all of Borough Council.

Personnel Committee

Ed Gaughan, Chairperson stated he still working on the current proposed changes being contemplated for the employee handbook.

Adjournment

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

Minutes submitted by Amy Carlson