



Moscow Borough Council Meeting

Monday March 3, 2025

7:00 PM

Moscow Borough Council

Arthur Pencek - President

Edward Gaughan - Vice President

William Hiem

Marc Gaughan

Joseph Castrogiovanni

Dennis Cawley

Paula Bechaver

Mayor Rosemarie Warner

Call Meeting to Order

President Art Pencek called the March 3, 2025 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: Amy Carlson (Business Manager) Katherine Barker & Luis Arias (Junior Council) Ivy Brenzel (Police Chief) George Parker (Zoning Code Enforcement Officer) Colin Young (Chief, Moscow Volunteer Fire & Hose Co.) Michael Chmielewski - Director of EMS | Assistant Fire Chief -Covington Independent Fire Company, Inc, Carol Yanko (Moscow Resident), Gary Willsch (Moscow Resident), James Pinto (Moscow Resident)

Approval of Minutes

The monthly Council meeting was held on February 3, 2025. Minutes were submitted for review and approval. Motion was made by Paula Bechaver to accept council meeting minutes as written. Motion was seconded by Joseph Castrogiovanni. The motion carried unanimously with a roll call vote.

Citizen's Comments and/or Follow-Up on Previous Citizen's Requests

Gary Willsch - Moscow Borough Resident

Gary Willsch, a Moscow Borough resident requested update on curbing project on Greenfield Road. Marc Gaughan stated he met with Mark Mecca, DPW Director and Robert J. Bochicchio, P.E., DBIA of Greenman- Pedersen, Inc and the process to install curbing has begun. Amy Carlson, Business Manager stated that Robert J. Bochicchio, P.E., DBIA of Greenman- Pedersen, Inc. e-mailed her the advertisements to be published upon council approval. Art Pencek stated the project site located on Greenfield Road should be done by the end of 2025. Any bids for the projects will be opened at the next council meeting scheduled for April 7, 2025.

James Pinto - Moscow Borough Resident

James Pinto, a Moscow Borough resident requested a "big hole" on the corner across from Mark Serra's house be fixed. It has been there for five years. Art Pencek & Marc Gaughan stated they are unaware of any request ever being submitted in the past and asked where the location is (for the minutes). Gary Willsch interjected and confirmed the location to be on the corner /intersection of Autumn and Clearview. Art Pencek stated that he would have Mark Mecca, DPW Director look into.

Michael Chmielewski - Director of EMS | Assistant Fire Chief -Covington Independent Fire Company, Inc.

Michael Chmielewski - Director of EMS | Assistant Fire Chief -Covington Independent Fire Company, Inc. made presentation to Moscow Borough Council in which he is asking council to review request for approval of a resolution in support to authorize emergency medical treatment and other public safety activities in the Moscow Borough. Also, that The Moscow Volunteer Fire and Hose Company continue as the BLS provider located in the Borough of Moscow and the Covington Independent Fire Company as the ALS provider located in the Township of Covington. Art Pencek stated that the Moscow Borough Council would consult with the Moscow Volunteer Fire Company to review and submit the resolution provided for approval at the next Moscow Borough Council Meeting on April 7, 2025.

Lackawanna County Events

Art Pencek announced events for the month of March 2025 in Lackawanna County on behalf of Marc Cordelli, Lackawanna County Director for Community Relations who submitted them via email and was not in attendance at the meeting.

Moscow Volunteer Fire and Hose Company

Fire Chief Colin Young gave the Moscow Volunteer Fire and Hose Co. reports. Total calls for the month of February 2025. Breakdown is 104 EMS and 12 Fire calls.

A motion was made by William Heim to hire Application for Employment for approval, Robert W. Holley (EMT) \$18.00 per hour & Keith Thomas Ripley Jr. (EMT) \$18.00 per hour (all clearances and paperwork have been submitted to Business Office) Marc Gaughan seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously with a roll call vote.

General Correspondence

Thank you note to Mayor and Council from Paula Heim on behalf of the Heim Family was submitted for informational piece.

Business Office

Employee/Appointed/Elected member updated clearance report submitted for review. Amy Carlson, Business Manager stated that all municipal building employees are up to date. All other appointed /elected and employed personnel have been notified to submit all updated clearances. The business office will keep an updated spreadsheet of these. She stated Borough Council can advise as to any steps going forward to pursue any missing documents. Amy made Borough Council aware that her department has complied with informing each person on their end and it is their responsibility to submit (or for council to pursue) for Jeff Kyle's request at DGK Insurance Co.

Recycling: Joseph Castrogiovanni, Chairperson

Request for approval of holding an electronics recycling event for Moscow residents. Vendor pricing submitted for review and approval of one if warranted. After discussion Joseph Castrogiovanni made a motion to hire EACR, SAMR Inc., 1950 Rutgers University Blvd. Lakewood NJ 08701 for electronics recycling event. Amy Carlson suggested date for the event June 14, 2025 from 8:00 am-noon on behalf of Mark Mecca, DPW Director's request. Amy Carlson to contact EACR to setup event and once confirmed Moscow Borough residents will be notified of the event. Large appliances will not be accepted and can be recycled through the Moscow Borough DPW Department year-round. Joseph Castrogiovanni suggested limit of two televisions per resident. Marc Gaughan seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously with a roll call vote.

Mark Mecca, DPW Director submitted information the DPW Department will hold tire recycling event the same day as electronic recycle event. Residents will be charged for tires dropped off.

Treasurer's Report

Marc Gaughan made a motion to accept the transfer report for February 2025 as reported. Paula Bechaver seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously with a roll call vote.

Treasurer's Report was submitted and reported for the month of February 2025. William Heim made a motion 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 Report for February 2025 was submitted as informational piece for review.

Financial Report

Letter received from Michael B. Carroll, PA Secretary of Transportation of notice of payment Liquid Fuels March 2025. Amy Carlson stated that the Liquid Fuels Funds in the amount were received by electronic payment to the Moscow Borough this morning on March 3, 2025.

William Heim stated there was a TCC meeting and there will be no reassessment for 2025.

Streets/Planning Commission and Council of Governments:

There was no Planning Commission Meeting on Monday February 24, 2025 due to lack of topic content. Also, no COG meeting this month.

Motion was made by Marc Gaughan to accept a letter of support to PA Dept. of Community & Economic Development from the Moscow Borough on behalf of Roaring Brook Township use of grant funds \$19,825.00 awarded for Spencer Road for the Caterpillar Cold Planer. William Heim seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously with a roll call vote. The equipment will be shared by both Roaring Brook Township and Moscow Borough

A motion was made by Joseph Castrogiovanni to accept request to for Maple Street Project and Greenfield Road Curbing Project. Dennis Cawley seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously with a roll call vote.

Marc Gaughan stated that a financial committee should decide what banking institution to get a loan from for the remaining balance for both Maple Street Project. Joseph Castrogiovanni stated an RFP should be submitted to the banks by the finance committee. Marc Gaughan stated the Greenfield Curbing as part of the Maple Street Project as a whole will be expensed from the American Rescue Plan. Part of the Maple Street Project will be funded by the 2022, 2023, 2024 & 2025 1.5 Mills accrued in those said budgets. Although separate advertisements will be published for two separate bids for the projects.

Mark Mecca, DPW Director scheduled rental of street sweeper for May 5, 2025.

Marc Gaughan thanked Greenman- Pedersen, Inc, Robert J. Bochicchio, P.E., DBIA of Greenman- Pedersen, Inc., and Moscow Borough Council for the mileage funding and the work done on the Maple Street Project thus far.

Zoning and Code Enforcement Officer George Parker

Monthly Report for February 2025 was submitted for review

Robert J. Bochicchio, P.E., DBIA of Greenman- Pedersen, Inc., George Parker and Mark Mecca will attend online FEMA Assessment meeting here at the Moscow Borough Building on March 11, 2025 at 10:00 AM-1:00PM.

Parks and Recreation / Shade Tree Commission

Paula Bechaver stated Clover Park has been completed and ready for use

Al Bendinsky carved a totem pole over a two-year period. Al donated it to the North Pocono Trails and requested it be placed at Old Mill Park on Market Street. Thank you, Al, for sharing your talent.

Arbor Day Ceremony is scheduled for Friday April 25, 2025 at Golden Park. Tree to be planted in memory of Alicia Heim Stone. Paula also announced Mark Mecca, DPW Director submitted a request to plant a tree in memory of Paul J Demuth Sr.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Rosemarie Warner stated the process has begun to advertise and begin to accept applications for 2025-2026 junior council representative. Student must be entering their junior year of high school for the 2025-2026 school year. Anyone interested has until deadline of Friday May 23, 2025.

Police Report

Chief Brenzel gave the police report for February 2025 Report. There were at total of 109 911- calls and 102 cleared calls for the month, also several events and training.

An article dated Tuesday February 18, 2025 published in the Times-Tribune regarding an arrest of a US Postal worker made by Corporal Martin Cieless submitted for informational purposes.

Municipal Building

Art Pencek and Mark Mecca are waiting for Scott Staniszewski Plumbing to report back with pricing for a new larger boiler to replace temporary one now in the building. Once that guidance is released GPI may need to draw up specs and the borough to put out for bid.

Adjournment

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

Minutes submitted by Amy Carlson

