



## Moscow Borough Council

Meeting Minutes  
Monday June 2, 2025

## 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 June 2, 2025 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	Present	William Heim	Absent

Also present were: Atty. Bruce Zero (Solicitor) George Parker (Zoning Code Enforcement Officer) Ivy Brenzel (Moscow Police Chief) Katherine Barker (Junior Council) Luis Arias (Junior Council) Colin Young (Chief, Moscow Volunteer Fire & Hose Co.)

### Approval of Minutes

The monthly council meeting was held on May 5, 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 Marc Gaughan. The motion carried unanimously.

### Regional Planning Memorandum

Marc Gaughan made a motion to approve Memorandum of Agreement Act 167 County-Wide Stormwater Management Plan submitted by Mary Liz Donato, Lackawanna County Planning Department Manager. Ed Gaughan seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously with a roll call vote. Marc Gaughan volunteered to represent the Moscow Borough to serve on the Watershed Advisory Committee. The motion carried unanimously with a roll call vote.

### Grants

Art Pencek announced that an email was received dated Tuesday, May 20, 2025 from Mandy Book | Executive Director, Commonwealth Financing Authority, PA Department of Community & Economic Development of results for LSA Monroe County grant applications submitted by the Moscow Borough. It was stated that Clover Park & Harmony Hills Project grant application in the amount of \$100,000.00 was not approved. Also, it was stated that the application submitted in the amount of \$148,500.00 on behalf of the Moscow Development Association (Water storage pressure tank replacement project) was not approved. A complete listing of all LSA Monroe County approved grants can be obtained at the Moscow Borough business office.

### Moscow Volunteer Fire & Hose Co.

Fire Chief Colin Young gave the Moscow Volunteer Fire and Hose Co. report for the month of May 2025. There were 88 total calls. The breakdown was 78 EMS and 10 fire calls.

Fire Chief Colin Young for informational purposes referred to the PennDOT RT 690 project that is in progress. PennDOT omitted the octagon signs from contract that were submitted which are a traffic signal safety feature when the Moscow Fire & Hose Company are in route to emergency calls. Chief Young stated that the concerns and issue with the traffic lights have been fixed.

A motion was made by Paula Bechaver to approve application for employment for Nichole Seul EMT at \$18.00 per hour and all paperwork and clearances have been completed and submitted to the business office. Marc Gaughan seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously with a roll call vote.

Annual Chicken BBQ held on Sunday June 2, 2024 was a success.

**Business Office:** Not in attendance at Pennsylvania State Association of Boroughs Conference

## **General Information**

Laurel Lines Vol 52 Issue 6 available on PDF at <https://lwvrhs.org/monthly-laurel-lines-newsletter/>  
Letter submitted dated May 19., 2025 from Robert Ferraro VP Area Manager of Honesdale National Bank regarding the opening date of June 20, 2025 of the 203 N Main Street, Moscow branch location

## **Treasurer's Report**

Treasurer's Report was submitted and reported for the month of May 2025 up to and including May 27, 2025. Ed Gaughan made a motion to accept the treasurers report as reported and to pay the bills as presented. Marc Gaughan seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously with a roll call vote.

## **Real Estate Tax Collector's Report**

Real Estate Tax Report for May 2025 was not submitted before deadline and will be submitted at the July 2025 Borough Council Meeting.

## **Streets/Planning Commission and Council of Governments:**

There was no Planning Commission Meeting on Tuesday May 27, 2025 due to lack of content on the agenda.

Blacktop no longer has supplier in Covington Township, DPW is ordering from Scranton or Dunmore.

Hired contractor Maiocco Excavating has started work on the Greenfield Curbing Project. The project inlets & curbing are on schedule for completion date of July 1, 2025

Marc Gaughan made a motion to accept a letter from Markoz Realty dated May 12, 2025 requesting a 120-day extension expiring 06/19/25. New extension date would be effective from 06/20/25 through 10/20/25. Paula Bechaver seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Councilmembers Dennis Cawley and Joseph Castrogiovanni voted no. The motion carried with a 4 yes and 2 no. Marc Gaughan stated the Markoz Realty should be notified of the 4-2 vote.

## **Zoning and Code Enforcement Officer George Parker**

Monthly Report for May 2025 was submitted for review.

Art Pencek requested a review of line item 250512---ISSUED PERMIT #2025-017 to Nicole and Greg Mariotti for proposed construction of gated driveway entrance to parcel located at 1227 Church St. (PIN 197.04-010-002.02). Driveway also involves deed of easement to lands of Verrastro. George Parker explained that he believed Art was thinking of a different driveway east of this particular one. That driveway did have a highway occupancy permit for paving a driveway. That driveway was only on the Verrastro property. This new permit was only for construction of pillars at the entrance of the driveway that serves both Mariotti (as owners of the land) and also Verrastro (by easement across Mariotti's land).

## **Parks and Recreation / Shade Tree Commission**

Application submitted to Peoples Parks and Community Foundation Grant for Golden Park Trails.

**Mayor's Report:** Not in attendance at Pennsylvania State Association of Boroughs Conference

## **Police Report**

Police Report submitted for May 2025 Report.

Separate thank you notes were submitted for informational purposes for Corporal Martin Cieless and Chief Ivy Brenzel

Marc Gaughan and Joseph Castrogiovanni verbally thanked Chief Brenzel for getting an abandon car off of Main Street.

## **Junior Council**

Luis Arias stated hopefully a new junior councilmember will be at the next council meeting. Art Pencek and the rest of Moscow Borough Council thanked outgoing junior council member Katherine Barker for serving on junior council the past two years They wished her the best with her college education going forward.

## **Recycling**

Joseph Castrogiovanni stated that Clean & Green set for Friday June 6, 2025 & Saturday June 7, 2025. Electronics Recycling set for Saturday June 14, 2025.

Appliances can be brought to the borough building for recycling all year round for a small fee

## **Old Business:**

Dennis Cawley made a motion to approve email dated May 15, 2025 from Lisa Duffy, NP Cultural Society requesting financing from the Moscow Borough for the Beautify Downtown Moscow Project. A donation of \$500.00 was approved. The motion was seconded by Marc Gaughan. The motion carried unanimously.

### **Financial Loan**

Loan quotes for terms and interest rates received from financial institutions requested for discussion of remaining balance for Maple Street Project. Quotes were reviewed from four local banks which were People's Security Bank & Trust Co., HNB Bank, Fidelity Bank, Community Bank and Wayne Bank. The loan quotes were in the amounts of \$350,000.00 for the difference in the amount needed for the project. (\$343,057.61) The balance from 2022 through 2025 (1.5 mileage) is \$82,148.99. Accepted bid for the Maple Street Project was \$425,206.60 submitted by RLE Enterprises, R457 N. Main Street, Moscow, PA 18444. Paula Bechaver made a motion to accept the lowest rate which was People's Security Bank & Trust quote 10-year rate and amortization 4.75% (tax-free). Motion was seconded by Ed Gaughan. The motion carried unanimously with a roll call vote. Please note: Councilmember Joseph Castrogiovanni abstained from the council vote due to potential conflict of interest due to his current employment at Wayne Bank.

### **Adjournment**

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

### **Minutes submitted by Amy Carlson**