



Moscow Borough Council  
Meeting Minutes  
Monday August 4 2025

Moscow Borough Municipal Building  
123 Van Brunt Street  
Moscow, PA 18444

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 August 4, 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: Atty. Bruce Zero (Solicitor) Amy Carlson (Business Manager) Ivy Brenzel (Moscow Police Chief), George Parker (Zoning/Code Enforcement Officer) Colin Young (Chief, Moscow Volunteer Fire & Hose Co.) Alia Rava (2025-2027 Junior Council Member) Richard & Tina Rava (Alia Rava's Grandparents) Joseph and Susan Bartoletti (Alia Rava's Grandparents) Richard & Brandy Rava (Alia Rava's Parents) Rocco Rava (Alia Rava's brother) Mia Rava (Alia Rava's sister) Mark Cordelli (Lackawanna County Director for Community Relations), Carol Yanko (resident)

### Oath of Office

Moscow Mayor Rosemarie Warner administered oath to Alia Rava as 2025-2027 term of the Moscow Borough Junior Council.

### Moscow Volunteer Fire & Hose Co.

Fire Chief Colin Young gave the Moscow Volunteer Fire and Hose Co. report for the month of July 2025. There were 94 total calls. The breakdown was 79 EMS and 15 fire calls.

A motion was made by Paula Bechaver to approve request from Tim Huber, Moscow Volunteer Fire and Hose Co. requesting to advertise for full-time EMS Operations Manager. The motion was seconded by Bill Heim. The motion carried unanimously.

### Approval of Minutes

The monthly council meeting was held on July 7, 2025. Minutes were submitted for review and approval. Motion was made by Joseph Castrogiovanni to accept council meeting minutes as written. Motion was seconded by Dennis Cawley. The motion carried unanimously.

### Citizens Comments

Marc Cordelli, Lackawanna County Director for Community Relations submitted and reviewed upcoming events for the duration of the summer.

### General Comment

Art Pencek stated that Jeff Kyle of DGK insurance will be in contact with the Moscow Volunteer Fire & Hose Co. to discuss a separate payroll and Workman's Compensation Insurance Policy for the fire company's paid employees to be a separate entity opposed to having the policy and payroll under the Moscow Borough umbrella that is currently in place at this time.

### Energy Contract

Art Pencek presented & discussion of upcoming renewal of energy contract from email information received from current contract World-Kinect Senior Consultant, Kelly Cerbus. Rates effective for Tuesday August 5, 2025. Motion was made by Dennis Cawley to accept the new rates and contract on Tuesday August 5, 2025. Motion was seconded by Marc Gaughan. The motion carried unanimously with a roll call vote.

## **Business Office:**

A motion was made by Ed Gaughan to approve Ordinance 276-2025, the ordinance would increase the indebtedness of the Borough of Moscow, Lackawanna County PA by the issue of a general obligation note in the amount of \$350,000.00. for the Maple Street Paving Project Balance. Also, Ordinance 277-2025, the ordinance would increase the indebtedness of the Borough of Moscow, Lackawanna County PA by the issue of a general obligation note in the amount of \$230,000.00 for the Leaf Vacuum Truck (grant approved for \$200,000.00). William Heim seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously with a roll call.

Debt Statement & Borrowing Base Certificate, information provided by Murphy & Dougherty & Co. for Moscow Borough. This will be submitted to People's Security Bank & Trust Co. to be included with applications for general obligation note in the amount of \$350,000.00 for Maple Street Paving Project Balance and general obligation note in the amount of \$230,000.00 for Leaf Vacuum Truck was submitted for informational piece.

A motion made by Paula Bechaver to approve Resolution 315-2025 for resubmission for the LSA Monroe County grant submitted by the Moscow Borough for Harmony Hills Project. Bill Heim seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously with a roll call.

A motion made by Marc Gaughan to approve Moscow Borough Commitment Letter for resubmission of LSA Monroe County grant submitted by the Moscow Borough for Harmony Hills Project that were included in the original with the same language content. Ed Gaughan seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously with a roll call.

Lou Lafratte, PE has submitted the application for the 2026 Multimodule Transportation Fund Grant for the purpose of Academy Street-Stormwater, Paving and Upgrade Project for the Moscow Borough. The amount submitted was \$1,830,812.00 (copies of the application are available for inspection at the Moscow Borough Business Office)

A motion was made by Dennis Cawley to approve request for approval to apply for LSA Grant in September 2025 for the purpose of Municipal Building Improvements. William Heim seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

## **General Information**

Laurel Lines Newsletter can be viewed on their website at <https://lwvrhs.org/monthly-laurel-lines-newsletter/>

Thank you letters from NP Public Library to Moscow Borough and Moscow Police Department submitted for informational piece.

Event correspondence from Senator Rosemary Brown regarding public hearing on Data Center Education and license plate replacements submitted for informational pieces.

## **Treasurer's Report**

The transfer report was submitted and reported for the month of July 2025. William Heim made a motion to accept the transfer report as reported. Ed Gaughan seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously with a roll call vote.

The treasurer's report was submitted and reported for the month of June 2025. Marc 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's Report**

Real Estate Tax Report for July 2025 was submitted for review.

## **Financial Report**

HNB Bank Certificate of Deposit maturity date 08/22/25. Current rates are attached but may change at maturity. Bill Heim advised the Moscow Borough treasurer should get rates from Peoples Security Bank & Trust Co. at maturity date as he and council were in agreement with the rates provided by the other financial institutions. Elizabeth Murray, Treasurer, will call Bill with rates at maturity to be advised which to reinvest with.

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

Hired contractor RLE Enterprises was delayed to begin Maple Street Paving Project as the borough needed to revise plans as the water lines were not showing where they were supposed to be. The plans have been resubmitted to RLE Enterprises. They have ordered the catch basins, once materials are received (approximately 3 weeks) they will begin project on 200 block of Maple Street.

Marc Gaughan was not able to attend the monthly Council of Governments meeting for July 2025. Minutes from the meeting will be forwarded once received.

There was no Planning Commission Meeting on Monday July 28, 2025 due to lack of content on the agenda.

## **Zoning and Code Enforcement**

Zoning and Code Enforcement monthly report for July 2025 was submitted for review.

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

LSA Monroe County grant submitted by the Moscow Borough for Harmony Hills Project that was denied in the amount of \$100,000.00 in Spring of 2025 which was already discussed at beginning of the meeting.

### **Police Report**

Police Report submitted for July 2025 report. There was a total of 126 911- calls and 125 cleared calls for the month, also several events and training.

RADkids Week was conducted July 21-26, 2025.

Letter dated July 14, 2025, regarding PCCD Compliance Monitoring Program submitted for informational purpose

### **Mayor's Report:**

Mayor Rosemarie Warner congratulated Alia Rava (in attendance) on receiving the position of 2025-2027 Moscow Borough Junior Councilmember and being officially sworn in the oath of office. Her first call to duty will be assisting along with Luis Arias (2024-2026 Junior Councilmember) at the 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual National Night Out on Tuesday August 5, 2025.

Mayor Rosemarie Warner acknowledged the RADkids Week conducted July 21-26, 2025, by Chief Ivy Brenzel at the Moscow Borough Building.

### **New Business:**

Joseph Castrogiovanni publicly thanked Moscow Borough Solicitor Bruce Zero for his prompt response to his email dated July 31, 2025, with a question regarding if there is any recourse that we have as a Borough regarding the potential effect to the water table that serves our community.

### **Adjournment**

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

**Minutes submitted by Amy Carlson**