

CITY OF MORO
MINUTES OF December 2, 2025
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

Written minutes may not contain a verbatim record of meeting events. If clarification or additional specific information is desired, please reference any available audio recording.

The Moro City Council met for a council meeting on December 2, 2025, at 7:00 PM. Present: Mayor Robert Perisho, Council President Andy Anderson, Councilor James Alley, Bryan Cranston and Councilor David Messenger (appointed later in the meeting). City Staff: John English- Public Works Director, Brittany Wood- City Administrator, Brad Baird- Anderson Perry, Jaime Crawford- Bell Design, Kori Sarrett- Accuity. Visitors: Patricia Gabriel, Jerrilea Mayfield, Carey Huges, Dana Pursley- Haner, John Barber, Joe Belshe, Scott Belshe, Kristof Cook, James Burgett- Sheriff's Office, Nick Gall*, Brien Farmer*, 541-XXX-XX30*, 541-XXX-XX45*. (* indicates remote attendance)

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Mayor Perisho called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. Due to a temporary lack of quorum caused by a scheduling conflict with a special School Board meeting, Mayor Perisho directed staff to begin with staff reports until additional Council members arrived.

OLD BUSINESS-

DPW staff report-Public Works Director English reported that the reservoir floor repair had been completed and that batch chlorination and post-repair water samples had all passed laboratory standards. He noted that one sewer backup had been reported at 508 Main Street and that winter maintenance had been completed on the City's snow removal equipment. He informed the Council that the recent water system survey resulted in zero deficiencies, that maintenance had been performed at the burn pile in preparation for ignition, and that fall clean-up activities had been completed at the cemetery and city park. He added that staff would be traveling to Hood River the following week for water certification training.

City Hall Staff Report- City Administrator Wood reported that one RV-living ordinance violation notice had been delivered to a resident. She noted that the flag retirement drive had been completed, resulting in 84 flags being delivered to Hood River Troop 282 for proper retirement. She further reported on preparations for the public hearing, including required mailed notices to affected property owners. She explained that the rock production contract had been amended to meet the City's \$100,000 budget limit and that the selected contractor had agreed to the amendment. She stated that all items were prepared pending an on-site meeting with Council President Anderson.

Public Hearing- 7:05- Ordinance 281 FEMA Floodplain management regulations- Councilors Alley and Cranston arrived, creating a quorum.

At 7:09 pm a motion was heard to leave the regular session and open the public hearing (**Cranston/ Alley**)

Vote: 3 in favor (Anderson, Cranston, Alley.) **The motion carried.**

Mayor Perisho read the required procedural script and opened the hearing.

Staff Report: Planner Crawford presented the staff report and explained that the City elected to adopt the "no-net-loss" standard for floodplain management. She outlined the contents of the proposed ordinance and its alignment with state and federal requirements.

Public Testimony: Carey Hughes of 411 Main Street asked questions regarding structure placement and whether properties outside the floodway would still be required to carry flood insurance if the property they were on was located in the floodway. Kristof Cook of 203 1st Street sought clarification regarding the floodplain location of Barnum Creek. Jerrilea Mayfield of 400 Dewey Street inquired about implications of the ordinance for her property specifically. Planner Crawford and Engineer Baird responded to all questions

as they were presented.

Additional Staff Comments: Planner Crawford and Engineer Baird responded to all public Testimony concerns as they were addressed. No additional comments were heard.

Public Comment: None heard.

Planning board members: No additional comment heard.

A motion was heard to close the public hearing at 7:29 pm (**Cranston/ Alley**) Vote: 3 in favor (Anderson, Cranston, Alley.) **The motion carried.**

A motion was heard to adopt the 2024 Oregon model Floodplain Ordinance number 281 by title only. (**Cranston/ Alley**) Vote: 3 in favor (Anderson, Cranston, Alley.) **The motion carried.**

CONSENT AGENDA-MINUTES-BILLS-FINANCIAL REPORT-

A motion was made to approve the November Council minutes as presented (**Anderson/ Cranston**) Vote: 3 in favor (Anderson, Cranston, Alley.) **The motion carried.** The financial report for November was reviewed, including check # 13942-13976, 15169 with bills totaling \$358,527.30. A motion was made to approve the bills as presented (**Cranston/ Alley**) Vote: 3 in favor (Anderson, Cranston, Alley.) **The motion carried.**

COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS (Agenda items ONLY)

None heard.

VISITORS – CORRESPONDENCE –

A thank-you letter from Mr. and Mrs. Bob Stone was read into the record, expressing appreciation for staff's work and communication during the reservoir repair.

OLD BUSINESS (continued) -

Anderson Perry- Brad Baird- Engineer Baird presented updates on several projects he is overseeing for the city at this time. Beginning with the Anderson Perry Leak detection Study- a contract was presented for standard work agreement via contract, allowing assistance for the completion of the Leak detection survey. The contract outlines work to be performed, not to exceed \$5,000.00 to pair with the grant proceeds from Business Oregon to fund the leak detection study, recently awarded by a \$20,000 grant. A motion was heard to authorize Mayor Perisho to sign the contract, with Anderson Perry for assistance for \$5,000 maximum City funds, to pair with \$20,000 of Grant funding to complete the Leak Detection Study. (**Cranston/ Anderson**) Vote: 3 in favor (Anderson, Cranston, Alley.) **The motion carried.**

The second item Engineer Baird presented was the Dewey Street infrastructure planning update. A handout was reviewed which outlined the staff report and included all costs associated with this site preparation that will be covered by this grant award of \$92,000.00.

The third item discussed was the Grant application with Business Oregon and SDWRLF (Safe drinking water revolving loan fund). Engineer Baird highlighted the Water System priority list identified in the 2024 Water System Master Plan, and the items that could be covered by the \$4.6M in funding. Engineer Baird discussed different scenarios that could be used to generate income that would be used for loan repayment. Several approaches to rate adjustments were discussed; included in the grant is funding to conduct a rate study. A motion was heard to authorize Mayor Perisho to sign the grant application (**Cranston/ Alley**) Vote: 3 in favor (Anderson, Cranston, Alley.) **The motion carried.**

Audit review FY 24/25- Kori Sarrett, Accuity, presented the annual audit review. She noted that all prior fiscal year work had been completed timely, allowing the on-site audit to occur in July. Both enterprise funds generated positive cash flow. She explained the Street Fund's temporary negative balance as the result of timing on a Small City Allotment reimbursement. She identified one repeat finding regarding segregation of duties and a minor \$17 budget misstatement caused by an addition error.

Reservoir Floor Replacement final update: DPW English advised that the reservoir floor replacement was

complete and the system was back online.

Sewer Line Ordinance- An updated draft of the proposed sewer line ordinance was provided for Council review. A work session was scheduled for January 6, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.

Huffman Development progress update- No update was available.

NEW BUSINESS

Letters of interest in Vacant Council Seat, Appointment and Oath of Office- Two letters of interest were received, both candidates qualified for the position. Each applicant was asked to share a little about themselves and why they were interested in serving on the City Council. David Messenger shared he had work history spanning 35 ½ years at Gilliam County working with both the Road Department and the Assessor's Office. In addition, he has 16 years of experience, serving on the Condon City Council and the Moro Budget Committee for the last 7 years. Joe Belshe highlighted the 4 years of time serving as the Fire Chief and currently serving on the national fire apparatus board. Joe highlighted his work within the local community and his desire to take the next steps to continue serving the city and his desire to remain in the Community.

A written vote was taken. CA Wood read each councilor's vote aloud. David Messenger received 3 Votes. Mayor Perisho thanked Joe Belshe for his interest in the position and asked him to consider serving on the City's budget Committee as a way to be involved, urging him that we need the next generation of leaders to begin to step up. A motion was heard to appoint David Messenger to Seat # 3 to fill the vacancy left by Travis West's resignation and vacancy **(Anderson/ Cranston) Vote: 3 in favor (Anderson, Cranston, Alley) the motion carried.**

Councilor Messenger was sworn into Council Seat 3# and given the Oath of Office. Councilor Messenger took his seat at the dais and the meeting continued.

Review of past due water/sewer accounts- A list of delinquent water and sewer accounts was reviewed. Three residents are past due and two remain on active payment plans.

Relocation of Speed Radar fixed sign- Sheriff Burgett asked whether the city wished to relocate the flashing radar sign currently located at Moore and Main Street. He suggested moving it farther south on Highway 97 near High School Loop Road, where motorists would see it sooner. Discussion included whether acquiring a second radar trailer might be more beneficial. ODOT estimated a new sign at \$15,000–\$20,000; the radar trailer purchased in 2022 cost \$10,000. Sheriff Burgett stated he would follow up with ODOT regarding relocation options and cost.

BIZ OR Leak detection contract review and authorize Mayor signature for approval- A \$20,000 contract for SIPP funding of the Leak Detection Study was received. A motion was heard to authorize the Mayor to sign the document **(Cranston/ Alley) Vote: 4 in favor (Anderson, Cranston, Alley, Messenger.) The motion carried.**

COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS CONCERNING ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA-

Joe Belshe offered the use of property at the top of High School Loop Road as a potential radar trailer location.

GOOD OF THE ORDER-

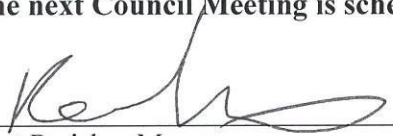
Councilor Cranston thanked City staff for their work during the reservoir repair, noting that the only inconvenience to residents had been the watering restriction. He extended appreciation to both council seat applicants.

Mayor Perisho expressed gratitude to both applicants for their interest and effort. He noted that the city looked good and commended all recent project work. He also thanked Councilors Cranston and Alley for serving on the School Board and acknowledged that scheduling conflicts can occur when individuals serve on multiple boards.

ADJOURNMENT-

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:40 PM

The next Council Meeting is scheduled for January 6, 2026 @ 7:00 p.m.

 Date 1-7-2026
Bert Perisho, Mayor

ATTEST:  Date 1-7-2026
Brittany Wood, City Administrator