

CITY OF MORO
MINUTES OF October 7, 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 regular council meeting on Tuesday, October 7, 2025, at 7:00 PM. Present: Mayor Robert Perisho, Council President Andy Anderson, Councilors James Alley and Bryan Cranston. City Staff: John English, Director of Public Works, Isaac Aldrich- Assistant Maintenance Technician and Brittany Wood- City Administrator. Visitors: Joseph Belshe- Moro Fire, Linda Thompson, Roberta Aldrich, Elaine Melzer, Susan Hogue. Absent- Councilor Travis West.

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Mayor Perisho called the meeting to order at 7:04 PM, following the Pledge of Allegiance.

CONSENT AGENDA-MINUTES-BILLS-FINANCIAL REPORT-

A motion was made to approve the minutes from the September Council Meeting as presented (**Anderson/ Alley**) **Vote:** 3 in favor (Anderson, Cranston, Alley.) **The motion carried.** A motion was made to approve the September financial report including check # 13903-13920, 15165-15166 with bills totaling \$29,326.13. (**Cranston/ Alley**) **Vote:** 3 in favor (Anderson, Cranston, Alley.) **The motion carried.**

COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS (Agenda items ONLY)

Linda Thompson requested an update regarding the sewer backup at 409 Court Street, and asked the City to consider reimbursing her for the \$1,000 deductible she paid.

VISITORS – CORRESPONDENCE –

None received.

OLD BUSINESS-

Project updates/ DPW staff report- Public Works staff repaired a water leak on Dewey Street and oversaw the sewer installation on the Hogue property. Winterization and cleanup were completed at the cemetery. Standard irrigation at the ponds and nutrient sampling were performed. Flags were displayed on September 11, and curb and sidewalk cleanup was completed.

DEQ reported a loss of DMR records; the records were resubmitted for proper filing. 2025 source samples were completed. Staff prepared public notices for residents regarding the upcoming reservoir floor replacement project and began prep work.

City Hall Staff Report- City staff completed a land use review for a lot line adjustment (Moore/Hughes) and reviewed the Deferred Development Agreement (Hogue/Huffman).

City Administrator Wood attended the Eastern Oregon Visitors Association quarterly meeting, the North Central Regional Solutions Outreach meeting, and the Rural Community Building Summit hosted by the Ford Family Foundation. CIS conducted the annual Best Practices Survey. Several updated administrative documents will be presented to Council in future meetings to improve the City's score. A table of contents was created for Ordinances 1–282.

There was one burial at the cemetery, and the sale of a family plot was finalized with the Alsup family. CA Wood asked if Council would like to participate in regional discussions about code enforcement

collaboration among Sherman County cities, allowing other cities to review Moro's more modern ordinances for possible adoption under an enforcement IGA. Council was in favor of receiving a report on this topic at the next meeting.

Council was not in favor of exploring a Transient Lodging Tax at this time but was in favor of moving forward with the Safe Drinking Water Revolving Loan Fund application. Engineer Baird's preliminary funding analysis was provided for Council review.

CA Wood reported that the FEMA Floodplain Ordinance and Application are expected for adoption at the next Council meeting on November 4, 2025.

Finally, the Nationwide Annuity account for cemetery non-expendable funds was successfully closed, and funds were transferred to the new LGIP Cemetery Management account.

Mayor Perisho and CA Wood shared information from the Regional Solutions meeting, including the opportunity to request a "One-Stop" agency meeting for the Apex/Vista Lane Sewer Expansion Project. After discussion, Council directed CA Wood to consult with Engineer Baird regarding scheduling and possible phasing of the work, pending funding availability.

Huffman Development- DPW English reported no new updates but requested the item remain on the agenda to allow ongoing reporting as construction progresses.

Sewer backup @ 409 Court- CA Wood reported that CIS had closed the claim after being unable to contact Mrs. Thompson's insurance company. Based on CIS's review, the case was closed.

After discussion, a motion was heard to issue payment of the \$1,000 deductible to Mrs. Thompson to remain consistent with past City practices. **(Anderson/ Cranston) Vote:** 3 in favor (Anderson, Cranston, Alley.) **The motion carried.** City staff will continue to work to obtain a sewer ordinance that will set clear boundaries on responsibility and ownership of repairs.

Sewer Line Ordinance- CA Wood presented a CIS sample Sewer Maintenance Policy and noted that the City currently lacks a policy that earns Best Practice points in this area. Council discussed single highway crossings and agreed that these may need case-by-case determinations.

Council President Anderson requested that CA Wood and DPW English draft an ordinance for review, with legal counsel's assistance to ensure compliance.

Reservoir Floor Replacement- DPW English reported that leading up to this reservoir repair project, staff had been coordinating with OHA, Shearer Tanks, Pacific Power, Moro Fire Department, Sherman County Emergency Services, and the Fair Board in preparation for restricted water use during the reservoir floor replacement project.

Significant effort was made to reschedule the tank decommissioning to avoid a complete water outage during a last-minute Pacific Power service interruption. Which has led to further discussion on BPA's planned outage, and who should have relayed our City's specific situation to BPA, considering our Water utilities are Critical Infrastructure that were impacted.

Lastly, DPW English expressed gratitude to the community for their support and offers of assistance during the preparation for this project.

New Business

Review of past due water/sewer accounts- Council reviewed the list of past-due water and sewer accounts. Two residents remained on active payment plans.

Approve Plan of Action for Secretary of State- A motion was made to approve the Plan of Action and to submit it to the State. **(Anderson/ Cranston) Vote:** 3 in favor (Anderson, Cranston, Alley.) **The motion carried.**

Rock Production- Bid Document- Council President Anderson reviewed the street surface inventory and proposed maintenance spreadsheet included in the Council packet. The Request for Bids document was

reviewed. A motion was made to approve the documents and to put the bid packet out to Bid.

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

Lot Line adjustment Moore/ Hughes- CA Wood reported that both parties are proceeding with the filing of their lot line adjustment. Planner Crawford has reviewed and recommended approval. No Council action was required.

COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS CONCERNING ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA-

None heard.

GOOD OF THE ORDER-

DPW English advised that during the reservoir repair period, there may be times he will be out of town. Assistant Maintenance Technician, Aldrich, will be available as needed, and English will remain within an hour's travel if called back.

ADJOURNMENT-

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:22 PM.

The next Council Meeting is scheduled for November 4, 2025 @ 7:00 p.m.

 Date 11/10/2025
Bert Perisho, Mayor

ATTEST:  Date 11/10/2025
Brittany Wood, City Administrator