

**CITY OF MORO**  
**MINUTES OF September 5th, 2023**  
**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, September 5th, 2023; at 7:00 PM. The following were present: Mayor Bert Perisho, Council President Andy Anderson, Councilors Bryan Cranston, James Alley, and Travis West. City Staff: John English- Director of Public Works (DPW), and Brittany Wood- City Administrator (CA). Citizens: Roberta Aldrich, Randy Francis, Gerald Lohrey, Becky Hctor, Ernie Moore, Perry Thurston, Joseph Belshe, and Justin Hastings. Remote Attendees: Glen Kearns- Accuity.

**CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

The council meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance and called to order at 7:00 PM by Mayor Perisho.

**CONSENT AGENDA-MINUTES-BILLS-FINANCIAL REPORT-**

The minutes from August's Council meeting were reviewed, and a motion was made to approve the minutes as presented (**Anderson/Cranston**) **Motion Carried**. The financial report for August was reviewed for Check 13312-13335, 15139, with bills totaling \$46,594.43. A motion was made to approve the financial report as presented (**Cranston/ Anderson**) **Motion Carried**.

**COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS (Agenda items ONLY)**

Perry Thurston requested that Staff Report items be published on the agenda.

Ernie Moore stated he was pleased with the Generator at Cemetery Well and mentioned the financial contribution that MRFPD donated to the cause. Mr. Moore also shared his frustration with the Mustard weeds that blew onto his property in the previous week's wind storm, and the excess of 4 hours of time that it took him to remove the bulk of the weeds from his property.

Gerald Lohrey stated that his daughter, Becky Hctor, received a Zoning violation letter from the City regarding the carport, located at 104 5th Street, noting that the carport encroached upon the City's right of way. Mr. Lohrey stated that the carport had been located on the property when it was purchased 6 years ago, and it has been standing in that spot for 20 years. Mr. Lohrey asked the council what they wanted done with the carport.

**VISITORS – CORRESPONDENCE –**

None Heard.

**OLD BUSINESS-**

**Project Updates-** DPW English advised that he made contact with Wade Luckman and a final review of the punch list for the ODOT ADA ramp correction project was underway. The City still has yet to receive the 4 pallets of bricks from the change order submitted on the project. The USDA building and construction efforts were moving along punctually; the date to have the doors open for business is October 18th, 2023. The Reservoir Dive inspection yielded no findings. The dive team exhausted their dive hours and used specific tests to determine where the leak was, without any luck. DPW continues to monitor the water level, as fire season wraps up, and will begin to troubleshoot the leak further. DPW English advised that Pacific Power had to reschedule the disconnect for the Generator due to the extreme

weather conditions that we were experiencing. In the coming weeks, the final startup will be scheduled and the FEMA grant process will conclude.

DPW Staff Report- Public Works employees are beginning the seasonal work, ditch maintenance, cemetery maintenance, and managing the WW pond levels and irrigation.

City Hall Staff Report August concluded FY 22/23 Audit and financial reports, 2nd notices were sent for the fire hazard properties that remained in noncompliance, and CA Wood was able to locate, order, and secure the propane tank for Cemetery Well Generator.

### **NEW BUSINESS-**

Past Due Water/ Sewer- The status of 3 past due water/sewer utility accounts were reviewed. Disconnect notices will be sent for past-due amounts. CA Wood advised that one property owner in town requested a lien to be placed on the property for the past-due status of the utility account that his renter left unpaid. The council members deliberated and instructed staff to follow the procedure with the lien process.

Fiscal Year 22/23 Audit Review- Glen Kearns, with Accuity, presented the Audit findings to the council and allowed the council to ask questions about the audit report. CA Wood advised that corrections have been made in the day-to-day operations at City Hall, in the manner that was recommended by the Auditor.

Request for addition of E-Statements to Cash Management profile at BEO- CA Wood shared that it was discovered that E-statments were not available in the online portal of Cash Management at BEO, and the addition of e-statements would be beneficial for in-office reference and record back-up. A motion was made, requesting the addition of e-statements to the paper statement preference at BEO for the Cash Management profile. **(Anderson/ Cranston) Motion Carried.** CA Wood additionally requested that the addition of available account balance be added to the Cash Management Profile. A motion was made, to add the available account balance to the Cash Management profile at BEO. **(Cranston/ West) Motion Carried.**

### **Ordinance clarity & consistency**

Moro Resident, Perry Thurston, requested to be on the agenda to discuss a violation of Ordinance 246 that he received against his property in May 2023. Mr. Thurston prepared and presented his response to the council. Mr. Thurston suggested that Ordinance violations should be issued based on health and safety concerns; and explained that the detailed description of violations listed in Section 11, leaves a lot of room for personal interpretation as “one man's junk is another man's treasure.” Mr. Thurston added that Ordinances should be enforced by intimidation as a form to promote compliance for citizens who have a complete disregard for the health and safety of other residents. Mr. Thurston shared that section 11 appeared changed from when he received a similar notice when he first moved to town in the mid-2000s and questioned when the Ordinance was last revised.

### **Mustard weeds blowing into town-**

CA Wood asked how the volume of calls regarding the mustard blowing into town had been handled in the past. Council advised that residents were directed to contact Azure directly, and urged them to reach out to our County Commissioners and request that the County step up and help with the nuisance. It was discussed that 24-48 hours was an ideal response time for Azure to mobilize a team to remove the weeds that residents were being bombarded with. CA Wood was directed to prepare a written statement, issue it to Azure, and post it at the Post office/ website, to inform residents to contact Azure directly with any Mustard weed concerns and to request removal. As well as to reach out to County commissioners to request aid and bring attention to the matter.

County IGA- Ordinance Enforcement- CA Wood and the other Administrators/ Clerks across the county have been working closely with MCCED and Judge Joe Dabulskis to develop an Ordinance

“crosswalk” to outline each city’s Ordinances that are often referenced for compliance, that we would like to enact in the IGA, to help with Ordinance enforcement. Further updates available soon.

Staff training/ Professional Development- CA Wood shared that upon review of the final audit document, it was suggested by Glen Kearns, for Mrs Wood to enroll in accounting/ bookkeeping classes to expand on her skill set and knowledge base. It was discussed that funding was budgeted for staff training and development. A motion was made to allow CA Wood to enroll in an accounting and bookkeeping course at CGCC. Upon completion of the course, CA Wood will submit the bill to the City for full reimbursement **(Cranston/ Anderson) Motion Carried.**

Follow up on Nuisance Letters-

Gerald Lohrey and Becky Hoctor came before the City Council to discuss a zoning Ordinance violation that Becky received for a carport located on her property. It was stated that the carport was on the property when it was purchased, to keep sap off of the car, and has been in that place for over 20 years. The council stated that the carport was a non-permitted temporary structure, and it did encroach upon the passable right of way and posed a potential hazard. Council Member Cranston stated that he was willing to help with the relocation efforts to pivot the carport to bring it out of the right of way. Mr. Lohrey requested a letter in writing explaining what the City would like done to remedy the violation.

Review of RFP- City Attorney Services-

An RFP for City Attorney Services was published in the local paper and on the City’s website. The deadline for submittals is September 28, 2023, at 4 pm.

**COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS CONCERNING ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA-**

Randy Francis, Moro resident, suggested that residents who are disturbed by the Mustard weeds could reach out to the Oregon State Bar, to see if there were any attorneys who would want to take on a small claims case for the Mustard weeds that are blowing into town.

**GOOD OF THE ORDER-**

Bryan Cranston gave thanks to John English for the fast response to the unexpected fire at the Burn pile last month.

Andy Anderson shared that he attended the Block party that was held at the Moro City Park, coordinated by a community Member. He said that it was a great use of the facility and a great opportunity to meet new neighbors. Overall it was a fun experience and he extended a thank you to the responsible party that coordinated the event. Their efforts are appreciated!

John English gave thanks to Bryan Cranston and the amazing community members, Ricky Jauken, Bryce Coelsch, Alex Fields, Scott Belshe, Joe Belshe, and Rob Olsen and any others who responded to the fire in the recycling yard. We have an amazing community who showed up to help out.

**ADJOURNMENT-**

A motion was made to adjourn the City Council Meeting at 8:35 PM **(Cranston/West) Motion Carried.**

**The next Council Meeting is scheduled for October 3rd, 2023 @ 7:00 p.m.**

 \_\_\_\_\_ Date 10/10/2023  
Bert Perisho, Mayor

ATTEST:  \_\_\_\_\_ Date 10/10/2023  
Brittany Wood, City Administrator