**CITY OF MORO**

**MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 02, 2021**

**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, Tuesday, February 02, 2021, 7:00 p.m,. The following were present Mayor Bert Perisho, Councilors Seth vonBorstel, Andy Anderson, James Alley, Erik Glover-City Administrator (CA), John English-Director of Public Works (DPW), Austin Greenfield-Moro

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

There was a motion **(vonBorstel/Anderson)** to approve the January 05, 2021 Regular Council Meeting minutes**. Motion Carried**

There was a motion **(Anderson/vonBorstel)** to approve January’s bills totaling $20,271.47, check #’s 12709-12723, and 15106 **Motion Carried**

**Visitors/Correspondence**

**Email from Cindy Heater-Judah Nuisance in Moro**- CA Glover shared a letter was in council packets, which detailed concerns about appliance, and furniture nuisance in Moro, and the possibility for obtaining a cleanup day trailer for appliances and big furniture. Brief discussion was held by Council. Mayor Perisho said it should be reviewed ahead of annual cleanup day in May. Councilor vonBorstel stated that he would be willing to assist folks in Moro personally, with removing any junk items as well.

**Email from Jennifer Lee Main Street Promenade**- CA Glover advised that the City had received an email after packet printing. The email appeared to pertain to shutting down sidewalks in Moro sometimes, and the installation of permanent fixtures for a Main Street district. Brief discussion was held by Council who wanted additional information on the proposal, and directed CA Glover to request Jennifer Lee attend a Council meeting to provide a more detailed summary.

**Citizens Comment Items on Agenda**

**\*None**

**PROJECT PRIORITIES** –

**WATER SYSTEM/Telemetry** –DPW English advised that he had investigated the feasibility of installing a vault, in lieu of current City Hall Well Pump house. He explained it would be more difficult, and expensive than an above ground option. DPW English advised a Tuff Shed type prefab shed could be purchased for around $2,400, it couldn’t be raised from the roof, but it may be feasible to construct a lower lifting cradle to remove it from the foundation for maintenance/repair purposes on well. He further added that he was working through the quote process to replace existing well house, with Crestline, Big League and Adams Construction and was waiting for quotes to come back. Mayor Perisho requested DPW English work with the contractors to have quotes back by the March council meeting.

***Anderson Perry Engineers- Vista/Apex/Pinkerton Sewer Engineering***

DPW English advised that he had met with the Anderson/Perry survey crew. He was waiting for a call back from Brad Baird. CA Glover advised that he was researching the easement issue with the county.

**Barnum Creek-** DPW English advised that he had removed a few fence posts, and he hoped to burn another section soon. He also advised that Assistant Maintenance Tech Issac Aldrich would be available for work two days a week through work study, and hoped to get a lot done with his help.

**PAST DUE WATER/SEWER ACCOUNTS** – CA Glover advised that there were 7 shutoff notices delivered this month. CA Glover also advised that Ord 258 and 220, the water ordinance, and shutoff ordinance were in the Council packet for review. Council made the decision to merge “Past Due Water/Sewer Accounts” with “City of Moro Water/Sewer Shutoff Process.” CA Glover advised that following the previous meeting he had drafted a payment plan option with a 6 month term for delinquent balances, and no delinquent parties returned the agreement to the City. Discussion was held by Council who concluded that it would be in the best interest of the City to enforce the ordinances as is. Account holders will have the option to pay the full delinquent bill, or request a meeting with the Council to request a hardship/payment plan. Following discussion a motion was made (***vonBorstel/Alley***) to move back to ordinances 258/220 for full payment of delinquent water and sewer bills. The City Council will review delinquent accounts for hardship arrangements at Council meetings, with March 1st being the date of effect, and CA Glover to provide a 30 day notice. **Motion Carried** Council requested CA Glover to get a notice on utility statements, and to get ordinance 220 and 258 on the Moro website. Council clarified that CA Glover would no longer have administrative authority to accept any payments less than the full delinquent balance, and any person that desired arrangements would need to attend a Council meeting to make the request.

**Verizon/American Tower Request for Lease Modification**

Mayor Perisho advised that previous Councils had elected to not modify the lease agreement, due to it not being in the best interest of the City. Councilor vonBorstel advised that he had reviewed the historic discussions by Council and was in agreement. A motion was made (**Anderson/vonBorstel**) to retain the current lease agreement and decline all 3 amendment options provided by Verizon/American tower. **Motion Carried**

**ODOT IGA FOR CURB Ramps**

Mayor Perisho advised that he did not feel it was appropriate to sign the IGA following the last meeting, with some unanswered questions over utility relocates. He explained that it appears thus far that many small cities in the region are going to be expected to pay for the utility relocate costs. Mayor Perisho shared that he estimated those costs for Moro would be around $100,000. Councilor Alley requested that CA Glover reach out to other local cities to see what their experience has been with the curb ramp project, and associated relocate costs. Brief discussion was held, and it was generally concluded by Council to NOT sign the IGA until ODOT was able to discuss this project and infrastructure costs with the Council.

**Review of Long Term List and City of Moro Goals**

Brief discussion was held by Council on frequency of reviewing the list. Councilor vonBorstel shared that quarterly, or twice annually would be good. Councilor Anderson felt it would be best to further break the list down. DPW English advised that he had a good start on sidewalk inventory, and would have the list for next meeting. CA Glover advised that he had reached out to other cities with questions on industrial areas, splash park/community event center, and would update with any new info/feedback. Council directed CA Glover to look into the possibility of annexing into City limits a field across from the Extension office/Fairgrounds and report back. Mayor Perisho requested that this item be kept on the agenda going forward. Councilor Alley advised he would work with CA Glover to create a “gant” chart on the project priority list. Councilor vonBorstel shared that he would like to look into the feasibility of the city doing a cost share grant program for repairing sidewalks in town.

**COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS CONCERNING ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA
None**

**GOOD OF THE ORDER**

**DPW English-** Shared that he wanted to recognize and give a big thank you to Gary Leanders, with Tarzan Tree Service. He explained that Gary saw a dead tree limb at the Moro City Park, and Gary removed the limb for the City at no cost, due to its proximity to neighboring playground. DPW English added that he had visited with K’lynn Lane from the current Condon Chamber of Commerce. She was proposing a Sherman/Gilliam/Wheeler Tri County Chamber of Commerce, with a $75 membership fee, requested it be on the agenda going forward. Councilor vonBorstel requested CA Glover invite K’lynn to the next Council meeting.

**Mayor Perisho-** Advised that four longtime Moro residents had recently passed away, Dave Lane, Donna Birtwhistle, Bob Copp and Erma Bryan, and it was a huge loss for the community. Mayor Perisho also advised that he would like the Council to have a discussion on taking a strong stand on political issues such as what Sheriff Songer has done in Klickitat County. Councilor Anderson shared that everyone on Council has given an oath and swore to uphold the Constitution.

**Councilor vonBorstel-** Shared that with changes to the Covid risk level of 50%, the City could reopen meetings to the public. CA Glover inquired as to if this would be replacing the electronic access option. Council said the City will be continuing with the electronic access option, even with meetings open to the public.

**The Next Council Meeting is scheduled for March 2, 2021 @ 7:00 p.m.**

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Bert Perisho, *Mayor*

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Date

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Attest, Erik Glover, City Administrator

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Date