**CITY OF MORO**

**MINUTES OF JULY 06, 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, July 06, 2021, 7:00 p.m,. The following were present Councilors Andy Anderson, James Alley, Seth vonBorstel, Bryan Cranston via (Teleconference) Erik Glover-City Administrator (CA), John English-Director of Public Works (DPW), Kirk Fatland (Tenneson Engineering/City Planner), Wade Luckman-ODOT Project Manager (via Teleconference), Jose Banuelos Senior Transportation Engineer HDR, INC. (via Teleconference)

Counci President advised the Mayor was absent tonight so he would be running the meeting.

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

There was a motion **(vonBorstel/Alley)** to approve the June 01, 2021 Regular Council Meeting minutes**. Motion Carried**

There was a motion **(vonBorstel/Alley)** to approve June’s bills totaling $81,565.57, check #’s 12796-12819, and 15111 **Motion Carried**

**Visitors/Correspondence**

**Wade Luckman ODOT ADA RAMP PROJECT DISCUSSION/IGA**– Wade provided a summary of the project, and cost reductions from $6,400 to $4,800 due to reduced work associated with a manhole relocate to an adjustment. Jose Banuelos with HDR shared that the project is currently scoped for limited surface work, down 1 foot from surface, due to the manhole being an adjustment instead of relocate. Discussion took place on replacement of terracotta pipe crossings under HWY 97/curb ramps. Following discussion, it was generally concluded to proceed with the IGA if ODOT was able to get the replacement added on to the project as an add work agreement, at the Cities expense. A motion was made (**vonBorstel/Cranston**) to approve the ODOT Curb Ramp IGA, and approve Mayor signature contingent upon a move forward with add work agreement to replace at least 3 terracotta crossings, and the add work agreement fitting within City budget. **Motion Carried**

**Janet Pinkerton- Moro Cemetery Letter**

CA Glover advised that the City had received a letter from Janet Pinkerton, who requested it be read into the record tonight, and a City response to the letter requested. CA Glover read the letter into the record in full, and advised the full letter was in Council packets. The context was that Ms. Pinkerton was dissatisfied with the current condition of the Cemetery grounds, felt the tall overgrowth was a fire hazard especially on the roadway, and was only interested in donating to the Cemetery should there be a more detailed maintenance plan. Council discussed the concerns. DPW English advised that he had met with Rod Asher with the Sherman County Weed District, and was unsure as to if any spraying had been done by their crews, but DPW Assistant Aldrich would be mowing and weed-eating, and had already started again on the roadways. Council President Anderson shared that the city had a policy in place, and the Cemetery has not been a year round mow historically. Councilor vonBorstel shared that the spraying needed done, and timely spraying had been a concern for a number of years now, may be worth looking into alternative private contractors. Councilor Cranston shared that the City found out the maintenance contractor was quitting two weeks before Memorial Day, after it had been overgrown for a while, and he personally purchased and donated a new lawn mower to the City to help out at the Cemetery. He added further that the City does have a separate Cemetery fund, but there is only so much money to have in hand in the fund for maintenance. Following the meeting it was concluded that Councilor Cranston would meet with Ms. Pinkerton to discuss the concerns, and CA Glover would draft and send a letter back discussing the maintenance plan of the Cemetery.

**Citizens Comment Items on Agenda**

**\*None**

**PROJECT PRIORITIES** –

**WATER SYSTEM** –NA

**Wastewater-** NA

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

DPW English advised that Brad Baird had plans, and will finalize with the City next time he attends County Court.

**PAST DUE WATER/SEWER ACCOUNTS** – CA Glover advised that there were 6 shutoff notices sent, and detailed an odd account situation for Council review.

**Kirk Fatland City Planner Urban Growth Boundary Expansion in Moro and Cost Estimate**

Covered in next agenda item

**Kirk Fatland City Planner City of Moro Housing Needs Analysis Discussion**

Planner Fatland advised that this project was part of a larger Sherman County sponsored project, with Moro being the last on the list to go. He hoped for Council questions, and thoughts regarding the project at he considered this a draft. He added the purpose was to create milestones/goals for the City, and the good thing is that projections/forecasts can be changed or improved with City action. PSU projects the Moro population will continue to decline. Councilor vonBorstel requested clarification about the forecasts look with the availability of fiber optic internet access. Brief discussion took place on the Housing needs analysis, some suggested changes. Councilor vonBorstel shared that also Moro is unique in that renters typically pay less than the cost of a mortgage for an equivalent place, most cities have that as the opposite. General discussion concluded that the project missed the goal of the need for a mix of small and larger parcels of land. Planner Fatland advised that something like an allowed 10,000 square foot lot size in the Ag Zone could be considered reducing it from the current 1 acre minimum, allowing people some options. Councilor vonBorstel shared that the upcoming town hall would address a lot of questions, and determine owner’s intent regarding their vacant property, with real numbers being necessary to facilitate a potential City UGB expansion. Councilor Anderson clarified that the City should be able to expand, if this huge chunks of vacant land are never going to be developed and more businesses and stores are needed in Moro. Councilor Cranston shared that he wanted to do the town hall meeting right, the odds of a UGB are slim. Councilor Anderson mentioned it would be wise to show the costs of the potential UGB expansion, and the odds of success.

**Kirk Fatland City Planner City of Moro Fee Schedule Revision**- CA Glover advised that typically this sheet gets reviewed by Council, and set in April or May, since its adoption in 2018. Due to discussions about land use fees, and other planning decisions the City didn’t meet that deadline this year. Kirk shared that this draft covers planning fees and he hoped that raising the application fees from the range of $100 to more in the $300-$500 range would be make the process more transparent. In addition, that applicants would not be surprised when they apply for $100, and receive a bill for several hundred even with our forms and fee schedule detailing those additional costs will be will. Councilor vonBorstel shared that he would prefer to review the fee schedule resolution in full next month, with comparators to other local cities.

**Nuisance/Fire Hazard Properties**

CA Glover shared the list of properties sent a nuisance letter following fire department flag. Council requested clarification on the deadline date, in the event other residents ask them. CA Glover shared that deadline was the 12th of July.

**City of Moro Water/Sewer Service for New Fairgrounds Arena**

DPW English advised that he coordinated with Brad Baird for an engineering review. Additional questions came up which were sent to Jeff Schott Project Manager, and the City was waiting for a response to those questions.

**Moro Cemetery Grant Application Status**

CA Glover advised that he was notified that the Moro Cemetery grant was not approved, but that the Historic Cemetery Commission thanked us for applying. He shared the fact the City recently received money, and the agency funding was reduced due to Covid were negative factors. CA Glover advised that despite the grant not approved he was hoping to receive Council approval for purchase and the installation of a flag pole at the Cemetery though, with specs and a map of install location in packets. Brief discussion took place on the project, height should be more than 20 feet, located near the Cemetery Well side of the Cemetery. A motion was made (**vonBorstel/Alley**) to approve the purchase/installation of a Flag Pole at the Moro Cemetery, subject to a cost cap of $1,000 all in cost for purchase and install, with labor to be provided by CA Glover and DPW English. **Motion Carried**

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

**GOOD OF THE ORDER**

**Councilor Alley-** Shared that he would like to review the bulk water cost at the next meeting, and comparisons to other local Cities.

**The Next Council Meeting is scheduled for August 3rd, 2021 @ 7:00 p.m.**

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Bert Perisho, *Mayor*

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Attest, Erik Glover, City Administrator

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date