

CITY OF MORO
MINUTES OF December 6th, 2022
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, December 6th, 2022; 7:00 PM, The following were present: Mayor Bert Perisho, Council President Andy Anderson, Councilors Bryan Cranston, James Alley and Travis West (Remote). City Staff, John English (DPW) Brittany Wood (CA), Kirk Fatland (Tennessee Engineering). Citizens- Perry Thurston, James Baisinger(Azure) and Meinrad Kuttel (MCCED) . Remote Attendees: Travis West and (541) XXX-XX23.

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Mayor Perisho opened with the Pledge of Allegiance and called the regular Council Meeting to order at 7:03 PM.

CONSENT AGENDA-MINUTES-BILLS-FINANCIAL REPORT-

The minutes for November's Council meeting were reviewed, a motion was made to approve the minutes **(Cranston/ Anderson) Motion Carried**. The financial report for November was reviewed for Check # 13115-13132, with bills totaling \$34,438.63; a motion was made to approve bills and check report as presented **(Anderson/Alley) Motion Carried**.

CA Wood shared that a Profit and Loss statement will be made available for the next council meeting

COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS (Agenda items ONLY)

None Heard.

VISITORS – CORRESPONDENCE –

There was a donation to the Cemetery with a very thoughtful letter, from Jon Harring- on behalf of the Searcy Plot. The second item reviewed was the complaint reviewed in November's council meeting. The Council members agreed that anonymous complaints in regards to animals as a nuisance are not acknowledged. There is a state law in place regarding dogs at large as a public nuisance, and this individual should reach out to the Sheriff's office, should the issue continue.

OLD BUSINESS-

Paul Sather build- Mrs. Wood provided an update that Mr. Sather came into City Hall in the past week and a ticket has been submitted to get his temporary power on. Azure Warehouse Update- James Baisinger shared that Azure is still seeking permit approval at the state level, and thanked the Council for accepting the requests on the acknowledgement letter, stating that Azure will be held financially responsible should the utility lines need updated in the future; which allowed City staff to sign off and submit the building permit to the Pendleton Field Office. Mr. Baisinger also provided an update on the Old School that Azure is starting the process of working on structural repairs to the building, and currently Azure is only renting to family, in the pre-existing living quarters. USDA building update- Mrs. Wood shared there is no update on the project at this time.

AARP project Review- Planner Fatland provided a document for council's review and presented the final documents signifying the completion of the Project. The City of Moro now owns two shelf-ready

designs that are available to our citizens, which have been approved by the city's council. One plan is a 700 sq. ft. ADU floor plan, and the second ADU floor plan is a 900 sq. ft. design. This project was fully funded through an AARP grant that our City planner, Kirk Fatland applied for and received.

ONGOING PROJECTS-

Mr. English (DPW) updated that he completed fall wrap-up and instantly snow started to fly. There has been a communication error with the Cemetery Well Alert system and he has been working to troubleshoot with the company. Mayor Perisho thanked the Public Works Department for their work on leaf removal and having our Main Street looking groomed for the walking tour that was held on December 1st; their effort does not go unnoticed.

City Hall Staff Report- Mrs. Wood (CA) shared that DEQ has been in contact with City Staff, regarding the dust concerns at Azure's warehouse from the previous summer. A plan of action has been established, and Azure has been presented with a timeline to bring their erosion control plan before DEQ to be within compliance. The next update was on the ODOT ramp project, the anticipated start date for construction will be next spring. Additionally, the letter sent to ODOT and state Legislation as well as extensive communication, the City of Moro's ramp design has been altered from the state standard. Our design for the tip outs/ crossings will eliminate the island and raised curb approach. Mrs. Wood presented a Certificate of Election and the election results to Mayor Perisho, Council Member Cranston and Council Member West, who all were re-elected for their positions on the City's Council. The City has been made aware that our Attorney's hourly rate will be increasing starting January 1st, 2023.

Business Registry Proposal- A one page Business Registry document was presented for review. A few suggestions on verbiage were recommended. Mrs. Wood will publish the Business Registry to our website once complete.

Options to keep Water/ Sewer billing accurate- An 'Annual Review-Water / Sewer service' form was provided for review. The form will be dispersed to all businesses that are hooked up to City provided utilities with January's water/sewer bills.

City Hall Cyber Security- A decision was made to hold off on outsourcing our IT needs for Cyber security, and to initialize a procedure to properly backup information to be stored at a predetermined secondary site. This process will start in January 2023 and will require quarterly backups.

NEW BUSINESS-

Past Due Water/ Sewer- A list of past due water accounts was reviewed by the council. Mrs. Wood (CA) was advised by council to file a lien against a vacant property that has had water services discontinued for delinquent account status and passing of a bad check. Mrs. Wood shared that door hangers will be distributed in the coming week for other delinquent accounts.

Employee Status change- The employment status of former CA, Erik Glover as a part time employee was discussed. Mrs. Wood was asked how often she still utilizes him for operational questions, outside of the other tasks that he is still working on. The council was advised that Erik is still a vital tool to the continued productivity of City Hall business, especially as the upcoming budget season approaches. The council set a 1 year timeline to check back in to reassess the part time employment status.

Ordinance 232- Section 5- Mayor Perisho specified that the City is operating within compliance of section 5 of Ordinance 232 stating, "...We are in compliance with section 5, it does not obligate us to maintain or repair, but it does not prevent us from maintaining or repairing. And we are not maintaining or repairing, we are just putting a shelf ready design together." Resident Perry Thurston voiced his concern that a vote was not taken to 'disregard the ordinance,' and that the city took in this property, outside of city limits without proper steps in place. Mr. Thurston was informed by the council members

that the road that was gifted to the city was fully reviewed by the City's legal team and City Planner and the property under discussion is different from the road that was gifted and it is indeed located within city limit boundaries. It was further explained to Mr. Thurston that the efforts being put in to develop the wastewater plans will allow the City to get easements in place so that expansion of city offered utilities can be a possibility in the future.

Water Utility Billing & Meter reading- Mr. Thurston voiced his concern about the initial effort and cost to install water meters in the city and asked why the meters are not read monthly when water statements are generated. Each council member stated their stance on the water billing process and research on the topic. Fire safety and allowing unlimited water to use in the summer was a point that all council members shared.

MCEDD Rep- Meinrad Kuettel introduced himself as the recently elected MCEDD board member who represents our region. Mr. Kuettel will represent Sherman County cities for economic development and upcoming events.

COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS CONCERNING ITEMS NOT ON AGENDA-

Perry Thurston asked if the City hall staff report items could be made public to citizens before council meetings, as to allow conversation as "on agenda items." Mr. Thurston also shared his dissatisfaction with Ruben Cleveland, the city's attorney, and suggested that the Council consider looking for a new attorney, considering the notice that Ruben will be raising his rates.

GOOD OF THE ORDER-

Mr. English extended his gratitude to all who helped with the recent snow removal. Council Member Alley asked if there is a process for individuals to get on the agenda when they have an item they want to discuss; unsure if the City has a policy or a form that should be developed. Mayor Perisho suggested that citizens could ask for agenda space for the next month's agenda under "comments from citizens concerning items not on the agenda" and the council members could decide in the meeting for next month's agenda.

Mayor Perisho extended a huge thank you to the city staff, John, Isaac and Brittany for the effort that they put into the City and all of the effort to keep the city going.

ADJOURNMENT-

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 PM

Next Council Meeting is scheduled for January 3rd, 2023 @ 7:00 p.m.

 _____ Date 1-03-23
Bert Perisho, Mayor

ATTEST: Brittany Wood _____ Date 01 JAN 23
Brittany Wood, City Administrator