

CITY OF MORO
MINUTES OF February 3, 2026
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 council meeting on February 3, 2026, at 7:00 PM. Present: Council President Andy Anderson, Councilors Bryan Cranston, James Alley and David Messenger . City Staff: John English- Public Works Director, Brittany Wood- City Administrator. Visitors: Ray Mabe, Brad Baird and Josh Robertson- Anderson Perry, and *Michelle Colby- MCEDD. (* indicates remote attendance) Absent excused: Mayor Robert Perisho.

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Council President Anderson chaired the meeting. The meeting was called to order at 7:04 p.m. and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC HEARING- Variance 2026-01 for Sherman County Road Department.

A motion was made to leave the regular council meeting and open a public hearing; to consider the application for 'Variance 2026-01' for the Sherman County Road Department considering a side yard setback variance for placement of a 40' x 100' lean-to for equipment storage. **(Cranston/Alley) Vote: 4 in favor** (Cranston, Alley, Anderson, Messenger). **The motion carried.**

The public hearing opened at 7:05 p.m. Council President Anderson read the opening script, summarized the rules of procedure, and introduced the application and decision makers. No conflicts of interest were disclosed. Councilors Alley and Cranston declared potential conflicts of interest- due to proximity of the proposed structure, but stated they were able to make impartial decisions.

There were no abstentions and no objections to jurisdiction.

The staff report prepared by Land Use Planner Jaime Crawford was presented and read aloud by CA Wood.

There were no proponents and no cross-examination was requested.

There were no opponents and no cross-examination was requested.

No public agencies were present.

No rebuttal evidence was offered.

A motion was heard to close the public hearing and to return to the regular session. **(Cranston/ Alley) Vote: 4 in favor** (Cranston, Alley, Anderson, Messenger). **The motion carried.**

Council determined no deliberation was necessary and that sufficient information had been provided.

A motion was made to approve Variance 2026-01 with the noted conditions outlined in Planner Crawford's staff recommendation. **(Cranston/ Messenger) Vote: 4 in favor** (Cranston, Alley, Anderson, Messenger).

The motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA-MINUTES-BILLS-FINANCIAL REPORT-

A motion was made to approve the January Council minutes as presented. **(Cranston/ Alley) Vote: 4 in favor** (Cranston, Alley, Anderson, Messenger). **The motion carried.**

The financial report for January was reviewed, including check # 13994-14023 with bills totaling \$46,953.11

A motion was made to approve the bills as presented (**Alley/ Cranston) Vote: 4 in favor** (Cranston, Alley, Anderson, Messenger). **The motion carried.**

COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS (Agenda items ONLY)

None heard.

VISITORS – CORRESPONDENCE –

None heard.

OLD BUSINESS-

DPW staff report- Public Works Director English reported several completed activities, including Assistant Technician Aldrich completing a GIS meter mapping project and assisting with sewer inspections. The sewer pond inflow was recalibrated, and repairs were completed on the Generac generator alternator and belt. During repairs, a tabletop exercise was conducted and step-by-step instructions were developed for operating the generator in a live scenario. The Public Works phone was successfully linked to the sewer camera system. The 2025 recycled water reports were submitted on time, including the Biosolids Report, and the ODOT bridge report was completed.

The recycling depot yard received seasonal maintenance, including burn pile cleanup, which coincided with maintenance and repair of the City's backhoe and the box Chevy truck. Seasonal ditch maintenance was also performed from VanGuilder to Azure Lane.

City Hall Staff Report- City Administrator Wood reported that the System for Award Management (SAM.gov) registration had been successfully renewed. Front setbacks at the Hogue development were reviewed against the site plan and confirmed compliant. The Sherman County Road Department completed the step fabrication for the recycling depot. The contract with Mobley Fencing was drafted and approved, with work anticipated once the base pad was prepared.

Time was spent mapping family plots and individual names into the cemetery software. Upcoming events included the countywide CEDS priority meeting scheduled for February 18. A spreadsheet tracking power use and water production by wellhead was created to begin determining cost per unit of water and inform future billing discussions. Final closeout documents for the reservoir repair were submitted to Business Oregon, including sanitation costs and disposal of the old reservoir floor. Work also continued on the budget calendar and preparation for a Small City Allotment application for road resurfacing.

Sewer Line Ordinance- CA Wood provided a recap of the recent work session and the direction to continue advancing the sewer ordinance. The session included revisions to definitions and ordinance language. Attorney Baum will be asked to conduct legal review, and the City's insurance agent will be consulted regarding potential bonding options for high-cost repairs or one-off mainline extensions. The possibility of updating the Sewer Master Plan was also discussed.

Huffman Development progress update- DPW English advised the front setbacks on Hogue property were inspected and met the set plans by 6 inches.

Recycling depot improvements- The base pad was nearing completion, after which Mobley Fencing would begin installation of the chain link fence. Chip aggregate delivery was anticipated in mid-March to align with Pat Powell's timeline.

NEW BUSINESS

Review of past due water/sewer accounts- A list of four delinquent water and sewer accounts was reviewed.

Resolution 2026-02 City of Moro Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Projects- The CEDS project list developed in January 2026 was prepared in alignment with the City's Comprehensive Plan for formal adoption. A motion was made to adopt Resolution 2026-02 approving the CEDS project list **(Alley/Messenger) Vote:** 4 in favor (Cranston, Alley, Anderson, Messenger). **The motion carried.**

Review and approve Engineering agreement with Anderson Perry for water system improvements funded through Business Oregon's SDWRLF- Engineer Baird presented a staff report on ongoing projects. He provided an update on the SIPP leak detection study, noting CA Wood would verify the City's authorization to proceed and report back.

Concerns were discussed regarding the Dewey Street housing project lot line adjustment after a recent survey review.

A draft engineering agreement outlining scope and estimated project budget for water system improvements was presented. Council discussed the option of legal review. CA Wood will submit the agreement to Business Oregon for review, with further discussion and potential approval anticipated next month. Councilor Messenger expressed support for a thorough review of the document.

Council President Anderson asked about the complexity of pipe bursting design work. Engineer Baird noted that a Technical Assistance grant could support development of an updated sewer master plan.

Harvest Fest 2026- Dewey Street closure and sanitation support- This item was tabled.

Allow permissions for Stop payments through cash Management at Bank of Eastern Oregon- CA Wood requested authorization for Mayor Perisho to sign a letter granting stop-payment authority to the City's Cash Management Administrator. A motion was made to authorize the Mayor to sign the letter. **(Cranston/Messenger) Vote:** 4 in favor (Cranston, Alley, Anderson, Messenger). **The motion carried.**

Review General Fee Resolution and consider any changes before adoption- Council reviewed the current fee schedule and determined no changes were necessary prior to adoption for 2026.

COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS CONCERNING ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA-

Resident Ray Mabe asked for clarification regarding use of material from the recycling yard versus purchasing material elsewhere for Railroad Avenue. After discussion, Council determined it was unaware of the intended use. The City agreed Mr. Mabe could continue using material generated from site preparation, provided it is used within City right-of-way.


GOOD OF THE ORDER-

Councilor Cranston stated he will talk with Judge Dabulskis regarding the lot line partition in question on Dewey Street.

ADJOURNMENT-

There being no further business, a motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 8:22 PM. **(Cranston/Messenger) Vote:** 4 in favor (Cranston, Alley, Anderson, Messenger). **The motion carried.**

The next Council Meeting is scheduled for March 3rd, 2026 @ 7:00 p.m.

 Date 3/3/2026
Bert Perisho, Mayor

ATTEST:  Date 3/3/2026
Brittany Wood, City Administrator