

MOSES LAKE CITY COUNCIL

March 28, 2023

STUDY SESSION

Homestead Issue and Sleep Center Updates

Police Chief Kevin Fuhr reviewed 2018 and 2021 Case Law rulings as well as State and Federal laws related to homelessness and parking restriction limitations. Eleven campers were identified as residents in three locations on City streets. He provided specific references to MRSC online toolkit used to reduce legal risks when enforcing parking restrictions. Staff are working on a designated location for a safe parking area that has daily support services for guests.

HopeSource contracts with the City to operate the Open Doors Sleep Center. Regional Director Brittany Bouchouari shared costs, demographics, benefits, and client successes since they have been operating the sleep center.

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Moses Lake City Council was called to order at 6:32 p.m. by Mayor Myers in the Council Chambers of the Civic Center with audio remote access. Special notice for remote attendance and citizen comment were posted on the meeting agenda.

ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Myers; Deputy Mayor Martinez; Council Members Eck, Fancher, Madewell, Swartz, and Skaug.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Myers led the Flag Salute.

AGENDA APPROVAL

Mayor Myers suggested swapping the order on Old Business agenda items (2) DOH Associates Police Station Owner's Rep Contract and (3) Sleep Center Location Negotiation.

Action taken: Council Member Eck moved to approve the Agenda as amended, second by Deputy Mayor Martinez. The motion carried 7 – 0.

CITIZEN'S COMMUNICATION

Overpopulation of Pets

Laurie Criscuolo, Moses Lake, is upset with the lack of regulations for backyard breeders giving pets from their vehicles in commercial parking lots and the lack of education for the new pet owners. She has worked with getting stray animals adopted to good homes. Mayor Myers requested to have solutions discussed at a future Council Public Safety Committee meeting.

Development at Grape and Maple Drive

Don Temple, Moses Lake, expressed concern for adjacent homeowners to know about the process for road easements and zoning changes near the new residential development.

SUMMARY REPORTS

MAYOR'S REPORT

Community Coalition Event

Matt Palouch represents the Moses Lake Community Coalition who focuses on prevention of youth substance abuse and mental health issues. He invited everyone to attend their Town Hall meeting tomorrow night at the Civic Center from 7 pm to 9 pm. to discuss substance abuse and what the community can do to help.

Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Board Member Appointments

The City received seven applications from solicitation of the vacancies. Park Board Chair Charlene Rios and Parks Director Doug Coutts interviewed three candidates meeting the eligibility criteria of residing in the City Limits. Mayor Myers concurred with their recommended appointments for the terms expiring, or to request reappointment, in December 2023 and 2024.

Action taken: Council Member Eck moved to confirm appointment of Isaac Valdez, second by Deputy Mayor Martinez. The motion carried 7 – 0.

Action taken: Council Member Eck moved to confirm appointment of Rebecca Johnson, second by Deputy Mayor Martinez. The motion carried 7 – 0.

CITY MANAGER’S REPORT

Grant County Sheriff’s Office (GCSO) Recognition of City Officers Mengist and Buescher

Grant County Sheriff Joe Kriete presented a certificate of Valor Award to Officer Josh Mengist and a Meritorious Award to Officer Yoni Mengist to recognize their heroic response to an officer involved shooting on July 10, 2022. Each officer also received a copy of their GCSO nomination letter.

Water Conservation Action Update

The Council Community Development, Municipal Services, and Parks (CMP) Committee reviewed the preliminary update to the Code today for water conservation that will be presented for Council adoption on April 11. Revision to landscaping regulations will be presented to Council on April 25. City Manager Allison Williams listed several parks that are complete, and a few near complete, with the transition to using lake water. Staff partnered with a local church to xeriscape on Central Drive and are planning a zeriscape at the Civic Center Park. She commended staff involved in transition efforts, for educating the public, and tracking usage data. City Engineer Richard Law provided historical data on studies showing a decline in the deep aquifer.

Comprehensive Plan Requests Deadline Extension

Staff has been delayed in publishing the annual notice on accepting requests for amendments to the Comp Plan and requests approval from Council to extend the due date from March 31 to April 28, 2023.

Action taken: Council Member Fancher moved to approve the due date extension, second by Deputy Mayor Martinez. The motion carried 7 – 0.

CONSENT AGENDA

- #1 a. City Council meeting minutes dated March 14, 2023

- b. Electronic Transfer: #217 - \$2,252.73
Checks: 159989 - 160197 - \$1,577,608.35
Payroll Checks: #65012-65024 - \$7,706.91
Electronic Payments: Direct Deposit - \$596,631.93
- c. Good Faith 4 All Road Improvement Covenant
- d. Gray & Osborne Well 34 Pumphouse Pilot Test Consultant

Action taken: Council Member Eck moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented, second by Council Member Fancher. The motion carried 7 – 0.

OLD BUSINESS

#2 Sleep Center Location Negotiation

ECONorthwest analyzed 14 sites identified for a potential permanent location to develop a new facility. A shelter space to accommodate the homeless point in time count is required in order for the City to prohibit camping in parks. The Ad Hoc Homeless Committee recommends pursuing the Moses Lake Irrigation and Reclamation District property. Community Development Director Kirsten Sackett provided a presentation summarizing data in the consultant’s report. Eleven citizens provided comments to Council regarding the pending decision. Council determined that it would be best to wait until the County had a chance to complete implementation of their Homeless Task Force and to coordinate efforts with all agencies involved, as well as with the public and effected property owners. Therefore, continued use of the current site was a consideration.

Action taken: Council Member Swartz moved to authorize negotiations to extend the lease for the current location, second by Council Member Fancher. The motion carried 7 – 0.

Mayor Myers called a 5-minute recess at 8:55 p.m. The meeting reconvened at 9:02 p.m.

#3 DOH Associates Police Station Owner’s Rep Contract

Staff first presented the contract for approval in February and returned to Council with additional information, as well as having the DOH staff present to provide input and respond to questions on March 14. The staff report contains information Council requested regarding the architect and engineering contract scope of work, fees, statutory guidance, and comparable analysis for a staff position including benefits.

Action taken: Council Member Skaug moved to approve contract as presented, second by Council Member Eck. The motion carried 6 – 1, Council Member Swartz opposed.

NEW BUSINESS

#4 2023 Budget Amendment Ordinance 3021

The amendment increases the 2023 budget resulting in additional expenditures of \$5,779,092 and estimated revenue of \$1,501,105 across several funds. All items were reviewed by the Council Finance Committee with the exception of the added increase in the annual insurance payment from what they originally estimated. Staff reviewed the three risk pools that the City is eligible to participate with, the stellar services with

WCIA, and the current risk rating the City has from recent claims.

Action taken: Council Member Eck moved to adopt Ordinance 3021 as presented, second by Deputy Mayor Martinez. The motion carried 7 – 0.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Police 2022 Annual Report

Police Chief Kevin Fuhr shared how proud he was of their statistics and proud of the work of his employees. The entire Use of Force Report is included as well as a new section recognizing community support. The completed report will be posted online by the end of the month.

WSDOT SR 17 Project Delay

The state has reported that due to lack of project managers, they are postponing the 2023 SR 17 project to 2024. They have been scheduled to present the Vantage Bridge project to Council in April. Staff is working on the design for Yonezawa and the state is able to waive project review fees but unable to cost share in paving during the same construction season.

Director Recruitments

Two candidates for the Technical Services Director position will have final interviews on Monday, April 10. Mayor Myers and Council Member Madewell volunteered to participate on the Director's panel.

A few applications have been received for the Municipal Services Director position. The review of applications has been extended for three weeks. The Governor visited the City today and staff hopes the support for growth with new aviation, energy, and manufacturing will elevate the attraction of applicants.

COUNCIL COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS

Council Member Swartz, President of the Association of Grant County Cities and Towns (AGCCT), and Council Member Eck will be present for the quarterly meeting later this week in Royal City.

Council Member Fancher attended the Grant County Economic Development Committee meeting last week. They are interviewing the community to gauge feasibility of their organization. Council CMP Committee meeting held earlier today also had discussion on infrastructure and SEPA process.

Council Member Eck stated the Port of Moses Lake is doing well with continued storage of 747 Max planes, a new battery company prospect, and hosting visitors from Japan in July and August.

Deputy Mayor Martinez joined the Watershed Council members at Vanguard Academy Charter School to visit with students on their solutions to deal with lake algae. She was able to educate them regarding tourism and our limited potable water resources. Fire Chief Brett Bastian and Deputy Chief Pete Kunjara will be travelling to pick up a new vehicle. Fire also discussed

research to have a special facility near the hazardous commercial areas during the Council Public Safety Committee meeting.

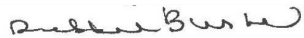
Mayor Don Myers shared that they learned of maintenance issues that are being fixed under warranty at the Grant Transit Authority Board Retreat. They are also looking at expanding the maintenance facility so they can work on more than two busses at one time.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Myers announced postponement of the Executive Session. The regular meeting was adjourned at 9:58 p.m.




Don Myers, Mayor

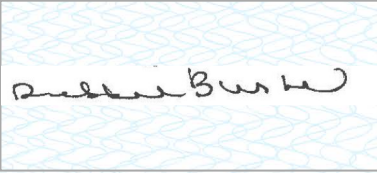


ATTEST _____
Debbie Burke, City Clerk

Signature Certificate

Reference number: AYVDL-7D3FY-DVCJF-DVLV3

Signer	Timestamp	Signature
Mayor Don Myers Email: dmyers@cityofml.com		
Sent:	26 Apr 2023 21:45:40 UTC	
Viewed:	27 Apr 2023 01:06:42 UTC	
Signed:	27 Apr 2023 01:07:57 UTC	
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Debbie Burke Email: dburke@cityofml.com		
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Viewed:	01 May 2023 15:38:33 UTC	
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Recipient Verification:		
✓ Email verified	01 May 2023 15:38:33 UTC	IP address: 63.135.54.162 Location: Moses Lake, United States

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