

MOSCOW BOROUGH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE APRIL 1, 2019 MEETING

A meeting of the Moscow Borough Council was held on April 1, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. at the Moscow Borough Building, 123 VanBrunt Street, Moscow, PA. The following Council members were either present or absent:

Rosemarie Warner – Mayor	Present	Marc Gaughan	Present
Arthur Pencek – President	Present	Daniel Hanna	Present
Joseph Castrogiovanni	Present	William Heim, Vice-President	Absent
Edward Gaughan	Present	Thomas Lynch	Present

Also present were Constance Sanko (Secretary), Ivy Brenzel (Police Chief), David Lamm (Building Inspector/Zoning Officer), Bruce Zero (Solicitor), Shawn Young (Fire Chief), and Andrew Zero (Junior Council Member).

Moscow Volunteer Fire Company: Shawn Young, Fire Chief, reported that there were 9 fire related calls and 99 EMS calls for the month of March. He reported that several members attended a Railcar Emergency class at the Comm Center. Mayor Warner said Paul attended and he said it was very informative.

Minutes of the March 18, 2019 meeting: Marc Gaughan made a motion to accept the minutes of the March 18, 2019 meeting as written. Ed Gaughan seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: Elizabeth Murray submitted the Treasurer's Report for the month of March and lists of bills to be paid from the General Fund and Liquid Fuels Fund. Tom Lynch made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report and to pay the bills as presented. Dan Hanna seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously with a roll call vote.

Secretary's Report: Connie Sanko reported that a newsletter will be going out around April 15, 2019.

Correspondence:

- The Pennsylvania Municipal Planning Education Institute is offering a course in Zoning Administration in May.
- The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection sent a letter dated March 27, 2019 regarding Moscow Real Estate LLC, 115 North Main Street, and the groundwater monitoring wells on the property.

Police Report: Chief Brenzel gave the police report for the month of March. There were 151 911 calls and 144 cleared calls.

Mayor's Report:

- Council members were provided with a copy of an article from The Villager on the Borough of Moscow: Then and Now, which included comments from Mayor Warner. It was very well written.
- Mayor Warner reported that as a follow up to the last meeting that she received a thank you letter from the out of town individual who Officer Marty Cieless helped and read the letter of thanks for his assistance, that of the EMS crew on call that day, and the 911 operator. She said this is a reflection of the Police Chief and Fire Chief and the community at large. Art Pencek said it is always good to hear good news.

Shade Tree Commission: A meeting of the Shade Tree Commission is scheduled for April 11, 2019. Arbor Day is scheduled for April 26, 2019.

Building Permits/Zoning Permits: Dave Lamm reported that two permits were issued in the month of March.

Building/Zoning Officer's Report: Dave Lamm reported that he received a call from the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection regarding the property on New Street owned by Moscow Agway, with concerns of an oil tank on the property leaking and silt running into the creek since Jason Toy, the owner, recently clear cut the lot. DEP was satisfied after making a site visit that there was no leakage from the tank, which had been at that location for many years, and a silt fence was in place. Mr. Toy will be having the tank removed. When Mr. Toy purchased the lot he thought it was in a commercial zone however it is a R-2 zone so he cannot use it as an extension of his business.

Zoning Hearing Board: Council members were provided with a letter dated March 27, 2019 regarding the Gruber/Martin zoning hearing held on March 27, 2019, together with the Findings of Facts and Conclusions of Law approving the request for a variance.

Planning Commission: Marc Gaughan reported on the following:

- The next meeting is scheduled for April 29, 2019.
- Moscow Borough is one of four municipalities in Lackawanna County that does not have a comprehensive plan in place. Marc suggested working on getting a plan in place after the current zoning ordinance is amended.
- Rickie Emily and Timothy Pappas attended the Planning Commission meeting to discuss their business proposition at 412 Brook Street (Foundry Road). They submitted an application to the Zoning Hearing Board for a special exception for online sales of cars dealing with auctions. The Planning Commission sent a letter of recommendation to the Zoning Hearing Board with a number of conditions. Art said no cars from the business will be stored on the property. Marc Gaughan said they are allowed two unregistered cars and four registered non-resident licensed vehicles.

Recreation:

- Dan Hanna reported that Mark Mecca will dig out the area for the porta potties this week. The two local baseball leagues and the soccer league will contribute to the Borough for the cost of the porta potties. They will be in place from Mid-April to Mid-October.
- The North Pocono High School Baseball coach has some student athlete volunteers to help with the baseball field.

Recycling:

- Joe Castrogiovanni said that the Lackawanna Recycling Center now requires that grass, leaves, and branches be separated. Art said Mark has already started to put in concrete dividers. Joe said new signage will have to be put up in the yard waste area. Marc Gaughan said the public will need to be educated. Art said that concrete blocks have been included in the grant application recently submitted.
- An Act 101 Section 904 grant application was submitted to the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection on March 14, 2019.
- Monthly Recycling Report for February: 5.29 tons paper; 4.31 tons comingled; 5.71 tons cardboard; 0 tons brush; 11 trips to recycling center.

Financial Report:

- Council members were provided with a letter dated March 27, 2019 from Murphy, Dougherty and Company stating that the 2018 audit was submitted to the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development without the Pennsylvania Municipal Retirement System Pension Plans which have not been received yet. The Pension Plans will be submitted to DCED once they are completed.
- Marc Gaughan made a motion to adopt Resolution #274- 2019 for a Certificate of Incumbency and Resolution for Community Leasing for the new police vehicle. Tom Lynch seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously with a roll call vote.

Moscow Sewer Authority:

- A Monroe County Local Share Account Grant was awarded to the Moscow Sewer Authority for \$50,000.00 for the Church Street Sanitary Sewer Extension Project.
- Marc Gaughan said we are still waiting for approval on the new map by the Pennsylvania Department of Natural Resources.

Streets: Marc Gaughan reported on the following:

- The 1998 GMC truck sold on Municibid for \$3,600.00.
- Northeast Prestige Landscaping was hired for the spring cleanup and bi-weekly maintenance of the landscaping on Main Street. They began the work and did a beautiful job. A lot of plants were lost last year so there will be a replanting. Rose Warner asked if new mulch will be put down; Marc said it will be but the Borough will be paying for it.
- Bortek Industries will be delivering the street sweeper for the week of May 13, 2019.
- The part-time seasonal help position will be re-advertised in the Scranton Times, Villager, and the Borough Newsletter.

Solicitor's Report:

- Art Pencek reported that a grant application will be submitted to the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development for an Act 13 Flood Mitigation Grant on behalf of the residents of Scanlon Lane. The grant needs to be submitted by the municipality where the work is to be done. Attorney Zero said that the application must state that the Borough is not and will not be taking over the road/culvert and that the work is needed to remediate the area to keep the water from overflowing again and flooding the residents below.
- Attorney Zero said he spoke to Carmel Ardito regarding an easement for her parking lot. She asked that the project be held off until after the dance season is over, after May 22, 2019.
- Marc Gaughan made a motion to adopt Resolution #275 - 2019 adopting the Open Record's Office Right-To-Know Fee Schedule. Tom Lynch seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously with a roll call vote.

Personnel Committee: Connie Sanko said that information was received on the use of medical marijuana by employees and asked if anything should be included in the Employee Handbook. Attorney Zero said that at this time the laws are changing so rapidly and did not suggest that the handbook be changed at this time.

Old Business:

- A new copier is being leased through Stratix Systems.
- Updates to the website are pending.

New Business:

- Marc Gaughan said all apartments in the apartment buildings in town are full.
- Art Pencek asked Council members to remain after the meeting for an executive session to discuss Sams Land LLC.

Adjournment: Ed Gaughan made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Joe Castrogiovanni seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Minutes submitted by Constance Sanko