

# **Murray City Municipal Council**

## **Chambers**

## **Murray City, Utah**

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The Municipal Council of Murray City, Utah, met on Tuesday, the 18<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2017 at 6:30 p.m., for a meeting held in the Murray City Council Chambers, 5025 South State Street, Murray, Utah.

The meeting was conducted by Dave Nicponski

**Council Members Present:**

Dave Nicponski, Council District 1  
Blair Camp, Council District 2  
Jim Brass, Council District 3  
Diane Turner, Council District 4/Council Chair  
Brett Hales, Council District 5

**City Staff Present:**

Ted Eyre, Mayor  
Jennifer Kennedy, City Recorder  
Frank Nakamura, City Attorney  
Janet Lopez, Council Administrator  
Janet Towers, Executive Assistant to the Mayor  
Craig Burnett, Police Chief  
Gil Rodriguez, Fire Chief  
Danyce Steck, Finance Director  
Weina Qiu, Finance Department  
Brenda Moore, Finance Department  
Kim Fong, Library Director

**Other's in Attendance:**

Citizens

Mr. Nicponski called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

**5. Opening Ceremonies**

**5.1 Pledge of Allegiance**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Kim Fong, Library Director.

**5.2 Approval of Minutes**

**5.2.1 Council Meeting – None scheduled.**

**5.3 Special Recognition**

**5.3.1 Murray City Council Employee of the Month, Weina Qiu, Accounts Payable Technician, Finance Department.**

Staff Presentation: Brett Hales, Councilmember

Danyce Steck, Finance Director

Mr. Hales said the Council started the Employee of the Month program because they felt it was important to be able to recognize the City's employees. He presented Ms. Qiu with a certificate, a \$50 gift card and told her that her name would appear on the plaque located in the Council Chambers. He expressed his appreciation to Ms. Qiu for all she does for the City.

Ms. Steck spoke about Ms. Qui's time with the city. Ms. Qui thanked everyone and introduced her family.

**6. Citizen Comments (Comments are limited to 3 minutes unless otherwise approved by the Council)**

DeLynn Barney – Murray City, Utah

See Attachment 1 for Mr. Barney's comments.

Kathleen Stanford – Murray City, Utah

Ms. Stanford wanted to let everyone know about some blankets the city made. The blankets show buildings such as the old City Hall, the Cahoon Mansion, the Murray Central School, the smoke stacks, Murray First Ward, Day Murray Music, the opera house, Carnegie Library and the Murray Baptist Church. Her Great-Grandfather was the Mayor of Murray from 1916-1917. On behalf of Preserve Murray, she presented Mayor Eyre with a blanket.

Kat Martinez – Murray City, Utah

Ms. Martinez would like the Council to consider changing the ordinance regarding backyard chickens. She runs a home daycare in Murray and she likes to teach the children about where their food comes from. They have a beautiful garden where they grow vegetables and she would love to have some chickens too. She stated that most cities around Murray allow 2-3 chickens for a lot that is 5,000 square feet or larger. She would like the city to change its ordinance to be more in line with the cities that are around Murray. She lives three houses from Taylorsville where they allow chickens. Many of her

neighbors have chickens because they don't know they aren't supposed to have them. They think that because other cities and the county allow them, that Murray also allows them. One of her neighbors had chickens for almost a year before Ms. Martinez even knew about them because they are not a nuisance.

Maryann Christensen – Murray City, Utah

Ms. Christensen said she is sad and dismayed about the decision to allow the Murray First Ward building to be torn down. She feels the Council is more concerned about new buildings in Murray than they are with old buildings. It is sad to her that if people want to see the First Ward building again, it will be on a blanket like the one Ms. Stanford just showed. She would like Murray to be preserving more of its buildings; a couple of mansions doesn't count.

The Murray First Ward was a community building and it could be a community building again. She heard it would take over five million dollars to renovate and preserve it, but she has also heard that the actual cost to preserve it may only be about 1.5 million dollars. It sounds to her like the five million dollar figure was just a scare tactic. She would love the city to move forward doing their due diligence to find out the true cost to keeping old buildings, historic preservation grants that are available, and loans or bonding to make it possible. It's the past that gives Murray a sense of community. She feels the area of Murray around Vine Street and State Street has changed a lot and she has not liked any of the changes that have been made. She asked the Council to be more preservation minded going forward.

Laura Strobell – Murray City, Utah

Ms. Strobell said her perspective of historic Murray comes from being a child in this city. She was privileged to have grown up in an inviting and friendly city environment. As a child, the historic architecture was what made her feel that she belonged in Murray City. The stories shared about the history of the area by older residents made her feel that the world is not so scary or intimidating, and that many people and generations are part of the ground she walks on every day.

The special feeling the historical architecture of Murray City brings to youth cannot be preserved by demolition or a plaque on the wall. A city that is rooted in its history is hard to come by in the west and many young people are not able to experience growing up in a historic community. Why would it be wise to tear down history and build new developments like what happens so commonly in this age. Murray City still has the potential to be attractive and unique in the midst of over developed communities provided the historic architecture that exists in the city is care for and restored rather than bulldozed. She hopes the younger generation of Murray can have the same opportunity to grow up in history like she did. This results in growing generations that love their city and have a cause to protect it.

Andrea Stavrakakis – Murray City, Utah

Ms. Stavrakakis said she took the historic architecture tour of Murray a few months ago. The tour went around the city for two hours and she was amazed at the breadth of

architecture. She was surprised at how many beautiful homes and neighborhoods had a cohesive architectural statement. She was also surprised at the number of buildings that were slated to be bulldozed or not preserved. She is here tonight to support preservation.

Wendy Perkins – Murray City, Utah

Ms. Perkins said she has seen many places from jungles to deserts. Each place has its beauty from nature and from the buildings and architecture. She spoke about how wonderful Murray Park and Wheeler Farm are. Ms. Perkins said she had no idea what Mount Vernon was. She was blown away that it was a Carnegie Library. Mount Vernon is a jewel and it would be a sad thing if it disappears.

**7. Consent Agenda**

- 7.1 Consider confirmation of the Mayor's reappointment of Donnetta Mitchell to the Murray City Ethics Commission in an At-Large position for a three-year term to expire February 19, 2020.**
- 7.2 Consider confirmation of the Mayor's reappointment of Brenda Clausen to the Murray Heritage Center Advisory Board in an At-Large position for a three-year term to expire February 1, 2020.**
- 7.3 Consider confirmation of the Mayor's reappointment of Jenny Martin to the Murray Heritage Center Advisory Board in an At-Large position for a three-year term to expire February 1, 2020.**
- 7.4 Consider confirmation of the Mayor's reappointment of Peter Wright to the Murray Heritage Center Advisory Board in an At-Large position for a three-year term to expire February 1, 2020.**
- 7.5 Consider confirmation of the Mayor's appointment of Vicki Matsumori to the Murray Library Board of Trustees representing District 5 for a three-year term to expire June 30, 2020.**
- 7.6 Consider confirmation of the Mayor's appointment of Justin Zollinger to the Murray Library Board of Trustees in an At-Large position to complete the remainder of a three-year term to expire June 30, 2019.**
- 7.7 Consider confirmation of the Mayor's reappointment of Traci Black to the Murray Library Board of Trustees in an At-Large position for a three-year term to expire June 30, 2020.**
- 7.8 Consider confirmation of the Mayor's reappointment of Pepper Pehrson to the Murray Library Board of Trustees representing District 1 for a three-year term to expire June 30, 2020.**

**7.9 Consider confirmation of the Mayor's reappointment of Nick Skene to the Murray Library Board of Trustees representing District 4 for a three-year term to expire June 30, 2020.**

Mr. Nicponski asked that all items be taken together; no objections were made.

MOTION: Mr. Camp moved to approve the consent agenda. The motion was SECONDED by Mr. Brass.

Council roll call vote:

Mr. Camp	Aye
Mr. Brass	Aye
Ms. Turner	Aye
Mr. Hales	Aye
Mr. Nicponski	Aye

Motion passed 5-0

The Council thanked everyone who has volunteered to serve on these Boards and Commissions.

**8. Public Hearings**

**8.1 Public Hearing #1**

**8.1.1 Staff and sponsor presentations and public comment will be given prior to Council action on the following matter:**

**Consider an ordinance amending the City's Fiscal Year 2017-2018 Budget.**

Frank Nakamura, City Attorney, explained there have been some issues with the purchase this money transfer was going to be used for, therefore it would not be appropriate to approve the budget amendment. Since the purchase may not occur, staff has asked to postpone this item indefinitely.

MOTION: Mr. Brass moved to postpone the adoption of this ordinance indefinitely. The motion was SECONDED by Ms. Turner.

Council roll call vote:

Mr. Camp	Aye
Mr. Brass	Aye
Ms. Turner	Aye
Mr. Hales	Aye
Mr. Nicponski	Aye

Motion passed 5-0

**9. Unfinished Business**

**9.1 None scheduled.**

**10. New Business**

**10.1 Consider an ordinance amending Sections 2.04.070, 2.08.030, 2.09.060, and 2.66.010 of the Murray City Municipal Code relating to vacancies in City elected offices, vacancies in and filling the office of justice court judge, and the definition of campaign contributions.**

Staff presentation: Frank Nakamura, City Attorney

Mr. Nakamura stated these changes are being requested in response to the 2017 Legislative Session where H.B. 160, H.B 186, and S.B. 169 were passed. These amendments address vacancies in offices and concerns about the amount of time an individual spends at a secondary residence versus their primary residence. This legislation also clarified the definition of legal contributions and dealt with vacancies of the justice court judge.

MOTION: Mr. Hales moved to adopt the resolution. The motion was SECONDED by Ms. Turner.

Council roll call vote:

Mr. Camp	Aye
Mr. Brass	Aye
Ms. Turner	Aye
Mr. Hales	Aye
Mr. Nicponski	Aye

Motion passed 5-0

**11. Mayor**

**11.1 Report**

Mayor Eyre announced the newly remodeled amphitheater will be opening for The Music Man starting on July 27, 2017.

Mayor Eyre noted that Murray City uses water out of the Cottonwood Creek to help the power department generate electricity. The Cottonwood Hydro Plant is currently generating 3.6 megawatts of electricity which is twice as much as it was producing this time last year. He also spoke about the gas turbines the city runs during times when electrical use is high and explained how they help the city save money when generating electricity.

**11.2 Questions for the Mayor**

**12. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

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Jennifer Kennedy, City Recorder

# Attachment 1

Mr. Nicponski my name is:  
I live at:

Mr. DeLynn Barney

July 18, 2017

(this is an open letter)

Dear Mayor, Council members, Mayoral and council candidates, Ladies and Gentlemen, and especially the citizen of Murray City

I have some concerns that are centered around "government of the people, by the people and for the people" and our freedom to vote.

Property for a "future" site of a new city hall has been purchased using redevelopment money and some of the property owner face possible future eminent domain forcing them to move their businesses if they do not sell. A bond was paid off early and the money that had been for that is going to be used to pay for city hall plans. All this with out the approval of the people or a vote by the people. I am glad when I have paid my debts that my creditors value me and do not continue collecting money.

The Murray Mansion was purchased by the redevelopment agency for a future museum and later some "green space " will be added. It seems to me that a city hall could be build behind this one and have Murray Park as a very large green space. Again "the people" of Murray city were not asked or allowed to vote.

The old vine street church now a former school faces demolition to build an assisted living center much to the objection of local citizens. I felt demoralized and demeaned at the certificate of approiateness meeting. At the end of the meeting the individual in charge reminded us how many times we repeated the same thing, something that he told us not to do. Like a parent scolding minor children. Was that committee really listening to us?

Not long ago this city council was asked to and approved the weekly pickup of green waste, which I stood in favor of. However if this city council does not see the benefit of saving structures that binds one generation to another, nor values the input and vote of its citizens then what good is it for me to recycle for this or a future generation.

Why does this matter to me? I was taught that our government was and is a "government of the people, by the people and for the people" and I value my freedom, our freedom to vote.

Sincerely Mr. Barney (I have a prior obligation so I must leave at this time)