

MURRAY CITY-SCHOOL COORDINATING COUNCIL MINUTES

The Murray City School Coordinating Council met on Wednesday January 9, 2019 at 5:00 p.m. at Murray City Hall, 5025 South State Street, Conference Room #107, Murray, Utah.

Board Members Present:

Murray City

Dale Cox – Chair
Jim Brass
Diane Turner
Brett Hales

School Board

Elizabeth Payne
Jaren Cooper
Kami Andersson
Belinda Johnson

Others:

Blair Camp – Mayor
Chief Burnett – Murray Police

Others:

Jennifer Covington

Excused:

Dave Nicponski
Dave Nicponski

Welcome and Approval of Minutes - Mr. Cox conducting.

Mr. Cox welcomed everyone. Since it was Police Officer Appreciation Day, he expressed great appreciation for Chief Burnett and commended his many officers. The group extended applause.

Mr. Cox called for approval of the minutes for October 3, 2018. Ms. Turner moved for approval. Mr. Cox seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Introductions

Ms. Covington introduced the newest School Board Member, Elizabeth Payne of the Murray Board of Education. The group congratulated Ms. Payne.

Mayor Camp noted Mr. Tingey's departure as ADS Director, therefore, reorganization occurred. The department is now called Community and Economic Development, and he introduced Melinda Greenwood as the new director. She would be providing reports to the Murray City School Board in the future.

Ms. Greenwood was happy to meet everyone and looked forward to learning new things about the city.

Business Items

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Mayor's Report – Mayor Camp provided updates on the following projects within the school district:

Residential Developments

- Garbett Homes – 700 West and 6600 South. Public infrastructure is complete, a permit was obtained, and a model home is now under construction. The build-out would provide 127 homes over the next 18 months. Cost range begins at \$400,000, and a positive impact is expected for Grant Elementary.
- Ivory Homes – Bullion Street, west of the Jordan River. Currently, 45 homes are under construction. Mayor Camp signed the Phase Five plat, and a total of 83 homes are expected. Impact on student population is expected, however, some families moving in from other Murray areas.
- Gough Homes – Located on the corner of Bullion and Walden Glen Drive, sixteen homes will be constructed west of the Ivory project, situated on larger lots. Price range - \$700,000.
- Jake Larson Developers - Located on 770 West between Bullion Street and Anderson Street near Viewmont Elementary. The project with seven lots will be called Circle A Estates.

Townhomes and Apartments

- Riverpark Commons – 4870 South Murray Blvd. north of Hunters Woods. A 2-story complex would provide 40 units with 2 and 3-bedroom rentals.
- Granton Square – 118 West 4800 South. Total of 61 units, 2-story, with 3 bedrooms. Construction has not started yet.
- Murray Crossing - Vine and Commerce. Construction is underway and leasing has started for a multi-family facility providing a total of 285 units, with a mix of studio, 1 and 2 bedrooms.
- Metro at Fireclay – Phase One, 136 units, studio, and 1 and 2 bedrooms, are currently leasing. Phase Two - construction just started to provide 165 units - studio, and 1 and 2 bedrooms. TRAX passes and fitness center memberships are included.
- The Murray Depot – Located north of Fireclay and Birkhill. A 5-story complex with 91 units consisting of 1 and 2 bedrooms. Ground level provides commercial space.

The school board noted projects of high density would create the most impact where schools were already full, for example the Fireclay area. They noted schools in other areas need students.

City Projects

- New fire station – Construction is underway with a completion date in September of 2019.
- City Hall – The city hired GSBS as architect, and Layton Construction as general contractor.
- Frankie and Johnnies has been demolished, as well as, two structures on 5th Avenue.
- A development agreement is underway for an office building on Box Elder Street.
- The city is currently working on a new Parks and Recreation Master Plan.

Police Report - Chief Burnett reported the following:

- This fall and winter have been busier than normal.

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- More students were hit by cars near Hillcrest Jr. High – bringing the total to four this year.
- A school-zone light was installed in front of Hillcrest Jr. High in hope of preventing more accidents. People are not paying attention.
- Increase in bad behavior, for instance:
 - Graffiti – Some is MS-13 gang related, due to a student's father who is a gang member in Mexico.
 - Social Media
 - Park Side – Three students assaulted staff.
 - Murray High, Riverview and Hillcrest have seen an increase in active vaping, not only in restrooms, but in classrooms because devices are small and easy to hold in disguise. Students are cited; however, courts are not processing cases until students are caught multiple times. Parents do not seem to care, and the challenges are nationwide. Five retail stores in Murray sell vaping material and once police officers become aware of stores selling to minors, the store is monitored, but it is difficult to catch illegal sales in the act; therefore, it is not easy to issue fines or go after business licenses. More concerning than nicotine, is popular dabbing, which is the use of cannabis (THC), which is a higher concentration than a marijuana joint. Students are also dabbing in restrooms, and classrooms.
 - Vandalism and Theft – Occurred at Riverview Jr. High in November when windows were broken, and a door was propped open after hours allowing a transient to move in. Kids who participated were caught, and also held responsible for major vandalism that occurred in Murray Park over Halloween night, and into the next day. Damage was extensive to the park, as well as, the park office, signage, and city property. In addition, a student's bike was stolen from Riverview – by a parent. The parent was arrested, and the bike was returned.

Mr. Hales noted the lack of respect and wondered if kids disrespected authority figures overall. Chief Burnett agreed kids acting this way generally, do not have anyone at home teaching respect, where the cycle of bad behavior begins. The discussion continued about busy working parents, and single parents who do not have time or resources to be involved. A more prevalent concern is the number of parents coming inside to verbally accost school staff, which has not been seen before. Negative behavior seen in kids, is the same behavior seen when parents confront authorities in front of their children, when administrators are trying to discuss behavior issues, so kids are acting the same way.

Chief Burnett said as the valley gets bigger and bigger – bigger city issues come with it, which Murray has not had to deal with before. While Murray is a small city, it is located in the middle of over one million people. He noted calls have dropped dramatically for unsheltered individuals, however, with warm weather approaching an increase is expected.

School District Report – Jennifer Covington

Mrs. Covington echoed concerns that Murray is changing due to bigger city issues, and she appreciated the support of the Murray Police Department, and school resource officers. She reported the following:

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- Hillcrest Jr. High School - Old Site - The school district is waiting for plat maps to be approved, and ground breaking is anticipated for spring. Construction is planned for an assisted living facility on the south end, a Marriott hotel on the north end, along with apartments and retail space in the center.
- Safety Committee – A concern was noted during their last meeting that police radios do not work in all areas of the Hillcrest Jr. High School facility. Although, fire radios do work, there is a need for a bi-directional amplifier similar to what was provided at IMC – when police radios did not work there either. A bid was attained, and the system would cost \$19,500, therefore, a request was made to see if the city would be willing to assist in funding it to help ensure safety.

Mayor Camp said generally building owners are responsible for things within the facility, such as, ensuring radios are in working order.

Other Items from School Board or City Council Members - None

Internal Business Items - Next Meeting Date – April 10, 2019

Adjournment – 5:33 pm

Pattie Johnson
Council Office Administrator II