



MURRAY MUNICIPAL COUNCIL COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Meeting Minutes

**Tuesday, October 4, 2022
Murray City Center**

5025 South State Street, Council Chambers, Murray, Utah 84107

Attendance: Council Members and others:

Kat Martinez – Chair, District #1
Diane Turner – Vice Chair, District #4
Pam Cotter – District #2
Rosalba Dominguez – District #4 (arrived at 4:18 p.m.)
Garry Hrechkosy – District #5

Brett Hales	Mayor	Jennifer Kennedy	City Council Executive Director
Doug Hill	Chief Administrative Officer	Pattie Johnson	Council Administration
Tammy Kikuchi	Chief Communications Officer	Jared Hall	CED Director
G.L. Critchfield	City Attorney	Zack Smallwood	Senior Planner
Russ Kakala	Public Works Director	Brenda Moore	Finance Director
Loran Pasalich	Murray Chamber of Commerce	Brooke Smith	City Recorder
Bruce Holyoak	Parks Superintendent	Kim Sorensen	Parks & Recreation Director
Patrick Leary	Salt Lake County Parks & Recreation	Martin Jensen	Salt Lake County Parks & Recreation

Conducting: Council Member Martinez called the meeting to order at 4:15 pm.

Approval of Minutes: Committee of the Whole – September 6, 2022. Council Member Cotter moved to approve. Council Member Turner seconded the motion. All in favor 4-0.

Discussion Items:

Proposal to transfer Salt Lake County parks to Murray City:

Mr. Jensen from the Salt Lake County Parks and Recreation division gave a presentation to explain why after 76 years the County is seeking to transfer as surplus, various County parks to Salt Lake County cities. Due to significant growth throughout the Salt Lake Valley, the primary focus of the division has shifted from parks and recreation, to overseeing more large expensive recreation facilities and regional parks that serve multiple cities and jurisdictions. They believe transferring their small parks to the cities where they are located is the best option for maintaining them. The County wants to reposition two parks to Murray City, which are Riverview Park that is 6 acres; and Woodstock Park that is 9.46 acres. The only requirement for accepting the transfer is that surplus park areas must remain as parks forever. Maps and photos of each park were displayed and analyzed, the last three years of expense information was provided, and existing park amenities were discussed.

Council Member Cotter shared about visiting Riverview Park for decades and witnessed improvements like tennis courts and a new sign years ago. She felt the park was neglected after that due to current conditions of the old pavilion and water flow issues in the restrooms. She questioned where was the County during the 80's and 90's in taking care of this park and asked why small improvements were only made in the last three years. She wondered why ZAP (Zoo, Arts and Parks) funding was not used over time to improve it. Mr. Jensen said not all County parks get the attention they should because it was challenging to maintain over 100 parks with the amount of ZAP funding the County received.

Council Member Turner favored the proposal and asked about any funding the County could provide for improvements. Mr. Jensen said funding was not likely because Cottonwood Heights, Millcreek, Taylorsville, West Jordan, West Valley, and Kearns cities accepted the proposal without added funding.

4:30 p.m. – Mr. Hrechkosy stepped out of the meeting.

Council Member Dominguez asked if new impact fees could subsidize maintenance costs. Mr. Sorensen said the Murray Parks Master plan already included county parks and school acreage in the current impact fee.

After further discussion there was a consensus that both parks would need to be brought up to the higher Murray standard and it was appropriate to request funding from the Salt Lake County Council as part of the transfer since both parks need improving. Mr. Jensen would inquire with County officials, but suggested Murray apply for grant funding through ZAP or request support from TRCC (Tourism Recreation, Culture and Convention).

Council Member Martinez felt it was public perception that Murray was already maintaining both parks because they are located in Murray. She confirmed the estimated cost to improve and maintain both parks would be between \$700,000 and \$2.3 million and noted that suggested grant money was not applicable for these types of projects. She thought the financial impact would be absorbed at the CIP (capital improvement projects) level and expressed concern that other City projects could get bumped from the CIP list to address the needs of these parks.

Mr. Sorensen confirmed funding to improve both parks through the City's five-year CIP plan would provide for annual and general ongoing maintenance, new playgrounds, new restrooms, area lighting, and wages for one part-time employee for each park.

Mr. Critchfield asked Mr. Jensen since both parks are dedicated in perpetuity for public recreation, what was the County's alternative measure if Murray declined the offer. Mr. Jensen said the County would keep and maintain them which would fall into their own long-term CIP plan. Mr. Hill said the administration would return to the Council with a proposed draft resolution for consideration in a future council meeting.

Public Works Department Report:

Mr. Kakala gave a slide presentation to discuss personnel information and the overall duties and

functions of seven divisions including, engineering, streets, solid waste, storm water, wastewater, and fleet. Mayor Hales commended Mr. Kakala for a superb job since becoming the new director of Public Works only two months ago.

Resolution to approve an Interlocal Agreement with Salt Lake County for cost sharing for the 2022-2028 UPDES Media Campaign:

Mr. Kakala said the media campaign is an annual educational outreach program for helping residents better understand stormwater issues. Murray has participated in the program for years, where the popular commercial slogan is “We All Live Down Stream” and includes an invitation to attend the Water Quality Fair held at Hogle Zoo. Students from Murray, Granite and Jordan School Districts also attend each year. The cost sharing fee is \$7,700 and new terms of the interlocal agreement were increased to six years that is generally considered annually.

Ordinance amending Chapter 17 of the Murray City Code relating to Land Use Appeals and Variances:

Mr. Smallwood explained that the requested land use text amendment would streamline land use appeals and the appeal authority process with new State Legislation. The amendment includes definition changes, clearer text, and the removal of conflicting language. The planning commission voted 5-0 to forward a recommendation of approval to the City Council on September 1, 2022. No public comments were received. He also reviewed findings to confirm that City staff also recommended approval to the City Council.

Adjournment: 5:19 p.m.

Pattie Johnson
Council Office Administrator III