

**MURRAY MUNICIPAL COUNCIL**

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

Meeting Minutes

**Tuesday, June 6, 2023**

Murray City Center - 5025 South State Street, Conference Room, Murray, Utah 84107

**Attendance:**

Council Members and others:

Garry Hrechkosy – Chair	District #5 – Via Telecom
Phil Markham – Vice Chair	District #1
Pam Cotter	District #2
Rosalba Dominguez	District #3
Diane Turner	District #4 - Excused

Brett Hales	Mayor	Jennifer Kennedy	City Council Executive Director
Doug Hill	Chief Administrative Officer	Pattie Johnson	City Council Administration
Greg Bellon	Power Director	Crystal Brown	City Council Administration
Matt Youngs	Assistant Power Director	Joey Mittelman	Fire Chief
G.L. Critchfield	City Attorney	Russ Kakala	Public Works Director
Anthony Semone	NeighborWorks	Brenda Moore	Finance Director
Rob White	IT Director	Loran Pasalich	Chamber of Commerce
Citizens			

**Conducting:** Mr. Hrechkosy called the meeting to order at 4:30 pm.

**Approval of Minutes:** Committee of the Whole, May 2, 2023 and Committee of the Whole, May 16, 2023. Ms. Cotter moved to approve, and Mr. Markham seconded the motion. All in favor 4-0.

**Discussion Items:**

• Attorney's Office Report.

City Attorney G.L. Critchfield explained how his department works to advise and serve two separate forms of government within Murray, which are the executive branch and the legislative branch. Mr. Critchfield discussed how the attorneys in his office are familiar with the City's internal politics and culture. This results in excellent legal counsel and services provided to the City Council, Redevelopment Agency, Municipal Building Authority, the Mayor, department directors, and employees all pertaining to the legal rights, obligations, and responsibilities of Murray City. He shared three main functions of his office, which are advising, monitoring the legal landscape, and helping to manage transactions. He said with two forms of government there is sometimes overlap but that is how a healthy city government should operate. He explained how City attorneys also attend planning commission meetings; and advise arts, history, and library board members as well and work closely with the ethics commission. Mr. Critchfield supervises risk management related to small claims, but he oversees large claims, manages financial transactions, prepares for execution agreements, and supervises the prosecution team. Every misdemeanor is under his jurisdiction, and attorneys visit the City's Justice Courthouse daily. He reported two open attorney positions and noted that due to competitive salary packages, it was difficult for Murray to replace the attorneys who have moved on. He spoke about professional conduct rules, ethical rules and how he and his department abide by those rules for the client of the City, which is the corporate body where it is his priority to keep separate two forms of government in a professional and unbiased manner.

• Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Budget Amendment.

Finance Director Brenda Moore said most allocations in the year-end budget amendment were cleanup to ensure that the City did not end over-budget. She discussed transfers that would fund

capital projects related to relocating the City's museum to the Murray Mansion and flood mitigation efforts. She noted interest revenue allocations for various needs from the GF (General Fund), transfers to the GF, as well as allocations related to the fire department for overtime, the building division for professional services, the Solid Waste Fund's roll off dumpster program, and the Power Fund for the increased cost of purchased power. The Council would consider the budget amendment in a future public hearing.

- An ordinance amending Section 15.20.250 of the Murray City Municipal Code relating to Electrical Service Schedule 35 for Solar Rates.

Power Director Greg Bellon discussed the proposed change to the existing ordinance that would increase the permitted commercial solar size rate from 10 kilowatts to 500 kilowatts. Mr. Bellon confirmed the change would not affect the current rate of any existing residential solar customer. Assistant Power Director Mr. Youngs gave a brief review about the proposal which was discussed with the Council in a previous work session. He reported no changes to that proposal where they hope to accommodate commercial solar customers who want to have larger systems. Mr. Bellon felt capping the load at 500 kilowatts was very generous and it would be interesting to see how many customers would participate.

- An ordinance relating to the financial standards of the Solid Waste, Water, Wastewater, Stormwater, and Power Enterprise Funds.

Mr. Markham said the proposed ordinance was basically textual cleanup to better align all enterprise funds that produce revenue. He explained that in the past, the Power Fund had what seemed to be separate standards, but with approval of the proposed ordinance all enterprise funds would be treated the same. From now on they would all have a required reserve balance of 30%; all have a required master plan that is updated every five years, and all required to have a rate study completed prior to any rate increase proposal. Mr. Markham noted all language was standardized to the approval of all related department directors. Mayor Hales confirmed. There was consensus to move the proposal forward to a council meeting for consideration.

- New City Hall Policies.

City Council Executive Director Jennifer Kennedy shared the Executive Order implemented by the administration for the new city hall building. She asked the Council, as a separate legislative branch, whether they would like to adopt the same policies or create their own. Mr. Hrechkosy felt it made sense to be consistent with what Mayor Hales established for his administration and saw no problem with the City Council abiding by the same policies. Ms. Dominguez proposed a change regarding the policy, where anything modified, purchased, or installed must go through Ms. Kennedy who will work with the facilities manager. All agreed. Ms. Kennedy would coordinate with Mr. Critchfield to draft an ordinance for consideration in a future council meeting.

- City Council Travel Policy updates.

Mr. Hrechkosy said due to the absence of Ms. Turner, the discussion would be tabled until the June 27, 2023 Committee of the Whole meeting. A final vote on the new travel policy would occur during the June 27, 2023 Council Meeting. There was consensus to delay the discussion.

**Adjournment:** 5:28 p.m.

**Pattie Johnson**  
**Council Office Administrator III**