

**MURRAY CITY MUNICIPAL COUNCIL  
COUNCIL MEETING**

Minutes of Tuesday, April 16, 2024

Murray City Hall, 10 East 4800 South, Council Chambers, Murray, Utah 84107

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**Attendance:**

Council Members:

Paul Pickett	District #1
Pam Cotter	District #2 – Council Chair
Rosalba Dominguez	District #3
Adam Hock	District #5 – Council Vice-Chair

Others:

Brett Hales	Mayor	Jennifer Kennedy	City Council Executive Director
Doug Hill	Chief Administrative Officer	Pattie Johnson	Council Administration
G.L. Critchfield	City Attorney	Emily Barton	Finance Department
Kim Sorensen	Parks & Recreation Director	Brenda Moore	Finance Director
Matt Boulden	Fire Department	Steve Olson	Fire Department
Joey Mittelman	Fire Chief	Russ Kakala	Public Works Director
Monae Klingler	Murray Youth Council	Brooke Smith	City Recorder
Marie Haas	Murray Youth Council	Sheri VanBibber	Murray Youth Council /Exchange Club
Carrie Burgess	Building Division	Aron Frish	Public Works
Phil Markham	CED Director	Eric Bracewell	Power Operations Manager
Julie Debban	Building Division	Bailey Chism	City Journals
Don Steffensen	Building Official	Kathy White	Murray Chamber of Commerce
Citizens and Guests		Matt Gibbons	Murray Chamber of Commerce

**Excused:** Diane Turner – District #4

**Opening Ceremonies:**

Call to Order – Council Member Pam Cotter called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance – Marie Haas led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Approval of Minutes:** Council Meeting – March 19, 2024.

**MOTION:** Mr. Pickett moved to approve, and Mr. Hock SECONDED the motion.

Voice vote taken, all “Ayes.” Approved 4-0

**Special Recognition:**

**1. Murray City Employee of the Month, Carrie Burgess, Building Division.**

Presentation: Mayor Hales, Ms. Cotter, CED (Community and Economic Development) Director Phil Markham and City Inspector Thomas Butz presented Carrie Burgess, with a certificate and a \$50 gift card. Ms. Burgess was commended for all her work as a building permit specialist in the building division.

**2. Consider a Joint Resolution of the Mayor and the Municipal Council of Murray City, Utah in Support of the Murray Exchange Club by Recognizing and Declaring April 2024 as Child Abuse Prevention Month.** Mayor Hales read the joint resolution and expressed appreciation to the Murray Exchange Club for all they do.

**MOTION:** Ms. Dominguez moved to adopt the joint resolution. Mr. Pickett SECONDED the motion.

**Council Roll Call Vote:**

Ms. Dominguez	Aye
Mr. Hock	Aye
Mr. Pickett	Aye
Ms. Cotter	Aye
Motion passed:	4-0

3. **Farewell presentation from Dakota King, Miss Murray.** Miss King expressed appreciation to the Council for their support and gave a slide presentation showcasing key moments during her reign as the 2024 Miss Murray. Highlighted was her community service initiative, the Kindness Chain. Mayor Hales commended her for all she accomplished this year.

**Special Presentation:**

1. **FY (Fiscal Year) 2024-2025 Budget Address.** Finance Director Brenda Moore gave an overview of the Mayor's FY 2024-2025 budget. She highlighted the annual budget of \$174,725,466, what revenue is allocated to the GF (General Fund), expenses by category from the GF, expenses by department and the financial status of other City funds. Ms. Moore noted that all enterprise fund revenues would cover all related expenses and some system maintenance, but not all capital projects. Budget challenges include inflation, chain supply issues, and the .2% City option sales tax that will be ending in 2030.

Ms. Moore said last year the City used \$4.2 million of the .2% sales tax revenue to balance the budget. Consequently she anticipated that within five years the City would need to pull back on spending from this source, although money can be used on capital projects or one-time expenses.

Highlights of the FY 2024-2025 tentative budget included the GF using \$2,482,961 of reserves, a 5% property tax increase to provide \$572,559 needed to help wean the City from the .2% optional sales tax revenue; an estimated ending GF balance of \$18,508,372 or 32.5% of revenue; Capital Projects Fund expenditures of \$13,612,531 and a 3% Cost of Living Adjustment to City employees. The Step program would be fully funded, health insurance would increase by 5.7%, four new full-time employees would be funded, two full-time employees were removed, and various capital projects are funded.

2. **Consider a resolution acknowledging receipt of the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 tentative budget from the Mayor and the Budget Officer and referring the Mayor's tentative budget for review and consideration to the Budget and Finance Committee of the Murray City Municipal Council.**

**MOTION:** Mr. Hock moved to approve the resolution. Ms. Dominguez SECONDED the motion.

**Council Roll Call Vote:**

Ms. Dominguez	Aye
Mr. Hock	Aye
Mr. Pickett	Aye
Ms. Cotter	Aye
Motion passed:	4-0

**Citizen Comments:**

Kathy White – Murray resident

Ms. White asked that the City take a look at the intersection located at 5900 South State Street where a number of accidents, some including fatalities, have occurred.

Clark Bullen – Murray resident

Mr. Bullen suggested the formation of a Pedestrian and Bicycle Transportation board comprised of Murray citizens. He thought the board could advise the City on improving bike lanes and walkability, due to City growth and future development of the downtown.

Sheri VanBibber – Murray resident

Ms. VanBibber said as a volunteer working over a year to establish a Murray Coalition, grant funding of \$72,000 was just received from Salt Lake County. Grant writing was accomplished by joining the foundation with the Murray Chamber of Commerce. She expressed excitement that the Coalition was coming together that consisted of 12 components including the Murray School District, Murray youth, a nonprofit organization, a business, City police and fire departments, emergency preparedness and Intermountain Medical Center to name a few. In addition the Salt Lake County Health Department provided the Coalition with 108 boxes of naloxone to be distributed to the Murray Fire and Police Departments. She encouraged Council Members to attend a monthly Coalition meeting held every fourth Wednesday at the Murray School District.

**Public Hearings:**

1. **Consider a resolution waiving golf cart fees for the Murray Chamber of Commerce on May 10, 2024 at the Murray Parkway Golf Course for the Chamber's Annual Children's Charity Golf Tournament.** City Council Executive Director Jennifer Kennedy emphasized that if the fee waiver request from the Murray Chamber was approved, it would be allocated to the current fiscal year budget ending June 30, 2024. The reason was that a golf tournament marked for next year was in conflict with a balloon festival, so the event was moved up earlier. The date change placed the request into this year's fiscal budget cycle. Chamber President Matt Gibbons said the date change to May 10, 2024 was the best choice for everyone.

The public hearing was open for public comments. No public comments were given, and the public hearing was closed.

Mr. Pickett asked if the Chamber had any other donation requests this year. Mr. Gibbons said no. Ms. Kennedy mentioned the Chamber obtained waivers for golf cart rental fees for a tournament earlier this fiscal year. Mr. Gibbons said for years the golf tournament was held annually, but due to popularity two tournaments have been offered the last two years. He suspected the Chamber would make the same request next fiscal year.

**MOTION:** Mr. Pickett moved to approve the resolution. Ms. Dominguez SECONDED the motion.

**Council Roll Call Vote:**

Ms. Dominguez	Aye
Mr. Hock	Aye
Mr. Pickett	Aye
Ms. Cotter	Aye
Motion passed:	4-0

2. Consider a resolution approving the donation of City services and/or nonmonetary assistance to the Navajo Tribal Utility Authority's "Light Up Navajo" Initiative Project. Ms. Kennedy said the total non-monetary donation was \$29,000 that would go towards labor, equipment and per diem for power employees participating in the project. In past years Murray Power has considered the donation as an on-the-job training opportunity for power department apprentices. Power Operations Manager Eric Bracewell said this would be the fourth year that Murray Power would participate along with other power companies. Apprentices would work 16-hour days to provide power to those who have never had electricity.

The public hearing was open for public comments. No public comments were given, and the public hearing was closed.

Mr. Pickett asked how many people would benefit from the project. Mr. Bracewell said last time they participated they supplied power to 156 customers for the very first time.

**MOTION:** Ms. Dominguez moved to adopt the resolution. Mr. Hock SECONDED the motion.

**Council Roll Call Vote:**

Ms. Dominguez	Aye
Mr. Hock	Aye
Mr. Pickett	Aye
Ms. Cotter	Aye
Motion passed:	4-0

**Mayor's Report and Questions**

Mayor Hales announced the Woodstock Park playground is now open to the public. The Murray Golf Course is turning a profit as men and women's golf leagues gained in popularity. The Utah Jazz Organization awarded Murray City with the highest participation and increase in the Junior Jazz basketball program. After reviewing the past five years of outdoor fires within Murray, the Fire Department has determined they are not seeing any new data to support any additional fireworks restrictions within the City. Restricted areas will be posted later this month on the City's website for the coming summer.

**Adjournment:** 7:48 p.m.

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