

**MURRAY CITY MUNICIPAL COUNCIL
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

Work Session Minutes of Tuesday, December 3, 2024
Murray City Hall, 10 East 4800 South, Poplar Meeting Room, Murray, Utah 84107

Attendance:

Council Members:

Paul Pickett	District #1
Pam Cotter	District #2 – Council Chair
Rosalba Dominguez	District #3 – Arrived at 4:24 p.m.
Diane Turner	District #4
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
Mark Richardson	City Attorney	Joey Mittelman	Fire Chief
Phil Markham	Community and Economic Dev. Director	Kim Sorensen	Parks and Recreation Director
Zac Smallwood	Planning Manager	Brooke Smith	City Recorder
Elvon Farrell	Economic Development Specialist	Brenda Moore	Finance Director
Russ Kakala	Public Works Director	Aron Frisk	Public Works
Rob White	IT Director	Ben Derrick	Public Works
Ben Gray	IT	Jenn Kikel-Lynn	Utah Main Street
Kim Sorensen	Parks and Recreation Director		

Conducting: Council Chair Cotter called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

Approval of Minutes: Committee of the Whole, November 12, 2024. Ms. Cotter noted one spelling error that was corrected prior to the meeting. Mr. Hock moved to approve as amended, and Ms. Turner seconded the motion. All in favor 4-0.

Discussion Items:

- **Report from the Murray Area Chamber of Commerce.** Board Chair Kathy White hosted a Kahoot trivia game to review past and current information about the Chamber. She concluded by outlining events, programs, and activities planned for 2025.
- **Mayor Hales' appointment of Chad Wilkinson as the Community & Economic Development Department Director.** Mayor Hales introduced Mr. Wilkinson to Council Members. Mr. Wilkinson shared about his past and present employment and expressed excitement about the opportunity to work for Murray City again.
- **A resolution approving and authorizing execution of an amendment to an Interlocal Cooperation Agreement between Murray City Corporation and Salt Lake County for a contribution of TRCC Funds to assist in financing the restoration of the Murry Theater.** Parks Director Kim Sorensen explained that because the theater rebuild project has had a lot of unexpected complications, extra time was needed to finish the project. The amendment of the agreement would extend TRCC (Tourism, Recreation, Culture and Convention) grant funding terms from December 31, 2024 to June 30, 2025.

Mr. Sorensen said the backwall of the theater is missing and has been nonexistent for seven months due to foundation and footing issues. As a result workers had to excavate 17-feet down to construct new footings. Once the rear brick wall is reconstructed, they will begin to finish the inside of the theater. Final completion is expected by the end of April or May of 2025.

Mr. Hock asked about next steps if further issues arise and the project is not completed by the first of June 2025. Mr. Sorenson said another extension of the TRCC agreement would be requested.

- **A resolution approving and authorizing execution of an amendment to an Interlocal Cooperation Agreement between Murray City Corporation and Salt Lake County for a contribution of TRCC Funds to assist funding construction of Riverview Park improvements.** Parks Director Kim Sorenson said the original agreement to improve Riverview Park expired in September of 2024. The overall work was finished and pickle ball courts were open, but because some of the construction work was completed in October of 2024 the amendment was necessary to extend the terms of the agreement to December 31, 2024. Approval would allow the City to receive \$40,000 in TRCC grant funding to pay for that work; and receive additional money for any minor improvements needed before the end of the year.
- **A resolution approving the execution of a Memorandum of Understanding between the Central Valley Water Reclamation Facility (“CVWRF”) and the City regarding their respective ownership and maintenance responsibilities.** Wastewater Superintendent Ben Ford said the purpose of the resolution was to clarify ownership boundaries and maintenance responsibilities with Central Valley, which were not clearly defined in previous documents. Mr. Ford discussed Murray’s two connection points to Central Valley infrastructure and reviewed a map depicting those areas. He said the proposed resolution would allow Murray crews to conduct maintenance work on connection points and inspect any work performed by Central Valley staff. Once all member cities consider and approve related resolutions, Central Valley would also consider passing the same resolution to approve the Memo of Understanding.

Ms. Dominguez arrived at 4:24 p.m.

- **Discuss a resolution approving the 2024 Murray City Water Conservation Plan.** Water Superintendent Aaron Frisk said Andrew McKinnon, an engineer with Bowen Collins & Associates worked with Murray City for many years and understood the City’s water system. Mr. McKinnon reviewed the plan in detail and noted water conservation regions in Utah since 2015 and reviewed State water conservation goals into the year 2030. He discussed functions of the City’s water system, water supply and measurements, water production, water sales and system loss, conservation goals and milestones, future conservation of water supply and demands and current and future water conservation practices. He shared historic water production data, saying that even with population growth Murray’s water production has remained stable.

Mr. Pickett asked how higher density housing and more people would result in less water use. Mr. McKinnon said the primary reason was due to outdoor irrigation needs that make up for 70% of the overall water demand for a single family home. Large apartment complexes do not have front and back yard watering needs that would increase water use, compared to more single family housing. With apartments, irrigation needs would stay the same but indoor water needs would increase. He believed the City would not see water demands increase with high density housing, as fast as it would with increasing outdoor water need demands. Mr. Pickett noted that single family homes in Murray use about 30% of culinary water. Mr. McKinnon agreed.

Mr. McKinnon said Murray has always had a good public awareness program regarding water conservation, which has been used as an example to other communities. Murray has been ahead of other cities for years in offering rebates and incentives on toilet and shower head fixtures and having its own flip your strip program not related to the Utah State program. Mr. Pickett thought the City’s flip your strip program was meager comparatively. Mr. Frisk said the City’s program, previously capped at \$350 in reimbursements, was changed to have no limit, to provide greater fairness to citizens with more parking strips on corner lots.

Council Members learned about the process for issuing water waste notices and meter sizes in new multi-family housing developments related to impact fees and master meters. Mr. McKinnon noted that every city in Salt Lake County has adopted the Utah State Water Savers ordinance except Murray, however many cities in Utah County have also not adopted the model landscape program either. He explained that the State ordinance developed by five large water districts is not a zero-scape requirement because it encourages plants in landscapes to qualify as a water wise landscape area. The ordinance only applies to new growth development, new residential and new commercial developments. Council Members analyzed why Murray had not participated in the State program.

Public Works Director Russ Kakala clarified that if the City wanted to participate in the State Waterwise program, CED staff would need to change the City's current landscape ordinance to meet the rules and regulations of the Utah Water Savers ordinance related to new construction of any kind. He said once that happens, people can take part in the State program. Mr. McKinnon agreed existing homes in Murray would not be required to change anything.

Mr. McKinnon displayed photos to share basic waterwise design concepts and explain the difference between Waterwise landscaping versus zero scaping. Mr. Kakala reminded Council Members the resolution in front of them was to adopt the presented Water Conservation Plan which was not to change the City's current flip your strip landscape program to the State program. There was consensus that Council Members would discuss at another time whether the City should adopt the State ordinance.

- **Van Winkle 2 Annexation.** City Recorder Brooke Smith provided an overview and history about the annexation request. She discussed a timeline regarding the efforts made to process the request that involved a few setbacks. In conclusion Ms. Smith said that all legal requirements for the annexation petition had been met as per Utah Code Title 10, Chapter 2, Part 4 and the proposal was ready for final consideration.
- **Adjournment:** 5:41 p.m.

Pattie Johnson
Council Administrator III