



## MURRAY CITY MUNICIPAL COUNCIL COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

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The Murray City Municipal Council met as a Committee of the Whole on Tuesday, September 20, 2011, in the Murray City Center, Conference Room #107, 5025 South State Street, Murray Utah.

### Members in Attendance:

Jim Brass	Council Chair
Jeff Dredge	Council Vice Chair
Darren V. Stam	Council Member
Jared A. Shaver	Council Member

### Member Excused:

Krista K. Dunn	Council Member
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### Others in Attendance:

Michael D. Wagstaff	Council Executive Director
Dan Snarr	Mayor
Jan Wells	Mayor's Chief of Staff
G. L. Critchfield	Deputy City Attorney
Janet M. Lopez	Council Office
George Katz	Citizen
Sally Hoffelmeyer-Katz	Citizen
Brett Hales	Citizen
Preston Gardner	Citizen
Paula Gardner	Citizen
Jennifer Brass	Citizen
Tim Tingey	ADS Department Director

Chairman Brass called the Committee of the Whole meeting to order at 5:32 p.m. and welcomed those in attendance.

### Minutes

Mr. Brass asked for corrections or action on the minutes from the Committee of the Whole meeting held on September 6, 2011. Mr. Shaver moved approval as written. Mr. Stam seconded and the motion was approved 4-0.

**Business Item #1:**

**Murray Area Chamber of Commerce Update –  
Scott Baker**

Scott Baker is President of the Murray Chamber of Commerce and was present to update the Council on the Murray Chamber and the Chamber family within the Salt Lake Valley. The Murray Chamber membership level is maintaining and the business community consists of some sectors that are doing very well while others that are experiencing poor results. The majority of the membership feels that there has been a turnaround in the vicinity and he sees a more positive attitude toward the businesses in Murray. People here in Murray love it and want to stay in Murray.

Mr. Baker explained that the Murray Chamber is different than most others in that there is no support for particular candidates nor do they take a stand on issues. He stressed that his job is to educate members and encourage them to be active in the community. This ideal is in the Charter of the Murray Chamber.

There are a number of events up coming. The Haunted Trail will be sponsored by the Chamber the weekend prior to Halloween, which is a Murray tradition. This is a family-friendly spook alley at Murray Park and only \$2.50 per person including hot chocolate and a donut. Mr. Baker is hopeful that about 3,000 people will participate.

An October Feast fundraiser will be held with proceeds going to the Youth Chamber of Commerce. This is an opportunity to share “home brewed” root beer, chili, bratwurst and beer. There will be a popular vote and award. The Murray Fire Department has been asked to participate and each station will have an entry in the chili contest. It will be at the Olympus Ranch on October 15.

Mr. Baker noted that on November 3 the Chamber will have its Fifth Annual Taste of Murray where Murray area restaurants are invited to come into one location and provide a sampling of their signature dish. The Fire Department will be involved in that too with the winning chili dish. This, too, will be hosted by Olympus Ranch. This is a lovely facility and they are very supportive of the Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. Baker mentioned that when a business or any entity joins the Chamber then all the employees automatically become members, as well. With Murray City being a partner and member of the Chamber all City employees are invited to participate in Chamber events. Unless requested, normally RSVP is not necessary and members are welcome to just show up meet people and have a good time.

In the Chamber family throughout the valley, Mr. Baker informed the Council that there have been some major changes. The Salt Lake Chamber changed their mission about two years ago. They are no longer in existence to promote individual businesses and have gone to a state wide support of the business community by lobbying the state legislature and federal government to insure that entities are business friendly with regard to transportation and education, for example.

The remaining Chambers take the charge to promote the businesses in each community. In Murray, Mr. Baker supports a positive business environment in the area through events and meetings. Most communities have had their own individual chambers: Murray, Midvale, Sandy, Draper, South Jordan, and West Jordan. It has been found that the smaller

chambers could not exist on their own; therefore, some entities have merged, such as Chamber West, which is an excellent Chamber representing West Valley, Taylorsville and Kearns areas. The Midvale Chamber could not survive, although, as Chamber East they serve Midvale, Cottonwood Heights, Sugarhouse and Millcreek. Sandy made some major changes becoming a regional chamber on the south end of the valley as Salt Lake is in the north. Later Chamber East and Sandy merged together. That seems to have worked for them; although, Murray has remained a community Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. Baker explained that he was approached by JoAnn Seghini from Midvale due to some issues she had with the Sandy Chamber. Midvale businesses relate more to Murray than to Sandy. He discussed this possibility of representing Midvale with some of the major Murray members who agreed to have the Murray Area Chamber of Commerce begin servicing the Midvale businesses. The name will be retained and as a Murray resident it will be maintained for as long as he is personally associated with the Chamber. The moniker is the Murray Chamber of Commerce representing the business interests of Murray and Midvale. The Midvale businesses are slowly being incorporated into the events as the Chamber expands its business base. No other changes can be expected. Midvale has cancelled its relationship with the Sandy Chamber.

Mayor Snarr mentioned that he can see how Intermountain Health Care would be supportive of this change and appreciate the value of their cooperative membership. Mr. Baker also has looked at this as an opportunity to draw Midvale people to the Fashion Place Mall in Murray.

Mr. Baker voiced his positive attitude about the business environment in Murray and the direction of the Chamber. He appreciates the support from Murray City staff and for ribbon cuttings where there is always a City representative present.

Mr. Stam noticed the changes to the Chamber Website when Mr. Baker asked everyone to take a look at it. He observed that some of the department heads listed are out dated and need modifications. Mr. Baker thanked him for pointing that out. Additionally, Mr. Baker asked everyone to stay in touch and encouraged those present to utilize himself and the Chamber as a resource whenever possible.

Mr. Brass related his long time association with the Chamber and Mr. Baker. He said the thing he likes is that Mr. Baker keeps on eye out for the small businesses. Everyone says that small business is the backbone of the United States providing most of the jobs; however, often they get caught up in the shuffle of cities and other entities going after large corporations, so he appreciates that interest given by the Chamber.

Mayor Snarr asked about the organization of the Downtown Alliance. Mr. Baker responded that it started as a committee within the Salt Lake Chamber; however, it became large enough that it broke off on its own as a separate operating entity. Mayor Snarr also commented about the Salt Lake Chamber and its mission to support businesses throughout the state. He concluded that as they petition the federal government on behalf of business here legislation would also impact businesses throughout the country not just Utah. Mr. Baker called that fallout, in that anything that is good for Utah business is also good for business in other states. He admires them for their work.

Mr. Brass thanked Mr. Baker for his presentation and update.

**Announcements**

**Mike Wagstaff**

Mr. Wagstaff reminded all Council Members of the Strategic Plan interviews scheduled for the following week.

There being no further business, Mr. Brass adjourned the meeting at 5:55 p.m.

Janet M. Lopez  
Council Office Administrator