

Murray City Municipal Council Chambers Murray City, Utah

The Municipal Council of Murray City, Utah, met on Tuesday, the 23d day of January, 2007 at 6:30 p.m., for a meeting held in the Murray City Council Chambers, 5025 South State Street, Murray, Utah.

Roll Call consisted of the following:

Krista Dunn,	Council Chair
Pat Griffiths,	Council Member
Robbie Robertson,	Council Member - Excused
Jim Brass,	Council Member
Jeff Dredge,	Council Member

Others who attended:

Daniel Snarr,	Mayor
Jan Wells,	Chief of Staff
Frank Nakamura,	City Attorney
Shannon Huff Jacobs,	Council Director
Carol Heales	Recorder
Doug Hill,	Public Services Director
Pete Fondaco	Police Chief
Gil Rodriguez,	Fire Chief
Charles Crutcher	Engineering Manager, Power
Sherrie Van Bibber,	Planning & Zoning
Keith Snarr,	Economic Development
Don Whetzel,	Finance Director
Susan Gregory,	Heritage Center
Ron Koller,	Treasurer
Dale Whittle,	Human Resources
Caroline Kingsley,	Murray Journal
Lynn Hemingway,	Utah State Legislature
Citizens	

Ms. Griffiths Conducted Meeting

A. OPENING CEREMONIES

1. Pledge of Allegiance
Sherrie Van Bibber, Planning Commission Member

2. Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve the minutes of January 9th, 2007 made by Ms. Dunn.
Mr. Brass 2nd the motion.

Call vote recorded by Ms. Heales

AYE/NAY

<u> A </u>	Ms. Dunn
<u> A </u>	Mr. Dredge
<u> A </u>	Mr. Brass
<u> A </u>	Ms. Griffiths

Motion passed 4-0

3. Special Recognition(s)

- a. Ms. Griffiths said there is a tradition at council meetings where the Boy Scouts and their leaders are asked to introduce themselves and state what merit badges they are working on.

Members from Troop #395 introduced themselves.

- b. Presentation of Mayor Daniel C. Snarr's "State of the City" address for year 2007.

State of the City Address

*Mayor Daniel C. Snarr
January 23, 2007*

Good evening City Council Members, citizens and staff. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to address you for a few moments this evening.

Today marks the beginning of a new era in the history of Murray City. We attended the opening ceremony for the Jon and Karen Huntsman Cancer Center at Intermountain Medical Center this afternoon. This building opening begins the process for others on the Intermountain Medical Center campus to follow moving into late October of this year, when all five major hospitals will be open. This amazing health care facility will become the new center point of City activity and will be the catalyst for our City becoming the central location of state-of-the-art care for the State of Utah. I've always said Murray is "the Best City in America." It seems fitting to adjust that statement to "the Healthiest, Best City in America."

Tonight I would like to focus on the health of Murray City. This is a stethoscope. You have all had a doctor use an instrument like this to listen to your heart. A doctor would listen to hear how blood was being pumped throughout your body and to determine if arteries are clear and open. Having a strong heartbeat allows you to accomplish the day to day tasks of life. We don't always think about the work our heart accomplishes, but we wouldn't be here without its continual effort.

We have many internal workings in our City that provide a heartbeat to our residents. They are not always seen, but keep things running smoothly day to day.

During the years I have had the opportunity to serve as Mayor, I have focused, along with Council members, Department Heads and other employees, on improving the infrastructure of the City. We have upgraded our water and sewer systems to provide capacity for new growth and redevelopment. Three efforts to upgrade other basic services have continued in the last year.

First, we have completed the second year of a three year project to upgrade our power transmission system. Added capacity to our system will position us for the future and allow us to continue to provide reliable power. This project has involved upgrading all our power substations and improving the lines and poles that carry the power to our neighborhoods and businesses. Our Power Department has been innovative in bringing resource possibilities to me and the Council for consideration. This year we added the Salt Lake Valley Landfill Gas Power Generation Facility, which provides 3 megawatts of renewable energy to our City. Using methane gas to produce power improves the environmental health of our community and we have received much recognition for using this technology.

Second, due to pressure to upgrade our storm water system, we have followed the lead of other cities and created a Storm Water Utility. Managing runoff and keeping lines adequately sized will prevent flooding as the long list of projects are funded and completed one by one. We don't always see the impact of having poor flood capacity until a big storm event surprises us. As in caring for your heart before a heart attack can occur, this preventative maintenance will give us the ability to keep storm water moving. Again, while State and Federal controls on storm water quality tighten on local governments, this utility will allow us to keep up with those mandates and will improve the environment as cleaner water flows to our rivers and streams.

Third, roads are the other ongoing area of infrastructure we are continuing to work on. This year an updated Transportation Master Plan was adopted. This plan will help us outline logical projects to spend road funds on so we can keep ahead of failing areas. There will never be enough money to address all the challenges our City roads will have, but with a plan, like going for regular health screenings, we can be aware of concerns and focus resources on the biggest problems first. The costs of materials for roads have been impacted by the rise of oil prices and have increased construction costs by a third. As a result, we are not able to do as much as in past years. Projects are planned for several State owned roads this year. The intersection of 5300 South and State Street is planned to be reconfigured for better traffic flow. 4500 South will see a widening project to improve the bottleneck created between I-15 and State Street. A beautification project will also be done on the interchange at 5300 South and I-15 to provide a welcoming gateway into our City.

We do have a new artery opened this year to help improve our traffic flow north and south. The Cottonwood Street Overpass was completed this summer and will be a great asset providing alternatives to the traffic the Intermountain Medical Center and other development will generate.

Other projects that keep the City in good health have been undertaken by each of our departments. Some are directly related to keeping the City clean and well maintained. For example, 275 green waste trailers were delivered to residents and the waste was chipped into 544 loads of free wood chips to be used by any interested Murray citizens. 1200 man hours were used to keep our roads free of snow last year and 287 sidewalk trip hazards were removed. The Jordan River Parkway was improved by the removal of many Russian Olive and Tamarisk trees and appropriate trees were planted. Our Code Enforcement Officers worked on issues ranging from weed control, to business inspections and other citizen raised concerns.

Remaining fiscally healthy is an ongoing effort. This year with favorable interest rates, we refinanced bonds for the gas-turbine power generation project and will see a savings of over \$600,000 for the life of the bonds. While the rates are down, we are working on other bonds to realize savings from refinancing them as well. Our Finance Department has worked over the past five years to increase the cash position of the City from \$6.5 million to over \$22 million by the end of fiscal year 2006. Much coordination by our City Treasurer has made it possible to improve our credit card collection system and more options for payment have been made available for our citizens. We have implemented a City Utility Relief Program to help those with very low incomes be able to continue to have their basic utilities. Although the budget amount is small, it helps over 450 individuals and families.

Our public safety departments provide vital services that deal daily with the health, safety and welfare of our residents. The Police Department participates with several organizations that help focus on issues of concern in our City. They play vital roles in the new Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force, the Utah Sex Offender Registration Program and the DEA Metro Narcotics Strike Force. I am particularly proud of the work they accomplish in our Community Oriented Policing program where they work with citizens in their neighborhoods to identify and investigate all types of concerns. We share a deep commitment to the D.A.R.E. Program that teaches our youth at an early age to avoid drugs and choose a healthy lifestyle.

The Murray City Justice Court has been reorganized to focus on high priority problems, such as DUI, drugs and alcohol, and domestic violence. More accountability is required of offenders to help eliminate repeat crimes.

Murray City Fire Department celebrated it's 100 year anniversary. They have a great history of promoting health and safety issues for our City. This year they joined with seven other city fire departments to form the Metro Fire Agency which allows them to share resources and training. This organization will strengthen all the entities as they work together to serve our residents. The department sponsors an annual Fire/Police Health & Safety Fair that is an effective tool in reaching our citizens and educating them on a wide variety of issues. A practice drill this year helped us evaluate our Emergency Operations Center and provided valuable information for us to continue to make improvements.

I love to lift weights because it increases muscle. Muscle makes you stronger and your body more efficient. Like muscle as the framework for a strong body, similarly we have strengthened ordinances and programs to make the City more fit. Our Attorney's Office has helped with ordinances to improve many types of building, planning, development and zoning codes. These ordinances clarify issues for our citizens and business owners as they bring proposals to the City. Consistent ordinances allow everyone to move the same direction to keep the City a great place to live and do business. Our Recorder's Office has linked our business licenses to a document imaging system to simplify tracking of the 646 new business licenses issued in 2006, plus the over 3,000 existing active businesses in our City. We have worked with the MIS Department to make changes to the City webpage that will be in place soon to give it more muscle to serve our residents better.

Our residents can build muscle in many locations in the City. The Park Center had over 360,000 participants in activities available there in the last year. There are recreation activities available for every age group and interest. In Murray you can run in a race, ice skate in the Park, catch a fish, play any sport, go for a swim, and play a round of golf. Our Heritage Center provides health clinics, golf tournaments, exercise facilities and classes to appeal to our older residents. I believe opportunities are everywhere for living a healthy lifestyle in our City.

Mental muscle is also important to enjoying good health. Murray City Library provides a wide variety of resources. The Library will be undergoing some changes in the future to keep up with the demand for computer use and improve the flow and comfort of the Library. We can all learn even more by walking through the Museum or taking a historical tour of the cemetery. Another part of a well-rounded healthy life includes expanding interests in arts and music, which are also readily available in our City.

Our City Employees have made strides in improving their health and strengthening muscle this year. An amazing 21% decrease in the number of sick leave hours was recorded this year. Several departments made specific efforts

to work with their employees to make this happen. Also, this year with input from our Human Resources Department, I put into place a Wellness Council. Wellness Council members from various departments will coordinate educational programs and brown bag lunch speakers to remind our City employees to be more health conscience. I value the work of all our employees and am convinced that healthy employees are happy employees.

When the doctor takes your blood pressure, he uses a cuff like this. Blood pressure is a measurement of the force applied to the walls of the arteries as the heart pumps blood through the body. Blood pressure is continually changing depending on activity, temperature, diet, emotional state, and medication use. Good blood pressure results when these factors are in balance. Keeping the pressure in the City in balance is a daily challenge. For example, in 2006, 900 building permits were issued. Two thirds of them were for new construction while the other third was for renovations. Our neighborhoods are evolving as generations change ownership from the last to the present. This is also evident as work continues on the Fireclay RDA area and around the Intermountain Medical Center location.

Renovations are planned for the Fashion Place Mall. The General Growth Company is completing their proposals and I look forward to working with them to keep the Mall a vibrant gathering spot in our community. With the completion of the Intermountain Medical Center, we will see other changes take place at Cottonwood Hospital. It will continue to be a medical facility and serve orthopedic patients as a speciality. Murray has become a center for higher education as eight colleges educate over 5,800 students at their various campuses.

Work continues this year on re-aligning our fire stations to meet the needs of our residents. Quick response is a key to balancing the positions of our stations. A new station will be built this year on Vine Street, east of 900 East. We are also anticipating purchasing property for a station on the west side of the City to replace the undersized facility on Bullion Street. By balancing the building of these stations over the course of the next few years, they can be built without bonding or tax increases by using City reserve funds. We will also be reviewing the contract we have with the current ambulance provider and looking at all of our options for how this service is provided.

In balancing the needs of the future, I believe we need to prepare for future facilities. The Exploring Murray's Future Committee finished their work last summer. In presenting their report, they recommended three possible future sites for a public safety building and city hall complex. To continue with their work, I am recommending working with a consultant to consider possible footprints for these future facilities. At the Council's suggestion, only two of the sites will be considered - West Historic Downtown Murray and the current location. As the City continues to grow and be rebuilt, I believe it is prudent to have a plan to locate these facilities to serve the residents when funding is feasible.

I watched a class do pilates training the other day. The instructor explained how bringing all the muscles into play and teaching them to balance the body strengthens the core. It is not unlike the balance we are reaching for in our City. We need a balance of strong neighborhoods, commercial and retail areas, parks, schools, offices, and light industry. When all those parts are in balance, we have a strong core. Making all those areas successful requires sound infrastructure and excellent services.

Sometimes we are forced to stretch in ways that are uncomfortable. Last year we were pushed by Legislative removal of the Hold Harmless on sales tax to increase taxes. I must commend our Council for their proactive efforts in taking our reasoning and solutions to our residents. Education makes us strong. I have learned the more we can talk about issues together, the better the solution. When exercising, we sometimes hear the phrase "No Pain, No Gain." This was true this year. It was true when the chimneys had to come down. It is painful to lose a piece of history. On the other hand, consider the gains - where a smelter industry once stood, today a new giant rules the skyline standing for strength and a healthy City.

In November, I, along with others from our City, had the opportunity to attend the 2006 Phoenix Awards. The Murray Smelter Site received a national award for excellence in working to solve critical environmental challenges by transforming blighted and contaminated areas into productive new uses. When I look back over the years and see the amazing change on this piece of property, a new Intermountain Medical Center now stands as a monument, not only for the new life of this site, but as a beacon of the health of our City. Murray City will stand as a landmark for progress, improvement and history. I am proud to be a part of "the Healthiest, Best City in America."

Thank you.

B. CITIZEN COMMENTS (Comments are limited to 3 minutes unless otherwise approved by the Council.)

None

C. CONSENT AGENDA

Ms. Griffiths asked for the Council to consider all items together on the agenda.
No objections were noted.

1. Consider confirmation of the Mayor's appointment of Karen Daniels to the Planning & Zoning Commission, representing District 2, for a term expiring January 15, 2010.
2. Consider confirmation of the Mayor's reappointment of Ray Black to the Planning & Zoning Commission, representing District 3, for a term expiring January 15, 2010.
3. Consider confirmation of the Mayor's reappointment of Tim Taylor as a member-at-large of the Planning & Zoning Commission for a term expiring January 15, 2010. (Correction on date made from original agenda from January 5, 2010.)
4. Consider confirmation of the Mayor's appointment of Bob Herman as a member-at-large of the Heritage Center Advisory Board for a term expiring February 1, 2010.
5. Consider confirmation of the Mayor's appointment of Velma Klefner as a member-at-large of the Heritage Center Advisory Board for a term expiring February 1, 2010.
6. Consider confirmation of the Mayor's appointment of Auston Johnson as a member-at-large of the Heritage Center Advisory Board for a term expiring February 1, 2010.

7. Consider confirmation of the Mayor's reappointment of Leda Wright as a member-at-large of the Heritage Center Advisory Board for a term expiring February 1, 2010.

Ms. Dunn made the motion to approve all the appointments.
Mr. Dredge 2nd the motion.

Call vote recorded by Ms. Heales

AYE/NAY

<u> A </u>	Ms. Dunn
<u> A </u>	Mr. Dredge
<u> A </u>	Mr. Brass
<u> A </u>	Ms. Griffiths

Motion passed 4-0.

D. Public Hearing(s)

None

E. Unfinished Business

None.

F. New Business

1. Consider a Resolution approving the City's Application for Membership in the Sister Cities International.

Staff presentation: Shannon Jacobs, Council Director

Ms. Jacobs stated that Councilman Robbie Robertson sponsored this resolution. She said the City has had a sister relationship with Chai-Yi City, Taiwan, since 1986. She added that the Council has been a very active member in the Sister Cities International program which brings cities in Utah together that have a sister

city relationship in various countries throughout the world. Ms. Jacobs noted that the Murray Chamber of Commerce, who became co-participants with the City in the program, have agreed to pay the first year's membership.

Ms. Jacobs went on to say that the Sister Cities International network represents 2,400 communities in 130 countries around the world and is a very prestigious organization. She requested, on behalf of Robbie Robertson, for the Council's consideration of this resolution.

Mr. Brass made a motion to adopt the resolution.

Ms. Dunn 2nd the motion.

Call vote recorded by Ms. Heales

AYE/NAY

<u> A </u>	Ms. Dunn
<u> A </u>	Mr. Dredge
<u> A </u>	Mr. Brass
<u> A </u>	Ms. Griffiths

Motion passed 4-0.

2. Consider an Ordinance amending Chapter 12.14 of the Murray City Municipal Code relating to Telecommunications Franchises.

Staff Presentation: Frank Nakamura, City Attorney

Mr. Nakamura explained that the State Legislature had passed the Telecommunications License Tax Act, which stated that cities may not impose a franchise fee because of the 4% telecommunications tax assessment. The City did adopt an ordinance imposing the telecommunications tax, but due to an oversight the change was not made in the franchise ordinance. Mr. Nakamura added that this amendment removes any reference to the 4% telecommunications tax in the franchise fee ordinance, yet at the same time, maintains the construction and technical requirements that are in the franchise agreement. He said, in addition to the amendments, enhancements were added to the requirements regarding pole attachments and make-ready requirements.

Mr. Nakamura summarized his explanation by stating that the ordinance remains in effect as far as the construction and technical aspects, and removes any reference to a franchise fee, which would be covered under the ordinance

imposing the telecommunications tax.

Mr. Dredge made a motion to adopt the amendment.

Mr. Brass 2nd the motion.

Call vote recorded by Ms. Heales

AYE/NAY

<u> A </u>	Ms. Dunn
<u> A </u>	Mr. Dredge
<u> A </u>	Mr. Brass
<u> A </u>	Ms. Griffiths

Motion passed 4-0.

3. Consider a Resolution approving the form of the Equipment Lease Agreement with Zions First National Bank of Salt Lake City, Utah, Finding that it is in the best interests of the City to enter said Agreement, and authorizing the Execution and Delivery thereof.

Staff presentation: Don Whetzel, Director of Finance & Administration

Mr. Whetzel noted that during the budget process of June, 2006, the Council had approved a lease-purchase of two street sweepers under the Storm Drain fund for approximately \$350,000.00, and also approved the replacement of 71 golf carts under the Golf Course fund, for approximately \$190,000.00. The paperwork distributed reflects this information, with one caveat: The interest rate has been changed from 4.9% tax exempt, to a 6.3% taxable interest rate. The reason for doing so, is because we are currently in discussions with George K. Baum and Blake Wade, Ballard & Spar bond counsel, to reissue and refund the 1997 Municipal Building Authority (MBA) bonds and the 2001 MBA bonds. The combination of those two bonds, at 9.85 million dollars, would put us at \$10.3 million dollars which is over the maximum of \$10 million dollars that a municipality can issue at a tax exempt bank qualified rate for a year.

In doing a quick analysis, Mr. Whetzel stated that it would cost the city \$9,000.00 more in interest charges on the lease-purchase agreement for 1 year, but the City would be able to refinance this in January of 2008 at the tax exempt rate. If the City went with the other rate, it would cost the city at least \$80,000.00 a year more.

Mr. Nakamura added that the City was only made aware of this issue today, and would be working with Zions Bank to make these changes.

Ms. Dunn made the motion to adopt the Resolution.
Mr. Dredge 2nd the motion.

Call vote recorded by Ms. Heales

AYE/NAY

<u> A </u>	Ms. Dunn
<u> A </u>	Mr. Dredge
<u> A </u>	Mr. Brass
<u> A </u>	Ms. Griffiths

Motion passed 4-0.

G. Mayor

1. Report
No additional report.
2. Questions of the Mayor
None

Ms. Griffiths expressed her thanks to the City employees and Department Heads.

Ms. Dunn thanked all those who attended and supported the Boys and Girls Clubs 40 year Gala Event, and noted that Ms. Griffiths late husband, Judge LeRoy Griffiths, was honored as one of the original members of the board.

H. Adjournment