

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

The Murray City Municipal Council met as a Committee of the Whole on Tuesday, October 14, 2008, at Murray Power, 171 West 4800 South, Murray, Utah.

**Members in Attendance:**

Krista Dunn	Council Chairman
Jeff Dredge	Council Member
Robert D. Robertson	Council Member
Jim Brass	Council Member
Patricia W. Griffiths	Council Member

**Others in Attendance:**

Briant Farnsworth	Attorney's Office
Michael D. Wagstaff	Council Executive Director
Janet M. Lopez	Council Administrative Secretary
Jan Wells	Mayor's Chief of Staff
Blaine Haacke	Power General Manager
Greg Bellon	Power Assistant General Manager
Carrie Hart	Power
Ken White	Power
Erin McShay	Murray Journals

The meeting convened informally at the Murray Power warehouse and inventory facility at 5:05 p.m. Mr. Bellon welcomed those in attendance and stated that Carrie Hart, Materials Supervisor, would conduct the warehouse tour.

Ms. Hart began at the east side door, pointing out a small office for two inventory control clerks. These persons handle issue and receipt of stock. Behind that office is a locked tool storage room that contains small tools, gloves and batteries.

The tour proceeded to the north end of the building where bins containing hardware and bolts are kept. They are categorized by number and controlled by a computerized inventory. Ms. Hart reorders as needed to keep an ample supply on hand. In this hallway there is storage for underground parts and items used for the gas turbines. Ms. Hart estimated that there are more than \$300,000 in parts for the turbines.

Ms. Dunn asked if theft is a problem.

Ms. Hart responded that during her time at the warehouse, there had been only one incident. This was a group of people stealing wire from the outside storage lot. They were seen on cameras and apprehended. She explained that all the expensive copper wiring is kept in

another locked storage building.

Mr. White added that there had been some vandalism at Murray Parkway where some connections were taken. He also mentioned an intrusion at one substation that amounted to a minimal loss.

Ms. Wells explained that on one occasion the lights were out at the Park & Ride lot at 6400 South and 10<sup>th</sup> East. The Power Department determined that the electrical wires to the lighting had been cut, which cost about \$3,000 to repair.

Mr. White mentioned that a \$60,000 grant from Homeland Security had helped to cover the costs of surveillance cameras at this facility and the substation.

Ms. Griffiths asked if the department had to worry about obsolescence of the electrical parts.

Ms. Hart answered that sometimes there are parts that can no longer be used. One example is mercury vapor lamps. She continued, explaining that on large ticket items the department usually keeps one of each part for back up.

Ms. Wells commented that if there were a true emergency or disaster then the City must be prepared.

Mr. Haacke told of a time when there was a squall in the Provo area. Provo power did not have ample supplies on hand to make the necessary repairs, so it obtained a number of items from Murray. Provo is a similar sized city and Mr. Haacke stated that it had 36 transmission poles and 35 distribution poles all go down during this storm. Among other things, they also needed 2,500 machine bolts and 4,300 feet of triplex, which Murray could help them with. It is the hope that if Murray ever had a need such as this, then Provo would be willing to assist in return. Murray reordered those materials and was reimbursed by Provo.

Continuing along the west wall of the warehouse and to the south, Ms. Hart showed the group where lighting fixtures and overhead equipment are kept. One aisle contains janitorial supplies that are stored for the entire City. There is more than \$65,000 just in janitorial supplies. When they are used by various departments, that department reimburses power.

Another aisle contains all the meters and testing materials.

Ms. Griffiths asked if any of the decorative yard lighting is left in stock.

Mr. White said that lighting is no longer available and the City must convert to newer options as the budget allows. Replacement is being done at a one, for two or three, ratio. When

the Power Department gets calls pertaining to the older lighting fixtures, those fixtures are tested and repaired, or if removal is necessary, due to safety concerns, then the replacement is with the newer lamps. There is still up to \$400,000 in the older decorative lighting being used.

The south aisle of this building contains the storage of small copper wire reels. This building is on constant lock down.

Exiting the south door, Ms. Hart escorted the group to another smaller storage building behind. This facility is also secure around the clock. It has the very large spools of copper wire. One medium sized wire reel is valued at \$25,000. This medium sized wire costs about \$11 per foot. All total there is more than \$500,000 of copper wire contained in the building.

Continuing on south is an outside storage area. There are a number of bins for scrap wire and metal; these materials are recycled. Also on the lot are rolls of aluminum wire, used in subdivisions. There are pad-mount and pole-mount transformers for back up. Of the number 25 transformers, a total of 500 is in use in the system, and 240 are kept on hand as surplus. In the outside yard, extra conduit and street lighting bases are kept. The wood and steel poles ranging from 40 feet to 100 feet in length are kept at another substation.

To the east is an older brick building that Ms. Hart said was formerly a diesel generating plant. It was used for peak periods, although, it became very expensive to maintain. To the south is the building that houses the three natural gas turbines.

Back in the original warehouse, several of the group members mentioned how clean the building is kept. Everyone was amazed at the cleanliness and organization.

Ms. Hart expressed that her goal is to get all materials bar coded. She said that will depend on MIS and how quickly they can help convert.

Mr. Haacke concluded the tour by stating that many cities have come to tour Murray's facility. He thanked everyone for their attendance.

The Committee of the Whole tour was completed at 5:45 p.m.

Janet M. Lopez  
Council Administrative Secretary