



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

The Murray City Municipal Council met as a Committee of the Whole on Tuesday, April 7, 2009, in the Murray City Center, Conference Room #107, 5025 South State Street, Murray, Utah.

Members in Attendance:

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

Others in Attendance:

Daniel Snarr	Mayor
Frank Nakamura	City Attorney
Michael D. Wagstaff	Council Executive Director
Janet M. Lopez	Council Office Administrator
Jan Wells	Mayor's Chief of Staff
Craig Hall	Ken Price/Babe Ruth
Raj Dhaliwal	Murray High Student
Zachery Fountain	Legislative Analyst
Tim Tingey	Community & Econ. Dev. Director
Pat Wilson	Finance Director
Margaret Pahl	Citizen
Kim Sorensen	Park's Department
Doug Hill	Public Services Director

Member Excused:

Patricia W. Griffiths

Chairman Dredge called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and welcomed those in attendance. Mr. Dredge excused Ms. Griffiths due to travel.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Robertson moved approval of the Committee of the Whole minutes from the meeting held on March 24, 2009. Mr. Brass seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

Business Item #1 Babe Ruth World Series Presentation - Craig Hall

Mr. Dredge introduced Craig Hall who stated that he is grateful to be present to represent the Friends of Ken Price organization and the folks involved with the Babe Ruth League. He related his pleasure to report that, as the Council has trusted these groups to organize the World Series, their share of money necessary has been raised to support this effort. The City's commitment of \$30,000, \$10,000 spread out over the last three budget years, has been kept.

Mr. Robertson pointed out that the Mayor has had a large landscaping project completed in addition to the funding support.

Mr. Hall continued by distributing an outline that Mr. Sorensen developed. There are ten teams participating with eight regional areas represented. The regions include the following: New England, Middle Atlantic, Ohio Valley, Southeast, Midwest Plains, Southwest, Pacific Northwest, and Pacific Southwest. His hope is that Murray and Taylorsville teams will make it into the finals. That will insure success because the crowds will be greater.

The opening day is August 21, 2009, with an *Ice Breaker Barbecue* at Willow Park and an *Opening Banquet* that night, at the Murray Park Center. All games will be played in the Ken Price Ball Park which is a tradition that was started 40 years ago. Mr. Hall commented that his love for this Park is deep, because he actually played there for Ken Price and Don Winski. He has tickets for the Council Members and Mayor to all the events and he hopes they will attend the nine days of the Series. Mr. Hall has an idea for someone to throw the first pitch. Passes are now on sale at the Park and Recreation office, which are \$50 for an entire family for the tournament, and \$30 for an individual. It is specifically priced so that families will be able to attend, however, that amount is necessary for budgetary purposes.

Mr. Hall announced that host families for the players are needed. He asked that Council Members talk about this in the Districts, stating that housing is requested in groups of two or three players and community residents close by would be best so that transportation does not become an issue. It is a commitment for nine to ten days. Any family that loves kids and sports are requested to contact Kim Sorensen to become hosts.

Crystal Inn, located on Winchester, will be the major hotel, sponsoring a coaches breakfast every morning. Volunteers are needed for host families, ticket sales, security, food service, announcers, National Anthem singers, and other functions. The Boys and Girls Club will serve as the hospitality area for volunteers, coaches and league officials during their down time.

Concessions are a concern explained Mr. Hall. He stated that the stand is not

large enough for the crowds expected at this event. Mr. Sorensen has arranged for the Wasatch Academy to handle the concessions and provide food sales throughout the tournament. This will be a great opportunity for the Academy to make money during this downturn in the economy, and they have the experience and equipment to do so. The young men and women will be helping.

The outline that was distributed contains information regarding the budget. Just that day, Mr. Hall was notified that the Murray area Chevrolet dealers committed to \$20,000 in cash donations. The Friends of Ken Price already have \$83,000 in gifts, therefore, the budget has been met. He expects this to be a very positive event for everyone. The excess finances will be put right back into the field to continue the improvements and traditions that have been ongoing for the last 40 years.

There are many in-kind donations from Crystal Inn, Noodles World, Red Robin and Academy Sports. Fashion Place Mall, General Growth Properties, will put together *Welcome to Murray* packets, including mall discounts for the merchants and food establishments. It will be a good way to get people to the mall.

With only five months until the event the participants are all very excited with the progress and forthcoming tournament.

Mr. Robertson asked, from past experience, what kind of monetary impact this tournament has had on other cities. Mr. Sorensen has attended two Babe Ruth World Series in small communities. In Van Buren, Arkansas it was estimated that the impact was more than \$2 million. The first World Series he attended was in Longview, Washington and their estimate of financial gain was \$3 to \$4 million.

Mr. Hall stated that the resources from the City, such as Police assistance, will be needed. The Fire Department with the Emergency Medical Technicians (EMT) will also be called on. In the tradition of Murray City, it should go off as scheduled.

Mr. Robertson asked if some of the older leagues might come to Murray in other years. Mr. Hall responded that the sites are generally rotated to other cities. It may be awhile before Babe Ruth comes here again. The best shot might be with the high schools, by going to the activities association or, actually, with the American Legion. There would be some issues to work through. The complaints have to do with the length of the field, however, some are shorter. Ken Price left field is 350 feet, which is longer than Franklin Covey Field. The attitude is with the coaches. A great experience may shorten that period of time.

Mayor Snarr thanked Kim Sorensen and Doug Hill and the public service department for landscape, sod and sprinklers for the area at an extremely reasonable price. He is excited for the entire event, and hopes to get another burger place, as well.

Mr. Hall loves the field and wants to see the kids have a great time.

Mr. Dredge thanked Mr. Hall for his time and effort. He asked Mr. Wagstaff if there was a staff report.

Staff Report

Mr. Wagstaff reminded everyone of the Utah League of Cities and Towns St. George conference coming the following week.

There being no further business, Mr. Dredge adjourned the meeting at 6:40 p.m.

Janet M. Lopez
Council Office Administrator