

# **MURRAY CITY-SCHOOL COORDINATING COUNCIL MINUTES**

The Murray City School Coordinating Council met on Thursday, November 29, 2017 at 5:01 p.m. in Conference Room #107, of the Murray City Center, 5025 South State Street, Murray, Utah.

## **Present:**

### **Murray City Council**

Brett Hales - Chair  
Blair Camp  
Dave Nicponski  
Diane Turner  
Jim Brass  
Pam Cotter

### **School Board Members**

Cristin Longhurst  
Kami Anderson  
Belinda Johnson  
Glo Merrill  
Jaren Cooper

## **Others Present:**

Pattie Johnson  
Dale Cox  
Janet Towers  
Tim Tingey  
Janice Strobell

Superintendent Jennifer Covington  
Jennifer Brass  
D. Wright  
Craig Burnett  
Richard Reese

## **Welcome**

Mr. Hales welcomed everyone to the Murray City School Coordinating Council (CSCC) meeting and noted the presence of Superintendent Covington, and Ms. Cotter, Interim Council Member for District two.

Ms. Cotter was happy to be part of the meeting and congratulated Mr. Cox for winning the 2018 election for Council Member of district two.

Mr. Hales congratulated Mr. Camp for his election win, as Murray City Mayor.

## **1. Approval of Minutes**

Mr. Hales asked for approval of the minutes from April 13, 2017. Ms. Longhurst moved to approve and Ms. Turner seconded the motion. All were in favor.

## **2. Business Items**

### **2.1 School District Report**

**Ms. Covington**

The request for proposal (RFP) on the old Hillcrest Junior High School property closed in September 2017. Several bids were received and the choice was narrowed between two prospects. Both developers are considering hotels, retail, and office space on the property, therefore, both proposals are currently under review and the hope is to select a final bid within the next two months.

A boundary adjustment, approved during a school district public hearing, was made at Winchester Street and 1300 West affecting a portion of Murray City. Residents in the area were paying taxes to Murray City, although considered a region of the Jordan School District – which was confusing. A map was shared depicting the boundary adjustment on 1300 West, where all but two residents were already attending Murray Schools by permit; therefore, enrollment adjustments were not significant. The county was also pleased to see the change.

Ms. Cotter asked what Murray school students in that area were attending. Superintendent Covington stated students are bussed to Longview Elementary School.

An evaluation of school buildings was approved by the board, which includes, capacity, life span, and the academic ability to educate students. Based on results, the hope is to attain a long term plan for remodeling, and rebuilding many of the city's schools. As part of the plan, additional boundary adjustments could be considered at that time as well.

Superintendent Covington thanked Chief Burnett and the police department for having assessed safety routes near a particular school, where parents expressed concern.

Superintendent Covington noted a conversation she had with Dr. Hirase upon his departure, regarding the Creekside District Office property. Since the city has first right of refusal, the school district is interested in having further discussions about it in the near future.

## **2.2 Economic Development Report**

**Tim Tingey**

Mr. Tingey provided a slide show and gave an update on the following:

Fashion Place Mall: Macey's Department store opened over Thanksgiving, as well as, new stores Lolli and Pops, Stance, Oakley, Kupbop, a Korean restaurant, and MOD Pizza. Claire's and Lululemon, relocated to new spaces within the mall. Zara, a first for Utah, is a 27,000 square foot clothing store and still under construction. The mall is doing very well and is the most productive per square foot of sales in Salt Lake City and the tri state area.

Mr. Tingey reviewed projects underway:

- Metro Fireclay – Consisting of 135 one-bedroom units, 40 two bedroom units, and a large parking structure to be completed in the spring of 2018.
- Security National Financial Corporation– The first of many buildings to be constructed in the area. Finicity, one of the tenants, finalized a major expansion and recently held a ribbon cutting. Long term plans on the seven acre project include a parking structure, and over 1 million square of office space.
- Mixed use development on Commerce Drive – Apartment construction began for 121 one bedroom units, 135 two bedroom units, and 38 studio units. The lower level will consist of 10,000 square feet for commercial use. Completion is expected in one year.
- EMI Health - Construction began for a business office slightly under 90,000 square feet, located across the street from the Murray School District office building. A grand opening is scheduled for summer of 2018.
- Advocates Law Offices – The 21,000 square foot building, located on 737 East, Winchester Street, should be completed in June of 2018.
- Vine Street Condominiums – Construction began on 5411 South Vine Street, consisting of two 9,000 square foot buildings.

- Commercial office building on Woodrow Street – Greater Endodontics would be located in the 10,000 square foot building.
- The Transformation Center – The facility is considered a game changer for Murray City, due to what the organization brings to the community. The leadership academy will provide training for health care administrators from around the world, located on State Street and about 5000 South.
- Gowers Warehouse – The warehouse is 10,000 square feet, located on 486 West 4800 South.
- Land Ranchers – The 12,000 square foot facility is located on 428 West 4800 South.
- Ortho Star – An 18,000 square foot medical office located on Woodrow Street.
- Ivory Homes – The project is near Bullion Street, consisting of 78 lots, providing new homes between 8,000 and 10,000 square feet. A rezone is necessary for construction to begin in summer of 2018.
- Garbett Homes – The project is located on 700 West, consists of 125 lots, and construction begins next spring.
- Hamlet Homes –The Balintore Project, located on 5600 South 800 east, provides 18 townhomes, and six single family homes.
- Washington Federal – Will construct a new office building on Fashion Boulevard - northeast of Fashion Place Mall.
- Ore Sampling Mill – The Jesse Knight Entrepreneur Center hopes to construct on the site. Mr. Tingey shared renderings of the facility, however, he noted ongoing challenges at the site, due to significant environmental issues. The hope is to get the area facilitated for the project, which is an office space concept of 51,000 square feet - including conference and training rooms.
- The MCCD – After acquiring approximately 25 properties, many of which have been cleaned up and cleared - the city is still working towards constructing a new city hall, and fire station. The Murray Mansion and the Murray Chapel are owned by the city and will remain part of city planning. The city owns the Murray Theater and plans to restore the facility with grant funding to be utilized by arts groups.

### **2.3 Police**

### **Chief Burnett**

Nothing out of the ordinary was reported regarding junior high and high school students; however, the chief said bullying, both in person, and in cyber space; as well as, vaping, which is smoking electronic cigarettes, were ongoing challenges. He noted new construction on Woodrow Street detoured kids from loitering in the area during school hours – which was positive.

Safety concerns at school crosswalks were discussed at length. Chief Burnett reported the following incidents and concerns:

- Two kids were hit during morning hours, at McMillan School on November 28, 2017. The incident occurred after flashing lights were turned off and the guard left. The students were not at fault because they were within the crosswalk - when a driver turned left and hit them. Both students suffered minor injuries and were extremely lucky. The elderly driver was sighted and will be reevaluated for holding a driver's license.
- Students have been struck by distracted drivers near Hillcrest Junior High school, within crosswalks, when lights were flashing.
- Due to the lack of parking for drop off and pick up, major concerns were noted at Horizon Elementary on Germania. At the north crosswalk kids are running across the street to meet cars.
- Grant Elementary noted similar complaints during drop off and pick up time.
- The lack of flashing lights and crossing guards at Riverview Junior High School was noted. Chief Burnett explained secondary schools, like Riverview, do not lawfully warrant school zones. Therefore, the topic is always debated by parents new to the area. Due to lack of parking for drop off and pick up, major concerns are noticeable on Tripp Lane, where traffic backup is significant. The idea of switching the process around was considered - by having cars drop off and pick up in the larger lot, instead of buses, and have busses use the smaller parking lot, which might improve traffic flow.

Chief Burnett said most students do not walk to school anymore, and therefore, heavy traffic is common around schools during morning and afternoon hours, however, traffic is slow. Suggestions would be considered to help improve the above situations. He said safety of students is always priority, and the city has not seen these occurrences in the past, therefore, police officers would continue to monitor all school zones diligently.

A discussion occurred about why the school district made a decision two years ago to discontinue bus service on the south side of Winchester Street. As a result, a school zone was installed with flashing lights, and the city provided two crossing guards. However, since the number of students crossing reduced to four kids per day, an evaluation of the area would be necessary. Criteria for collecting such a small number of students was not being met, and the distance to the school just under one mile were the reasons bus service was stopped. The bus route had always been grandfathered into route, because Winchester was such a busy road – even though criteria was not met. All agreed further discussion would be necessary, as to whether bus service should be reinstated.

The comment was made that Murray consists of many busy roads, therefore, students are required to cross them, which was concerning. Chief Burnett stressed he would not pull crossing guards from busy roads, even when the number of students crossing became minimal. The cost for two crossing guards per year is \$5,600.

Mr. Nicponski asked about drug and alcohol abuse. The chief reported only two arrests. Vaping and continued marijuana use among students usually occurs at vacant areas near the high school.

In closing, the chief noted adolescent concerns did include common fights, which were not gang related or prominent in Murray.

Board members agreed, it was a common feeling most students feel secure knowing there is an officer on campus.

## **2.4 Mayors Report**

### **Blair Camp**

Mayor Camp said it was important for the city to be coordinating closely with the school district in relationship to emergency preparedness, and therefore, he requested a report from the emergency manager in order to attain current planning information. He felt it was not a matter of *if* an incident would occur, but *when*, an incident might occur in a school. In addition, knowing how utilizing the high school would fall into play after a catastrophic event was noted. He stressed the importance of being prepared for both large events. It was noted that a safety committee meeting would be held at the high school, on December 1, 2017 in order to address all safety concerns.

Mayor Camp announced new staff in his office as; Doug Hill, Chief Administrative Officer (COA); and Jennifer Heaps, Communications and Public Relations Director.

Mayor Camp invited everyone to participate in the following:

- Christmas tree lighting - Saturday, December 6, 2017, at city hall, 6:00 p.m.
- View indoor Christmas tree - Decorated in honor of Mayor Ted Eyre, located in the foyer of city hall.
- Basketball game - December 19, 2017, between Murray High and Cottonwood High School, 7:00 p.m. at Cottonwood High. Mayor Ted Eyre would be honored during half-time activities.
- Fundraiser – “Great Futures” campaign, attributed for Murray and Salt Lake Boys and Girls Clubs. In order to fund the expansion of both club facilities, the goal to raise \$7 million is underway. The expansion would accommodate 60

more kids at both locations – who are currently on waiting lists. So far, \$5.6 million has been raised, thanks to several generous large donors.

## **2.5 Other**

No comments were made to report.

## **3. Internal Business**

**Brett Hales**

The following applies for 2018:

Meeting dates: January 17  
April 10  
October 17

Place and time: Murray School District office building,  
5:00 p.m. (instead of 5:30 p.m.)

New officers: Belinda Johnson - Chair  
Dale M. Cox - Vice Chair

**4. Adjournment** - Mr. Hales adjourned the meeting at 6:23 pm

**Pattie Johnson**  
**City Council Office Administrator**