



## 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 February 20, 2018 in the Murray City Center, Conference Room #107, 5025 South State Street, Murray Utah.

### Council Members in Attendance:

Diane Turner, Chair	District #4
Dave Nicponski, Vice-Chair	District #1
Dale Cox	District #2
Jim Brass	District #3
Brett Hales	District #5

### Others in Attendance:

Blair Camp	Mayor	Jan Lopez	Council Director
Doug Hill	Chief Administrative Officer	G.L. Critchfield	City Attorney
Kim Sorensen	Parks and Recreation Director	Pattie Johnson	Council Office
Cory Wells	Water Superintendent	Jennifer Brass	Resident
Brent Barnett	Resident		

Ms. Turner called the Committee of the Whole meeting to order at 5:45 p.m. and welcomed those in attendance.

### **1. Approval of Minutes**

Ms. Turner asked for comments or a motion on the minutes from December 5, 2018, and December 12, 2018 Committee of the Whole. Mr. Brass moved approval. Mr. Nicponski seconded the motion. All were in favor.

### **2. Discussion Items**

2.1 Presentation of the 2017 Municipal Wastewater Planning Program Report - Cory Wells

Mr. Wells reviewed the annual report required from the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) that had yes or no answers to several questions, as well as, detailed information relating to waste water. In order to maintain a Utah Pollution Discharge Elimination System (UPDES) Collections Systems Operating Permit, the report required adoption by the city council and considered during a public hearing on March 6, 2018. Mr. Astill completed the report required by the state, to be submitted on April 16, 2018.

Mr. Wells shared major items on the report, reviewed a few sections and noted some questions on the report as follows:

- Financial Evaluation: Annual charge to Murray residents - \$380.76 or approximately \$31.00 per month.
- Capital Improvement Funds: Mr. Wells explained the city has sufficient funds in place for the next 5-10 years, however, 20 year estimations were unclear at this time.
- The question was asked whether the city had a written safety plan in place for the sewer system. The answer was yes. The sewer system management plan is kept in city shop offices, and can be found on the city's website.
- A rate study was completed in 2017.
- The question was asked what year the collection system was first constructed. The answer, as records indicate, was 1917.
- Discharge: there are two classes of sanitary sewer overflows (SSO's) - Class One, and Class Two. Mr. Wells explained the city was fortunate to have no SSO's reported in 2017, which, he felt was due to several factors. For instance, having well trained staff and good equipment, which should be traced back to the city council, for approving adequate funding necessary for providing staff training, and equipment in order to maintain the best possible system.
- Biochemical Oxygen Demands (BOD's) - There were no large businesses or residential complexes within the last year that influenced BODs, which is the amount of oxygen needed by organisms to break down organic material in wastewater.
- There were 61 new residential sewer connections, and eight - new commercial/industrial connections in the last year.
- Based on population, the city's collection system is graded at a Class III Level. Mr. Wells explained Murray has eight Direct-Responsible Charge (DRC), certified system operators trained at the Class IV Level - placing city employees above the require Class III, which was considered a positive factor.
- A question asked whether the city had implemented a preventative maintenance program for the collection system. The answer was yes. Mr. Wells explained, by integrating two systems - City Works, and GIS data - a good asset management tool was utilized in order to keep the system operating better. In addition, they had improved control over all maintenance, by providing good tracking for cleaning the system and monitoring trouble spots.

- As part of a five-year audit, the Sewer System Management Plan (SSMP) was audited in 2017. Mr. Wells explained a complete audit of the program was conducted where necessary changes regarding City Works, work requests, and work order tracking was made. The collection system changed from four active lift stations - to three in 2016.
- Mr. Wells noted cleaning was recommended at least once every two years. Therefore, because Murray's system contains 132 miles of sewer pipe, by the time cleaning was completed in 2016, it was time to begin again in 2017.
- Final Narrative Evaluation: Murray City's wastewater collection system is in good operational condition. There are existing trouble spots and areas identified for cleaning and corrective action plans. Two of the city's three lift stations were rebuilt in the last 15 years and the last one is in the design phase to be reconstructed in the current budget year. Therefore, the 2017 Master Plan identified a lift station rebuild, a few sewer line replacements, with the majority of recommendations to complete pipe rehabilitations. Mr. Wells noted the Walden lift station would be rebuilt this summer.

Mr. Cox noted the cost of projected capital improvements at \$2 million in 2018, and \$1.45 million in 2019, and wondered if funds were available. Mr. Wells responded - funds were projected from revenue and available for the capital improvement projects.

Ms. Turner wondered if report questions were the same from year to year. Mr. Wells responded the questions were all routine each year.

**2.2 Enacting Chapter 2.24 and amending multiple sections of the Murray City Municipal Code relating to the Public Services Department to create the Public Works Department and Parks and Recreation Department.** - Doug Hill

Mr. Hill explained the proposed ordinance amendment would provide two changes:

1. Since there was no longer a Murray Public Services Department in the city, wording found in Murray City Municipal Code noted as, public services department, would be omitted and replaced with either the words, public works, or parks and recreation department where applicable. The technical changes would effect and formalize Murray City Municipal Code and provide better wording for the two new divisions. He said 95% of all the changes would be related to creating these divisions.
2. A recommendation to change City Code, Section 2.62, relates to the residency requirement for certain individuals in the city. Currently, the public services director, the fire chief, and the chief of police are required to live in Murray City, or within 10 miles of city boundaries. Mayor Camp recommended eliminating the residency requirement, therefore, Section 2.62.030 would be stricken from City Code and people holding those positions would not be required to live in the city. Mr. Hill noted the requirement for Mayor Pro Tem would remain the same by having the residency requirement.

Ms. Turner shared concern about changing the residency and felt the requirement was positive. She felt having those particular heads of staff present, and nearby during emergency situations was very important for citizens, and wondered why the change was needed.

Mayor Camp understood Ms. Turner's concern, however, he would point out two issues. One being, that currently the city was not requiring the police chief to live within the city limits – the police chief could live 10 miles out. As a result, he felt city code should be the same for a future fire chief. Secondly, he said command level officers for both fire and police departments were always on duty, 24 hours a day to handle initial emergency situations, and therefore, they would both be called in, regardless. He noted as a former fire chief in Provo City, living 30 minutes away was not an issue, and therefore, this revision would make it easier for future hiring, regardless of where someone lived. He recommended the elimination of the residency requirement, and felt the change would provide the latitude for future mayors, and not just him, to hire the best qualified people for these positions. He noted the lack of housing in Murray City, which would make it difficult with the current requirement, for candidates to find affordable housing. He believed when hiring, the city should not be limited to the resident requirement, and he preferred to look at the situation as a competency issue, as opposed to a residential issue. He stressed at minimum, if the council did not want to eliminate the residency requirement, at least they might consider expanding the distance for future fire chiefs to be the same as those for police chiefs – or, bring the requirement of the police chief back to Murray, which was not currently being upheld. His overall recommendation was to be more concerned about the kind of job a person could provide, and not so much where a person lived.

Mr. Hales wondered how Murray Code changed in the first place – requiring those individuals to live in Murray City. Mr. Hill said the city had no residency requirement prior to 1998 and code changed during Mayor Pett's final year of service, just prior to that of Mayor Snarr. For various reasons, the city council approved the residency requirement for specific positions in the city. At the time, the requirement would affect four positions: the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO), the police chief, the fire chief, and the public services director, which Mr. Hill felt was an attempt to force Darcy to move to Murray if she accepted the position of CAO. He explained the ordinance changed over time, to eliminate the CAO requirement, and expanded the police chief position to a 10 mile radius outside city boundaries, not to include the fire chief position.

Mr. Hales felt it was positive that specific employees originate from Murray City who would provide a personal investment to the city, with an automatic buy-in, which was important to him. It made a big difference to him knowing that personnel cared about their own city, and were making decisions effecting their own city. Mr. Nicponski agreed.

Mayor Camp explained the residency requirement existed for all firefighters when he was hired with the Murray Fire Department. He agreed it became less practical over the years, and therefore, as mayor, he felt when hiring department heads, he would like to consider someone who might be moving up in ranks as the best candidate – someone who might not live in Murray.

Mr. Brass felt Murray was a different town and there was something about living here and the attachment people have to the city, he therefore, shared a desire to see local people hired. However, his concern would be the cost of affordable, and available housing in Murray, which limited the pool

of applicants for those positions. He felt even if the city hires from within, and someone from the ranks rises to the top that did not live in Murray, the requirement would force someone to purchase a home, creating undue strain on the family. Regarding a big catastrophe, such as, an earthquake, he felt it would be difficult to move across the entire valley, regardless, therefore he did not see a problem with the proposed change.

Ms. Turner said it was wonderful knowing Murray's Police Chief Burnett and Fire Chief Rodriguez were citizens in the community, and felt because of it they had their fingers on the pulse of what was going on in Murray. She wondered if perhaps future applicants residing in Murray could be filtered by giving them more hiring points, and possibly codify the process. She understood the lack of housing, however, thought individuals who held those positions were paid sufficiently, in order to afford a home in Murray.

Mr. Hill said the proposed amendment for both changes in code would be presented at the March 6, 2018 council meeting for council consideration.

**3. Announcements:** Ms. Lopez made the following announcements:

- Chamber of Commerce Ribbon Cuttings: February 28, 2018, Papa Murphy's Pizza, 5692 South 900 East, 11:00 a.m., and March 22, 2018, National Commissions for Certification of Crane Operators, 52050 S. Commerce, Suite 100, 3:00 p.m.
- Chamber of Commerce Gala – March 24, 2018, Fundraising Event, Located at the Hotel RL in Salt Lake City, from 6:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m.
- Utah League of Cities and Towns, Mid-year Conference held in St. George, Utah, April 25-27<sup>th</sup>.

**4. Adjournment:** 6:15 p.m.

**Pattie Johnson**  
**Council Office Administrator II**