

# Murray City Municipal Council Chambers Murray City, Utah

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**T**he Municipal Council of Murray City, Utah, met on Tuesday, the 30<sup>TH</sup> day of March, 2010 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:

Jeff Dredge,	Council Chair
Krista Dunn,	Council Member
Darren Stam,	Council Member - Conducted
Jared Shaver,	Council Member - Excused
Jim Brass,	Council Member - Excused

Others who attended:

Dan Snarr,	Mayor
Jan Wells,	Chief of Staff
Michael Wagstaff,	City Council Director
Carol Heales,	City Recorder
Frank Nakamura,	City Attorney
Pete Fondaco,	Police Chief
Doug Hill,	Public Works Director
Tim Tingey,	Community & Economic Development Director
Gil Rodriguez,	Fire Chief
Mike Dykman,	Battalion Chief
Pat Wilson,	Finance Director
Anne von Weller,	Deputy Director, Public Services
Zachery Fountain,	Legislative Affairs
Rondi Knowlton,	Mayor's Office
Whitney Tyrrell,	Mayor's Office
Blaine Haacke,	General Manager, Power Department
Greg Bellon,	Assistant General Manager, Power Department
David Larsen,	IT Director
Michael Williams,	Justice Court
Lonnie Bennett,	Animal Control
Diana Johnson,	Animal Control

Sheri Van Bibber,  
Jay Bolwinkel,  
Citizens

Exchange Service Club  
Exchange Service Club

**A. OPENING CEREMONIES**

Mr. Stam excused Mr. Brass and Mr. Shaver.

1. Pledge of Allegiance - Troy Christensen, Boy Scouts
2. Mr. Stam stated that there is a tradition in Murray City to invite the Boy Scouts in attendance to stand and introduce themselves, their Troop Leaders, and which Merit Badges they are working on.

The Scouts in attendance stood and introduced themselves and their leaders.

3. Special Recognitions

**Consider a Joint Resolution of the Mayor and the Municipal Council of Murray City, Utah in support of the Murray Exchange Club recognizing and declaring April 2010 as National Child Abuse Prevention Month.**

Staff presentation: Mayor Snarr and Jay Bolwinkel

Mr. Stam read the Resolution in its entirety.

Ms. Dunn made a motion to approve the Resolution.  
Mr. Dredge 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion.

Call vote recorded by Carol Heales:

  A   Ms. Dunn  
  A   Mr. Dredge  
  A   Mr. Stam

Motion passed 3-0

Mayor Snarr expressed his appreciation to the members of the Exchange Club for their valiant efforts every year. As a City, we are very proud to support this

program, to prevent child abuse; it is a serious challenge, that unfortunately, many families don't have the coping skills needed to address mentoring their children in such a way without using violence. The City appreciates the Exchange Club, and their efforts over the past several years to support preventing child abuse in our community; we proudly fly the flag and we will be flying that flag from April 1<sup>st</sup> to April 30<sup>th</sup>. The Mayor, again, thanked everyone for their support in this effort.

Mr. Bolwinkle, President, Murray Exchange Club

Mr. Bolwinkle stated that they appreciate the opportunity to be here, and for the wonderful Resolution that the City has put together. They have just received a new flag this year, and are excited to see it flying soon. They will be having their annual bike ride, starting at Southwood Park, and he invited everyone to participate; it starts at 6:00 p.m., and they ride down to City Hall, and tie ribbons at City Hall, which represent some of the abuse cases and some of the child abuse things that have happened over the past year, giving people an idea of the real problem that they deal with.

Sheri Van Bibber, Murray Exchange Club

Ms. Van Bibber said that they had 215 cases of child abuse reported in 2009; they come under child abuse, sexual abuse, sexual exploitation, rape of a child, domestic violence in the presence of a child, and child neglect. They tell us to times that number by three - to come up with the number that were not reported.

Monday night, for anyone who does not want to do the bike ride, they take a truck with a bunch of little guys that have been in families where they have dealt with this, and they lead the pack off, and then they take the truck and take their bikes when they can't go any further, and they go the rest of the way on Harley's. Everyone always wants to go with the Mayor, so he always has a 'co-pilot' on the ride; they will be tying 215 ribbons out front, and will love everyone's help with that. There are eight people that we have lost to domestic violence here in Murray, and they will be flying the flag with a story for each person they have lost due to domestic violence.

Ms. Van Bibber said that they appreciate the support, and you can help when you drive by, to bring awareness to Murray that we do have an issue, and they need to get the tools out to families to help resolve this.

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

Bill Finch, 1055 Chevy Chase Drive, Murray, Ut

Mr. Finch made a recommendation to the Public Works Department on filling pot-holes; he checked with someone he knows that has been in the asphalt business, and the preferred method seems to be to throw a shovel full in the hole and to hit it once or twice with a shovel and then go down the street. There would be a 100% improvement if you had a portable gas compactor; it would drastically improve the life of the pot-hole, and he doesn't feel that it would be a big expenditure. There are a lot of pot-holes around the City, and he would like the City to look into spending a few dollars.

**Public comment closed**

**C. CONSENT AGENDA**

None scheduled

**D. PUBLIC HEARINGS**

1. Staff and sponsor presentations, public comment and discussion prior to Council action on the following matter:

- 1. Consider an Ordinance amending Section 17.160.030 of the Murray City Municipal Code relating to motor vehicle towing services in the Commercial Development Mixed-Use (C-D) Zoning District.**

Staff presentation: Tim Tingey, Community Economic Development Director.

Mr. Tingey stated that in 1991, the Murray City Council passed an Ordinance excluding towing services and impound yards from a C-D-C area. In 2007, the new zoning ordinance was adopted, and there was an oversight, which included it once again in the C-D-C area; this is being brought forward to have this modification change made, based on a number of findings, which he has outlined in the letter given to the Council. Primarily, the reasoning is to address the issues of issues and compatibility of uses; towing yards aren't compatible for the C-D-C area, which is related more towards retail services, where people are going in and out of businesses, and towing yards are not conducive to that area. They are allowed in a manufacturing general area, so there is plenty of opportunity, lots of areas that are manufacturing general areas in our community.

Based upon these findings, staff is recommending approval of the modification to the Ordinance.

**Public Hearing opened for public comment.**

None given

**Public Hearing closed**

Council consideration of the above matter to follow Public Hearing

Mr. Dredge made a motion to adopt the Ordinance.  
Ms. Dunn 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion.

Call vote recorded by Carol Heales:

A Ms. Dunn  
A Mr. Dredge  
A Mr. Stam

Motion passed 3-0

Staff and sponsor presentations, and public comment prior to Council action on the following matter:

- 2. Consider a Resolution approving the purchase of real property for more than the appraised value based on findings pursuant to Section 10-8-2 of the Utah Code.**

Staff presentation: Tim Tingey, Community Economic Development Director.

Mr. Tingey stated that the City and the Redevelopment Agency have been pursuing Master Planning Process and additional efforts in our downtown, facilitate redevelopment and to create an area that is more vibrant and has property that is not as under-utilized as it is right now. Part of this process has been investment and evaluation of what the City and the Redevelopment Agency needs to do; part of that has been investing and looking at sites for property acquisition as well as a variety of other issues and have pursued and purchased property in this area, and are now pursuing additional property at the southwest corner of 4800 South and State Street. The price has been appraised at less than what the value is that we are looking at purchasing; in order to do that, there has to be a study from an independent organization that looks at several things, which he will outline.

We have a representative, Susie Becker, from Lewis, Young, Robertson and Burningham, the organization that did this independent study. As outlined in State Code, which we are following, the requirements are to really look at a variety of things, including the net economic value or benefits to be received over the life of the project, any intangible benefits, and then we are to have a public hearing related to this, and outline the benefits based on this study that could be received through pursuit of this project. Based upon the study that has been done, there are a variety of economic benefits related to this project and the investment that the City and Redevelopment Agency is looking at pursuing. These include:

1. The potential of increase of real property tax revenues, both land and buildings from the development
2. Increase in personal property tax revenue
3. Increase in sales tax revenue
4. Increase in franchise tax revenue

There are also indirect economic benefits that could include:

1. Increase of jobs
2. Increasing housing affordability in the area
3. Potential of reducing blight
4. Enhancing the public moral health and wellbeing of the area

Based upon the study, and the evaluation, City staff, the Attorney's Office, and Economic Community Development Department are recommending approval of the attached Resolution to purchase the real property at more than the appraised value.

**Public hearing opened for public comment.**

None given

**Public Hearing Closed**

Council consideration of the above matter to follow Public Hearing

Ms. Dunn asked if Ms. Young had anything she would like to address to the Council.

Ms. Young stated that there are direct benefits of net revenue benefits over a 20-year period, of about \$2.1 million in net present value, and in actual dollars, it is about \$3.5 million because the City is putting in the type of development that

would be much higher in property values, sales taxes, those types of things. It would certainly increase the taxable value and tax revenues to the City; you then do have some leeway in how those funds are used to facilitate the development taking place.

Mr. Nakamura, City Attorney, commented that the Redevelopment Agency has already approved their portion of the purchase of this property. We are primarily focusing on the City's portion, however the RDA has previously approved their portion of the property; they are contingent upon each other.

Ms. Dunn made a motion to adopt the Resolution.

Mr. Dredge 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion.

Call vote recorded by Carol Heales:

  A   Ms. Dunn  
  A   Mr. Dredge  
  A   Mr. Stam

Motion passed 3-0

**E.    UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None

**F.    NEW BUSINESS**

- 1.    Consider a Resolution acknowledging receipt of the Fiscal Year 2010-2011 Tentative Budget from the Mayor and the Budget Officer, and referring the Tentative Budget for review and consideration to the Budget and Finance Committee of the Murray City Municipal Council.**

Staff presentation: Mayor Snarr

*Good evening, everyone. Thank you, Council members, for giving me the opportunity to discuss the state of the City budget and present my recommendations for the 2010-11 fiscal year. This year has been one of the most financially challenging that I can remember. I appreciate the time spent by each of our Department Heads and especially with Pat, our Finance Director, and Gabe for their input on my recommendations.*

*When I think of the role and responsibility of a city, I usually think about the many services we provide to our residents. As I consider the infrastructure and services we are responsible for, my thoughts go to the employees of our City who make these things happen. With an uncertain economy, many have expressed concern about the new fiscal year, so I have taken the opportunity to share my budget proposals with them. The employees are key to the success of our City and their work helps us all look good as well as keep our residents happy and glad to live in Murray. I would like to address the **same** issues I discussed with them.*

*To understand what is happening with the City budget, we need to go back to about October 2008. That is when our budget showed signs of being underfunded and we began to carve back expenditures. Cuts were made that got us to the new fiscal year we are currently in, 2009 - 10. In planning the budget for this current year, our projected revenues are below what we thought they would be.*

***Revenues coming in under projections:***

- 1. \$250,000 permits*
- 2. \$200,000 Court fines*
- 3. \$200,000 interest income on our reserves because the rate has dropped below 1%*
- 4. \$400,000 sales tax revenue*

*These revenue losses are over a million dollars more than we anticipated. This million dollar shortfall came **even after** we had projected a 10% reduction in sales tax and a 33% reduction in interest income. Our sales tax is projected to be \$10.5 million this year compared to \$14 million in 2007.*

*A sales tax distribution bill was passed in the legislature a few years ago that changed the amount the City received in sales tax. We had a property tax increase at the time to make up the lost revenue. Part of the legislation gave us a 'floor' at the 2004-05 sales tax distribution amount to give us some protection if the sales tax ever dropped. **We did not realize we would ever need to use it!***

*The 2004-05 sales tax amount was \$12.6 million. We budgeted for that amount for our current fiscal year. We later learned that the Tax Commission took \$400,000 of the \$12.6 million to pay for processing, so our sales tax revenue was dropped to \$12.2 million. Currently our sales tax is only coming in about \$10.5 million - or about \$2 million below our 'floor.' The 'floor' only stays in place until 2013-14, so we must hope the sales tax will rebound over the next 3 years to get back to **at least** where we were in 2004-05.*

***Keeping our funding levels the same as last year's will require almost \$3 million dollars. That is the challenge we are currently facing as the budget is prepared for 2010-11.***



*Over the years our City reserves have been so healthy, we were able to build both new fire stations without increasing taxes. By law, cities can only keep 18% of total general fund dollars in reserves, so we spent those extra dollars on long term capital investments.*

*In our current budget year some of the reserves were planned to be spent to balance the budget and pay for some road projects. At our mid-year review, with revenue slipping even more, we have had to use more reserves. We started the year with about \$6.6 million and are projecting to end the year at about \$4 million. I am suggesting that we not let our reserves drop lower than this amount.*

*Most of you are aware that we have been working to create a system to provide fiber to all the homes and businesses in the City. We have partnered with other cities under the umbrella of UTOPIA. Since this project began, circumstances have made the original plan change, including a lawsuit, expense of installation, lack of quality providers, time spent on getting a federal loan that did not materialize and leadership. These issues are being resolved, but it has delayed completion of the project.*

*Our commitment is to pay the interest on the original bonds for up to 33 years or until the system has enough users to cover the costs of installing the system. The fiber currently covers about 60% of our City.*

*People have asked why we don't leave UTOPIA. If we walk away, we still pay for 33 years. If we continue to work to get this valuable infrastructure in place, I am confident that the system will begin paying for itself in just a few years and the money loaned will eventually be repaid. We will then be in an enviable position with the ability to provide advanced technology to every home and business. We are already taking advantage of the system in the City, along with the school district, businesses and residents.*

*Working through these issues will take patience. We are now paying interest on the pledge. To this point, money has been set aside over the years to cover these expenses. This year I am recommending adding \$200,000 to replace the funds used for the payments, as we are required to do. I am also recommending putting aside \$350,000 to cover other expenses that may be necessary. This investment in infrastructure is important to the future viability of our City and I am committed to working hard to bring it to all our residents and businesses.*

*Today, it is my obligation to present the City Council with a balanced budget recommendation. Since we are a service organization, the majority of our budget goes to pay employee salaries and benefits.*

*I am not recommending salary increases or COLAs this year, continuing the same policy that was necessary last fiscal year.*

*As I have considered the concerns of our employees, I am working to keep people employed, avoid cutting paychecks and support other benefits as we can.*

*Health Insurance premiums will increase this year by 20% which equates to \$1.2 million. That is a huge jump after only a 3% increase last fiscal year. In trying to balance that increase in the best and most equitable way possible and not increase premiums paid, I am recommending that we increase co-pays, deductibles and raise limits on major hospitalization. If we make these changes, premiums can remain the same.*

*As you may have heard, the legislature made changes to the Utah Retirement System to balance the 5 billion dollar loss it took in the recession. Most of those changes impact future employees.*

*However, in their effort to help keep this fund viable, URS is anticipating annual premium increases. Those increases this year total about \$500,000 city wide. Although it is a challenge to find the resources, I am recommending that the City pay these increases this year.*

*We continue to review other options to make our workforce the most effective it can be. We are considering changes to our cell phone use and offering incentives for retirement. These efforts are ongoing. While we have several departments who work flexible schedules, other options, such as a four-day work week, are not cost effective at this time. I appreciate suggestions made by our employees for cost savings.*

*We have several employee policies that I am recommending we change this year.*

- 1. Tuition reimbursement will continue, but will be funded at \$1250 per year rather than \$2500, saving \$27,000.*
- 2. The safety award gift cards will not be given this year, saving \$16,000.*
- 3. The alternate transportation program will also be eliminated, saving \$5,000.*

*With these considerations, these are my recommendations for filling the \$3 million gap:*

*The hiring freeze will continue. We currently have 6 positions that have been vacated and will not be filled. This provides an on-going savings of about \$330,000.*

*Department heads have significantly reduced their budgets by almost \$1.3 million. **This is in addition to the substantial cuts they made last year.** We have worked very hard to keep our commitment to provide good service to our residents. The efforts the Department Heads have made are exceptional and I appreciate their willingness to be part of the solution in a hard budget year.*

*We also have the ability to use some **one time money** and I am recommending that we do the following:*

*Our Water Department will purchase property from the General Fund for \$500,000 to create a water-use demonstration garden. This department has the reserves to make this purchase and teaching our residents about using water responsibly is a great initiative.*

*I am also recommending that we use \$1 million from sales tax revenue bond proceeds to reimburse the City for past purchases, as is consistent with the Parameters Resolution. These opportunities were planned when the bonds were purchased and have been used for capital projects. The bond money has also been used to work on beginning phases of our downtown improvements. Using these funds in this way, **does not change our commitment to this project**, but realistically, we will need to package our future needs in other funding options.*

*We had planned to use some reserves in our current budget for road projects. We share a concern for improving the roads in our City. I am recommending that this year we use our Class C road funds to do maintenance work that our own employees can do. This includes grinding, crack sealing, and asphalt overlays that can add life to roads. Holding two road projects on Sanford and Haven Crest in the current fiscal year will save \$300,000. We will continue with other projects that are planned in the current year's budget, including one on Lincoln Street and one on Fairbourne, which is a CDBG funded improvement. These are one time monies and **cannot** always be the answer, but they **can** help us with the challenges we face today.*

*This gives us the money we need to fill the \$3 million dollar hole **and** take care of the basic necessities for running the City.*

*Now, what does the future hold? Planning and preparing for the needs of our citizens will take an effort that will involve all of us.*

*I would like to spend this year reviewing and implementing the following, as the Council agrees:*

- 1. Continue to be aggressive with economic development*
- 2. Review our fee structure and perhaps consider a street lighting fee*
- 3. Work to develop a Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) for the City*
- 4. Plan to work through the year on our internal policies and budget issues*
- 5. Review mid-year opportunities for addressing certain budget cuts*
- 6. Consider an increase to property taxes for future years*

*I have worked very hard in presenting a budget for the next fiscal year to continue to provide great service and infrastructure. We are fortunate to have some options to keep us moving forward.*

*I am optimistic that the future of the City is bright. These economic times will not change overnight, but I believe we have the tools we need to weather the storm. I appreciate your support and effort as we move forward in this process.*

*Thank you.*

Ms. Dunn made a motion to adopt the Resolution.  
Mr. Dredge 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion.

Call vote recorded by Carol Heales:

  A   Ms. Dunn  
  A   Mr. Dredge  
  A   Mr. Stam

Motion passed 3-0

**2. Consider a Resolution approving an Interlocal Cooperative Agreement between the Utah Telecommunication Open Infrastructure Agency (UTOPIA) and the City.**

Staff presentation: Frank Nakamura, City Attorney

Mr. Nakamura said that the City has received documents from UTOPIA, regarding the sharing of expenses for legal dispute resolution with the federal government; there was a financial transaction that UTOPIA now believes that they need to pursue and enforce their legal rights. This Interlocal agreement between UTOPIA and the City is in the sharing of expenses so that UTOPIA can pursue these legal rights against the federal government. He wanted to emphasize that the sharing of expenses is unrelated to providing telecommunication services; the amount of the sharing of expenses is based upon the percentage that the City has in connection with its pledge, that is 12.287% of all funds that UTOPIA is asking all 11 cities to contribute towards in this effort to resolve this dispute.

Ms. Dunn asked Mr. Dredge, as a representative to the board, where did they ever get revenue sharing from? This is not revenue sharing, it is expense sharing.

Mr. Nakamura said that he did talk to legal counsel for UTOPIA, and this is resolved in our documents; he understands that initially they had talked in terms of revenue sharing, but our documents reflect expense sharing. He did ask the general counsel for UTOPIA to provide him a legal opinion, as he had some concerns about the statute and the use of taxes for subsidizing public telecommunications, and the opinion is that since this is not connected with providing services, but to enforce legal rights, then that makes a difference. The documents now reflect that this is a sharing expense based upon a percentage of our pledge in relation to all of the other cities that are members of UTOPIA.

Ms. Dunn asked if the rest of them are revenue sharing and we are expense sharing?

Mr. Nakamura answered that he does not know.

Mr. Dredge said that the only thing that he can theorize is that it has to do with discussions regarding what will happen with the funds, should we prevail in the lawsuit, and how they will be shared.

Ms. Dunn said that you 'have to get them coming back' before that happens- we're giving right now. She asked: Why is this not considered a loan, instead of a contribution to it? We are paying for something, but she feels it should be considered a loan if what we are doing with the rest of it, we hope to see back later, she would hope to see the same thing with this. You mentioned the revenues coming back- why isn't it a loan?

Mr. Dredge said that it is because UTOPIA has debt service limits imposed by lenders, which say they cannot have additional debt on their books.

Ms. Dunn: What if we said zero payment, zero interest until....

Mr. Dredge said that it would still be debt on the books.

Mr. Nakamura addressed Ms. Dunn: It could be a loan, but we also have the option of sharing in expenses as well. The way they want to fund this is under the sharing of expenses, unrelated to providing services, to enforce certain legal rights. So, it could be, but in this case rather than dealing with the financial institutions, they would rather have it just sharing expenses.

Mr. Dredge stated that should they prevail, the intent is that our shared expenses will be reimbursed, but can't be written as a loan, as such it would increase the debt.

Ms. Dunn stated that there is very little communication on what the decision was, and why we decided to go and pursue this; you hear it through the grapevine, but you don't get real communications, and she is a little frustrated with that. They promised us, a couple of years ago, great communications, and so far the only communication that she receives is through Mr. Dredge.

Mr. Dredge responded, saying that he thinks that they were intending that discussion that we had after the meeting, to convey all of the information.

Ms. Dunn said that they want us to vote before giving us any information.

Mr. Dredge said that they have talked about that.

Ms. Dunn asked what it would do if they postponed the vote on this until they got information?

Mr. Dredge said that he didn't think there is any additional information, other than what he has given them, quite frankly. He doesn't know that they would have much more to add to that.

Ms. Dunn: About? The purpose in pursuing this, what it is we are pursuing, and what they feel their chances are of prevailing, and all of those things?

Mr. Dredge said that they could review that discussion again if it would make Ms. Dunn feel better; Mr. Stam was there at the meeting. He said that we don't need to go back and go over the entire RUS debacle; long story short, they believe that they have a very strong case, that they were harmed somewhere between \$40 - \$100 million. They have sought outside legal counsel, specifically with a firm in D.C. that specializes in lawsuits with the federal government. They interviewed several firms in D.C., all of which said we had a very good case. They quite readily admitted that they may say we have a good case simply to get the work, the other side of that was that all of them are big firms that have reputations of not losing very often, and they would not look favorably upon taking on a case that didn't stand a good chance of prevailing on.

The reason that they want to do it now is that this agency has money right now. There is also a political climate right now. One of the problems of this agency is that they have not fulfilled their mandate to distribute monies as they should; they are getting a lot of pressure and the thought is that if pressure is exerted at this time, while they have money, while they're already under political pressure, it may bring them to the table quicker. The intention there with all of this is to get them back to talking with us and get this resolved, and not taking it through the full litigation.

Ms. Dunn: The hurry is that there is money there right now.

Mr. Dredge: There is money there and they are under political pressure right now. The firm that they have selected to do this work are very well connected in Washington circles, and they are hoping to use those connections to get this matter resolved quickly.

Ms. Dunn said that she gets a little frustrated with its always presented to us and they have to know right now – on everything that they do. Got to know right now. It's getting a little frustrating.

Mr. Dredge: With that being said, he has been a staunch supporter of UTOPIA, but this has been of concern to him; he does not take this lightly. He will say that he was impressed with the discussion they had with the D.C. attorney, and the

game plan he laid out for this case made a lot of sense. There is no question that UTOPIA has been harmed, he feels that the question is, how much are we going to get, and if they do decide to draw it out over time, how much will it cost us to get it. The feeling with this attorney was that he wouldn't come out and say 'no, that's not going to happen, I can guarantee it', he just didn't think it was going to be a long, drawn out process.

Ms. Dunn agreed that UTOPIA has been harmed; she agrees that it is a winnable case; her question is how long is it going to take, and how much do cities have to bleed to make that happen. She goes back to her question of what would happen if we didn't decide tonight? She feels that this is a very important decision for this city, and we have two Council members who are not here to vote, and she is wondering is it so dire that the decision is made right now? That we have to do it tonight? or, do we have two weeks?

Mr. Dredge said that we are the only city that has not voted yet, and they are waiting on us, but quite frankly, he doesn't see that two weeks is going to kill them. Especially if Ms. Dunn feels strongly about waiting until the other Council members are here.

Ms. Dunn asked Mr. Nakamura if they had said anything to him about this.

Mr. Nakamura said that they did not. He said that there is no statute of limitations problem.

Ms. Dunn made a motion to postpone this decision until the next Council Meeting.

Mr. Dredge stated that he respects Ms. Dunn's decision on this, and even though he knows that this will make them unhappy, he believes that it ought to be heard by the full Council as well, and 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion postponing the decision until the next Council meeting.

Call vote recorded by Carol Heales:

  A   Ms. Dunn  
  A   Mr. Dredge  
  A   Mr. Stam

Motion passed 3-0

## **G. MAYOR'S REPORT**

Mayor Snarr said that the Power Department has been working hard to get our landfill project certified to sell the REC's (Renewable Energy Certificates) to the Western Renewable Energy Generation Information System, which covers the California market, they love green. They are now looking at selling the 2009 REC's at the best possible price. And to all the members of the Power Department, they have done an admirable job in working out in the market. A monitoring device for the gas turbines is broken, and has been sent for repair, and should be fixed before our summer season. We will need to ramp those up to hit our peak demand. Cottonwood Hydro is back on, after no water this winter, and only small amounts are flowing now but are ready for the summer season; we've done some major retrofitting of the hydro-plant to make it so that we get the maximum five megawatts, if we have enough snow pack this year to create the water flow for a short period of time. Nevertheless, it is a great resource in our city.

We sent in our Google experiment application on Wednesday, March 24, 2009, and he appreciate the help from the Council and staff on getting this done. He thinks this really bodes well for the future success of not only fiber optics for Murray City, but literally, the United States and proving that this is the future of the United States; we have to have this. At some point in time, when all the other communities will be looking at Murray and being envious because we can provide it for a lot less than the other communities will be paying to the incumbent providers, because that is what will happen, just as it is the same with our power.

There are several plan road closures of 5300 South, 4500 South and Winchester, in connection with the Front Runner project; Mr. Crutcher has assured him that they have not hit our cable, as we have pulled it out. They did drive the piles down to where the cable would have been, so when they ran a fish line down there, so to speak, they banged it and we will need to remedy that situation so that we can get our power over to the other side of 5300 South.

We are keeping information on our website, and sign boards are out in various locations; businesses have been made aware of this, but if you come off of the 5300 South freeway, and planning on going to Costco or other entities, they will go north on 300 West which gets backed up, and hopefully you won't run into a train going across, as that really messes things up. Everyone has been patient, and it is working. Costco assured him that their sales revenues are still up, in spite of 5300 South being closed.

Our Police Department is the first in Utah, to roll out our anonymous tip line, and the Chief tells him that people are already using it. It can be accessed by texting or on-line; they did a little promo on that on the TV stations, and kudu's to the Chief and staff of the Police department, they have worked hard and it is a great effort. He is sure that other communities will see fit to roll this out as well. He feels that this will be a great tool for our police to use, and by the way, the individual who was able to get the partial plate number of the people who have been shooting people with a BB gun lives here in Murray, and the police are trying to track down the individual(s) from that shooting.

Mayor Snarr continued: We have sent an RFP on Animal Control Services; with our budget challenges, we are looking at this service to determine if there are cost savings available. He will keep you informed on this information as it is received and processed.

The Water Division is preparing a design for some system work at 900 West Bullion Street, and getting ready for bidding.



Down at Cottonwood Street and Winchester, there have been a lot of challenges with how wide that intersection is and the difficulty cars are having going north-south. If you go down there, you will see that they have taken the dirt down to its sub-base, so that they can bring engineered field in now, and you can see how it's going to be re-aligned. The heavy equipment is down there working aggressively, and he is sure that over the next few weeks they will be able to get that built up with the necessary fill material to lay the tracks. We hope that in the next couple of months, where they have put in the pink stakes for the elevation grades that they will put in when they great additional parking resources to the west, will be done as well. There is a lot of activity going on down there, and we are excited about that because that intersection has been a real challenge for our residents as they go along 300 West and want to go over to Midvale or vice versa.

Another nice project that is under construction: although it is called Rocky Mountain Power, originally the credit union that they founded was under the auspices of Utah Power and Light, and Utah Power and Light Credit Union is building a credit union in Murray City for their members. We are excited about that - they have over an acre of land up there at approximately 6600 South and 1000 East, directly to the west of the Aspen Ridge East Rehabilitation Facility. The ground work has been done, the base has been set, so they can start the excavation work for the foundation.

There will be some other announcements, and he is waiting to hear from some other major developers over the course of the next couple of weeks, as they proceed to bring their projects to Murray City. When he gets definitive answers from them, he will let you know.

#### **H. QUESTIONS OF THE MAYOR**

None

#### **ADJOURNMENT**