



MURRAY CITY MUNICIPAL COUNCIL

MEETING MINUTES

The Murray City Municipal Council met on **Tuesday, January 17, 2023, at 06:30 PM** for a meeting held in the Murray City Council Chambers, 5025 S State Street, Murray, Utah.

The public was able to view the meeting via the live stream at www.murraycitylive.com or <https://www.facebook.com/Murraycityutah/>. A recording of the City Council meeting can be viewed [HERE](#).

OPENING CEREMONIES

Council in Attendance:

Philip Markham, District #1
Pamela Cotter, District #2
Rosalba Dominguez, District #3
Diane Turner, District #4
Garry Hrechkosy, District #5
Jennifer Kennedy, Council Director
Patti Johnson, Council Office Administrator III
Crystal Brown, Officer Administrator

Administrative Staff in Attendance:

Brett A. Hales, Mayor
Doug Hill, Chief Administrative Office
Tammy Kikuchi, Chief Communication Officer
G.L. Critchfield, City Attorney
Brooke Smith, City Recorder
Brenda Moore, Finance and Administration Director
Craig Burnett, Police Chief
Steve Olson, Battalion Chief
Cory Plant, Senior Recreation Director
Omar Limon, Meal Program Supervisor
Rob White, IT Service Director
Camron Kollman, IT Technician

Others in Attendance:

Loran Pasalich, Kathy White, Jeff Erlmann, Charles Turner, Clark Bullen, Dave Carr, Mary Evans, Kathleen Stanford, Joe Standford, Rachel Morat, Jenn Kikel-Lynn

Opening Ceremonies

Call to Order – Councilmember Pamela Cotter called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

The audience was invited to recite the Pledge of Allegiance led by Cory Plant.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Council Meeting - December 6, 2022

2. Special Council Meeting - December 12, 2022

MOTION

Councilmember Diane Turner moved to approve the Council Meeting minutes from December 6, 2022, and Special Council Meeting on December 12, 2022. The motion was SECONDED by Councilmember Rosalba Dominguez.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Phil Markham, Pamela Cotter, Rosalba Dominguez, Diane Turner, Garry Hrechkosy

Motion passed 5-0

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

1. Murray City Employee of the Month, Omar Limon, Senior Recreation Center Chef, Pam Cotter and Kim Sorensen

Councilmember Pamela Cotter introduced Omar Limon, as the January recipient of Employee of the Month. Omar Limon is the Chef at the Senior Recreation Center. He received a certificate; a \$50 gift card; and his name will appear on the plaque located in the Council Chambers.

Councilmember Pamela Cotter said Omar Limon has made significant changes to the Senior Center lunch program. He experimented with portions and blends of different food to understand what the seniors desire. Senior Center patrons praise Omar for the food he prepares. He is very dedicated to his job and makes the highest quality food possible. Since Omar Limon was hired, the number of meals served at the center has increased.

Cory Plant shared that Omar Limon has been a great addition to the Senior Center, and he is grateful for Omar Limon being part of the Senior Center staff.

Omar Limon thanked the department director, council, and Mayor for the special recognition.

Council members and Mayor thanked Omar Limon for his service and stated they appreciated him being a part of Murray City.

CITIZEN COMMENT(S)

Comments will be limited to three minutes, step to the microphone, state your name and city of residence, and fill out the required form.

The meeting was open for public comment.

Clark Bullen

Clark Bullen spoke in response to the sale of the city hall property (5025 South State Street and 4886 South Poplar Street). He mentioned that the downtown location and access to freeway entrances make the city and downtown area a great place for a destination. However, he pointed out that just having people in the area does not necessarily equate to more money spent in the city, and having a great downtown does. According to surveys and comments, citizens of Murray have highlighted that walkability, sit-down restaurants, eateries, and boutique shops are important factors for a great downtown. Clark Bullen believes that the city has a unique opportunity to create that kind of downtown, not only for this property but also for Block One.

Mary Evans

Mary Evans mentioned that she has spoken with the builder of the new city hall and had some suggestions for the new police wing. Mary Evans specifically requested the city to provide a safe place for individuals who are processed by the police. Mary Evans acknowledged that the current police department has limitations and the new building could provide a fresh start.

Mary Evans also mentioned that they had read the agenda for the meeting, and she saw that the city was allocating funds for mental health services for retired police officers and their families. She requested that the city also consider allocating funds for mental health services for current active-duty police officers and their families. Mary Evans believed this would be more proactive in addressing potential issues and would help the relationship between the police and the citizens of Murray.

Munir Merchant (Read into the record by Councilmember Garry Hrechkosy)

Munir Merchant wanted to install solar panels at his family pharmacy (Liberty Drug) to reduce their environmental footprint. Current regulations and Murray City made it difficult. The regulations only allowed for a maximum of 10 kilowatts of solar panels, but he would need to install 50 kilowatts to make a significant difference. Munir Merchant respectfully asked for the policy to be updated, so that businesses can save money and make a difference in the environment.

No additional comments were given, and the open public comment period was closed.

CONSENT AGENDA

None scheduled.

PUBLIC HEARING(S)

Staff, sponsor presentations, and public comments will be given prior to Council action on the following matter.

1. Consider an ordinance amending the city's Fiscal Year 2022-2023 budget, Brenda Moore

Brenda Moore shared a brief overview of the public hearing considering the following budget amendments for Fiscal Year 2022-2023:

1. In the General Fund appropriate from reserves the following items:

- a. \$7,536 for overtime in the IT department;
- b. \$74,000 for software in the IT department, and;
- c. \$21,578 for cost-sharing of a music specialist with Murray School District.

2. In the General Fund receive an appropriate \$33,620 from the Justice Assistance Grant program for police equipment.

3. In the General Fund receive to reserve the following items:

- a. \$100,000 from a Zoos Arts and Parks (ZAP) Grant received for arts programming;
- b. \$20,211 from a Public Safety Mental Health Grant, and;
- c. \$78,243 from the mayor's salaries and benefits budget due to a change in Diversity and Equity Inclusion (DEI) advisor status.

4. In the Library Fund receive and appropriate the following with no financial impact:

- a. \$12,000 for the Utah State Department of Libraries ARPA grant for materials, and;
- b. \$3,168 for the Utah State Library ARPA hotspot grant.

5. In the Capital Improvement Projects fund receive an appropriate \$3,636,500 Salt Lake County Tourism, Recreation, Cultural And Convention (TRCC) grant funds for the construction of the Murray Theater.

6. In the Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) Fund appropriate from reserves the following:

- a. \$20,329 for a space-saver shelving system in the police department at the new city hall, and;

- b. \$51,500 to change Hanauer street landscaping from grass to xeriscape.
- 7. In the Power Fund appropriate \$800,000 from reserves for purchased power.
- 8. In the Solid Waste Fund appropriate \$44,500 from reserves for garbage collection fees.
- 9. In the Retained Risk Fund appropriate \$250,000 from reserves for liability claims.
- 10. In the Central Garage Fund appropriate \$44,000 from reserves for maintenance on the fleet fueling facility.

DISCUSSION

Councilmember Diane Turner asked about city reserves.

Brenda Moore said the reserves are being added to because of the improved sales tax. Due to the improved sales tax projections, the city budget may break even and the city may not use the previously projected two million dollars budgeted from the reserves. In addition, the city has approximately 25% in reserves that could be used in an emergency if taxes and funds stopped coming in.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

The meeting was open for public comment.

No comments were given, and the open public comment period was closed

DISCUSSION

Council members shared excitement about the Murray Theater being funded and thanked staff for the multiple grants the city has received.

MOTION

Councilmember Garry Hrechkosy moved to approve the ordinance amending the city's Fiscal Year 2022-2023 budget. The motion was **SECONDED** by Councilmember Phil Markham.

VOTE

Roll Call:

Ayes: Phil Markham, Pamela Cotter, Rosalba Dominguez, Diane Turner, Garry Hrechkosy

Motion passed 5-0

BUSINESS ITEM(S)

1. Consider a Resolution Relating to First Responder Mental Health Services, Craig Burnett

Consider a resolution accepting a grant award from the Department of Public Safety for the State of Utah and authorizing the execution of a Memorandum of Understanding between the City and the Department of Public Safety for the State of Utah relating to first responder mental health services.

Chief Craig Burnett shared a brief overview of the resolution to accept a grant relating to first responder mental health services. He said, last year, the legislature passed House Bill 23, known as "First Responder Mental Health Services Amendments," which required agencies to prioritize the mental health and wellness of their employees, retirees, and family members. The city has already implemented this requirement and applied for a grant to support the mental health and wellness of the current police and fire employees, with support also available for retirees and family members.

Councilmember Garry Hrechkosy asked how this service is being received by employees.

Chief Craig Burnett said the officers supported the House Bill and are thankful for the program.

Councilmember Rosalba Dominguez expressed appreciation for the efforts to break barriers and address the stigma surrounding mental health, particularly for police officers and other first responders. She acknowledged the challenges that these individuals face, particularly in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, and emphasized the importance of supporting their mental well-being in order to better serve the community. She also noted that the legislature and the community as a whole recognized the sacrifices that first responders and their families make, and that the support for mental health was an important step in addressing this.

MOTION

Councilmember Diane Turner moved to approve the Resolution Relating to First Responder Mental Health Services. The motion was SECONDED by Councilmember Garry Hrechkosy.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Phil Markham, Pamela Cotter, Rosalba Dominguez, Diane Turner, Garry Hrechkosy

Motion passed 5-0

2. Consider a Resolution Relating to Reimbursement for Overtime or Backfill Costs, Steve Olson

Consider a resolution authorizing the execution of a Memorandum of Understanding between the Unified Fire Authority and Murray City relating to reimbursement of overtime or backfill costs incurred by Murray City Fire Department personnel to maintain the capability to respond to hazardous materials and other serious incidents.

Battalion Chief Steve Olson shared a brief overview of the resolution relating to reimbursement for overtime and backfill costs for firefighters. The Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) allows for reimbursement of overtime expenses incurred when firefighters and paramedics attend training classes. The training classes are not frequent and only a few people attend each year, but the MOU provides a mechanism for covering the costs associated with backfilling the positions of those who are away for training. This ensures that the city is not short-staffed and that the expenses associated with sending people out of town for training classes, which may be held in other states, are covered.

Councilmember Garry Hrechkosy asked if the training is required or if Unified Fire puts on the training.

Battalion Chief Steve Olson said at the County Emergency Management Group coordinates various training programs for the county, including hazardous materials teams, which typically require a larger response team than a single city can provide. The fire department works closely with the County Emergency Management Group and provides personnel to be trained if a crisis happens in the valley and a larger response team is needed. Cooperating and coordinating training with the County Emergency Management Group helps Murray Fire be more effective and efficient if additional resources were needed.

MOTION

Councilmember Garry Hrechkosy moved to adopt the Resolution Relating to Reimbursement for Overtime or Backfill Costs. The motion was SECONDED by Councilmember Rosalba Dominguez.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Phil Markham, Pamela Cotter, Rosalba Dominguez, Diane Turner, Garry Hrechkosy

Motion passed 5-0

3. Consider a Resolution Relating to Music Education and Instruction, Doug Hill

Consider a resolution approving an Interlocal Cooperation Agreement between the City and Murray City School District ("District") relating to music education and instruction.

Doug Hill shared a brief overview of the resolution relating to music education and instruction at the Murray City School District. He said under the agreement, Murray City would fund \$21,570 and the Murray School District would also fund the same amount, making it a 50-50 match to fund a music specialist. The agreement outlined the responsibilities of the music

specialist and stated that the funding from the city would be included in the budget amendment, subject to the approval of the agreement. This agreement has been in place for a number of years.

Councilmember Diane Turner asked why the same type of agreement between Murray City and Murray School District (to jointly fund a music specialist) hadn't been implemented for Cottonwood High in the past.

Doug Hill said the Murray School District had made a request for the city to jointly fund a music specialist, however, Cottonwood Heights had not made a similar request.

Councilmember Diane Turner suggests that it would be a good idea to investigate if Cottonwood Heights might be interested in jointly funding a music specialist for next year.

Mayor Hales reminded the council that in a few months, there will be a new application process in place to request funding from the city.

Councilmember Garry Hrechkosy agrees with the Mayor that it's important to remember that starting soon, in order to get money from the city, there will be a new application process and everyone who requests funds from the city will need to apply through the new application program, in the future.

Councilmember Philip Markham said that working with Granite School District may be different from working with Murray School District. When Murray School District approached the city, superintendents and administration were involved. However, when the city approaches Granite School District, it should be through someone at the district level, instead of the principals who are located in Murray City. This way, the City and the School District can have discussions on how much funding they want to provide, as not all students that attend the school are Murray residents. The speaker also mentions that it's much more complicated when dealing with a district outside of Murray City, which may be the reason why nothing has happened in the past.

MOTION

Councilmember Phil Markham moved to adopt a Resolution Relating to Music Education and Instruction. The motion was SECONDED by Councilmember Pamela Cotter.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Phil Markham, Pamela Cotter, Rosalba Dominguez, Diane Turner, Garry Hrechkosy

Motion passed 5-0

MAYOR'S REPORT AND QUESTIONS

Mayor Brett Hales praised the previous RDA meeting and how impressed the committee was with the way the city council listened to the citizens. The meeting was well received by the citizens, and he felt that the officials were respected and supported by the community.

The council encourages citizens to continue to share their thoughts and opinions on the upcoming agenda items.

Mayor Brett Hales also mentions that the City Hall is on target, and he would coordinate a tour of the facility with the city officials.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:14 p.m.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The next scheduled meeting is scheduled on **Tuesday, February 7, 2023, at 6:30 p.m. MST.**

Supporting materials are available on Murray City's website at www.murray.utah.gov.

Special Accommodations for the hearing or visually impaired will be made upon a request to the office of

Murray City Recorder (801-264-2662). We would appreciate notification two working days prior to the meeting. TTY is Relay Utah at #711

Council Members may participate in the meeting via telephonic communication. If a Council Member does participate via telephonic communication, the Council Member will be on speakerphone. The speakerphone will be amplified so that the other Council Members and all other persons present in the Council Chambers will be able to hear all discussions.

At least 24 hours prior to the meeting, a copy of the foregoing notice was posted in conspicuous view in the front foyer of the Murray City Center, Murray, Utah. A copy of this notice was posted on Murray City's internet website www.murray.utah.gov and the state noticing website at <http://pmn.utah.gov>.