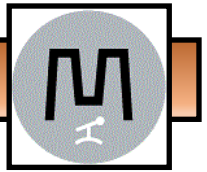


City Council Message



October 2019



Dave Nicponski

It has been a distinct pleasure and honor to serve the residents and business owners of Murray City over the last two council terms. I have been driven by the goal to provide outstanding quality of life and superior city services and utilities to maintain Murray's reputation as one of the most respected cities in the state. As my eight years draw to a close, I am reflective of the many issues and projects initiated, studied, researched, considered and approved over this time.

Early in my first term the city council adopted a Murray City Strategic Plan intended to guide decision making for future years. An important part of that plan was the creation of the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) to identify, plan and fund capital

projects throughout the city. As part of the CIP committee it has been rewarding to budget for immediate and future capital needs that may not be attainable in one budget year but required saving over several years, such as, the purchase of firetrucks, road projects and facility remodels. Over the next few months you will see evidence of CIP results with the replacement of pavilions in Murray Park. Park restroom upgrades and the Murray Amphitheater are examples of recent CIP improvements. Active transportation advancements have also been a focus with bike lanes, the Canal Trail and Jordan River Trail all benefitting from CIP funding.

Exceptional public safety has always been a priority for me. Following the Great Recession of 2008, I found that the city had fallen behind in police vehicle rotation. With many aging patrol cars, I was instrumental in motivating council members to approve a program acquiring over 26 police vehicles in one year to ensure the future safety of Murray residents. The council funded police cameras before most departments; and the firearms simulator was replaced in the Murray Police Training Center, which is in constant use by police departments throughout the valley.

Additionally, as a body, the city council approved the funding for new and refurbished ambulances and firetrucks to support growing response in the city. The purchase of defibrillators further enhanced paramedic excellence in Murray.

Acquisition of properties in the historic Murray City downtown has been a significant project over the last few years; to restore and renovate historic buildings, such as the Murray Mansion and Murray Chapel; to create a new city civic center; and to promote redevelopment in the area. This neighborhood will see a replacement of the 50-year-old Fire Station #81 on Box Elder, and the extension of Hanauer Street to the south. The vision is to create a walkable hub of the city with retail, commercial, residential and plaza space for festivals and celebrations.

While serving on the Murray City Council the city has partnered with Neighbor Works to provide support and housing solutions for moderate income residents; and we created a highly successful passport office to offer that additional service in our community.

Transportation continues to be one of the most expensive endeavors in the city with many millions of dollars received in grants and allocated from the budget for street repairs, improvements and rebuilds. Sidewalk upkeep and ADA corners are part of annual maintenance, as well as, provisions for snow plowing and salt brining activities. No one beats Murray City when it comes to safeguarding our streets for winter storms.

The protection of our environment is something we feel strongly about in Murray, as we moved to weekly recycling and recycling in our parks. We approved an anti-idling ordinance to contribute to air quality and have allocated funding to acquire more clean energy vehicles.



We strive to maintain our independent community spirit and to be diligent and responsible with our citizen's tax dollars.

Change is unavoidable and as I conclude my city council term, I look to the future with anticipation while enjoying the fruits of my labor moving Murray City into the next decade.

Dave Nicponski

Council Member, District 1