

Murray City Municipal Council

Chambers

Murray City, Utah

The Municipal Council of Murray City, Utah, met on Tuesday, the 6th day of July, 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 - Conducted
Krista Dunn,	Council Member
Darren Stam,	Council Member
Jared Shaver,	Council Member
Jim Brass,	Council Member

Others who attended:

Dan Snarr,	Mayor
Jan Wells,	Chief of Staff
Michael Wagstaff,	City Council Director
Carol Heales,	City Recorder
Frank Nakamura,	City Attorney
Greg Bellon,	Assistant General Manager, Power
Steve Meyer,	Power Department
Boy Scouts	
Citizens	

A. OPENING CEREMONIES

1. Pledge of Allegiance - Tyler Stether, Boy Scout Troop #93
2. Mr. Dredge stated that there is a tradition in Murray City to have the Boy Scouts in attendance stand and introduce themselves, their troop leaders, and which Merit Badges they are working on.

The Scouts introduced themselves and their leaders.

3. Approval of minutes of June 15, 2010

Ms. Dunn made a motion to approve the minutes.
Mr. Shaver 2nd the motion.

Call vote recorded by Carol Heales.

All ayes

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

Gloria Kuen, 4455 Gordon Lane, SLC, UT

Ms. Kuen said that she has lived in this area for 47 years, and her husband has lived here all his life, and has thought they were part of Murray. They love Murray, and felt a part of it, although they could not use the name-all these years she has had to say that they have a Murray zip code, but is in the unincorporated part of Salt Lake County.

She and some others in attendance would like to discuss annexing into Murray, and see how the Council feels about that. She gave the Council a map of the area, showing the Millcreek Township; the area that they want to annex is from 4500 South, up 700 East, North to 3900 South, West to either State Street or the Jordan River boundary. They want to know what the Council's feelings are about them annexing, and if the City will accept them, as there is a lot of work involved to proceed with any more of this endeavor. She has been presenting this proposal to businesses and owners of property for two months, and she has gotten an overwhelming 'yes' from everyone. They look at Murray as a good little city that is well run and seems to be more fiscally sound than the unincorporated area of the County; they would have a more local government, and have more input on what happens in their area. She feels that the unincorporated area is just way too large and too spread out; they feel that they are a part of something big and monstrous, and she has been to the township meetings, and does not feel that there are any benefits from that to them.

They would like to feel part of the City, like to be able to say, yes, I live in Murray. Watching the great improvements that Murray has made, they know that this is a well run city and a forward looking city, and they want to be a part of that. She asked if any of the other citizens who came with her to the meeting would like to make a comment.

Keith Nielson, 7977 Gainey Ranch Ct, Cottonwood, UT

Mr. Nielson stated that he owns several large apartment complexes in the County, adjacent to the City, and a member of the Utah Apartment Association- he is on the Board of Directors, in charge of Legislative Affairs. He has been one of the instigators of the Good Landlord Program that was started in Ogden, and now have five or six cities that have joined with them, and they are talking to Murray as well. It has been a very effective program in reducing crime and a very good education for the landlords in the cities that participate in the program. They do not like the Uniform Police Fee that they are forced to pay now; at his complexes, he has video surveillance 24 hours a day, and their own security system, and they do not get regular response from the County Sheriff's anyway, so they would like to avoid having to pay that fee, and would like to join this city that already takes care of those things much better than the County.

Ms. Dunn stated that they have been involved with this from one end or another for many years, and her suggestion would be that those involved in this set up a time to meet with the Mayor's Office and herself, and they can talk about what that process is; it is a pretty difficult process, and they can talk more about it and not spend a lot of time here, as they would not be able to converse and answer the questions that they have, or help them out very well. If they would like to call the Mayor's Office and talk to Jan Wells, they can set something up.

Mr. Dredge said that it would probably be fair to say that the biggest road block at this time is the County, not the City.

Mayor Snarr said that his personal preference would be for them to take the 3900 South boundary all the way down to the Jordan River. The City is at 4050 South at the Jordan River, and it creates another little wedge in the pie, and there is some economic base down there from State Street going west, but again, everyone has expressed the sentiment that the County is going to fight you on this-it is going to be somewhat onerous for them to take this out of the township-that is just the way it works.

Ms. Kuen asked if the County can refuse them, if they have a large percentage of signatures?

Ms. Dunn said that the entire township has to vote.

Mayor Snarr said that it is tough, because they created the township in a way to preclude these areas from being cherry-picked.

Jay Brummet, 548 E Julep, Murray, Utah

Mr. Brummet said that they may want to be aware that there is also a Millcreek and Holladay negotiation going on now, to create another city, and they may want to talk to Mark Crockett about that, he is leading that effort. There are a number of folks- he left the Millcreek area and became part of Murray, so he has done this, and Murray is a wonderful city to become a part of, but it is a difficult process and has only become more difficult.

Ms. Dunn added that not only is there a group that is trying to incorporate the Millcreek Township, but there is another group, still, that is trying to annex into Salt Lake City, that came and talked to her last week. It is all one thing, so everyone is going to have to get

together on this to make it happen.

Mr. Dredge stated that there is a lot going on behind the scenes, and asked that they talk to them behind the scenes, and they will try to give them the best direction that they can.

Jayla Hinojosa, 210 West 4800 S, Murray, UT

Ms Hinojosa stated that she has been a resident in Murray for about three years, and for the past five months they have had some problems where they have had to have the police come to their house several times; they have had a problem with a specific person, and she has made a report each time they have had a problem so that they have it on record. She is having an issue with the Murray Police Department and doesn't know where to go above them; her concerns are not being taken seriously and it has gotten to the point where she fears for her life and her child's life. On Father's Day, her house was broken into, while she was home alone with her son, and nothing was done about it; her window was pried open-no finger prints were taken, nothing was done to try to protect her and her family. All the police have told her is that there are no witnesses and there is nothing they can do. They had a similar situation today and they just told her that their hands are tied, there is nothing they can do, and she just doesn't know where to go or what to do from there, and is feeling a little disappointed with the Murray Police. She called the Mayor's Office today and spoke with Whitney, who said she would try to get back with her, but, she is feeling frustrated.

Mayor Snarr asked if she knew who the person may be.

Ms. Hinojosa said she knows exactly who it is, it is her neighbor and it is scary.

Mr. Dredge said that the person she would want to talk to at this point would be the Mayor, and should she not get the response that she would like....

Ms. Hinojosa said that she has not, that she feels completely vulnerable and when she talked to Whitney today, she told her that the Council really doesn't have anything to do with the Police Department and that there really isn't much that they can do; she would take her statement and that was pretty much it. That is why she came tonight, to see where she could go from here.

Mr. Dredge stated that the Council has her name and address, and he is sure that the Mayor's Office will follow up on this.

Public comment closed

C. CONSENT AGENDA

1. Consider approval of the Mayor's appointment of Steven E. Meyer to the Murray City Power Advisory Board serving in an At-Large position for a three-year term to expire on June 1, 2013.

Mr. Brass made a motion to approve the appointment.
Ms. Dunn 2nd the motion.

Call vote recorded by Carol Heales:

A Mr. Stam
A Mr. Brass
A Mr. Shaver
A Ms. Dunn
A Mr. Dredge

Motion passed 5-0

D. PUBLIC HEARINGS

None scheduled

E. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None scheduled

F. NEW BUSINESS

1. Consider approval of the Mayor's recommendation of Tim Tingey to represent Murray City on the NeighborWorks Salt Lake Board of Directors.

Mayor Snarr stated that this is working cooperatively with the Salt Lake Neighborworks Program, and we will have plenty of opportunities to have input here with our program that we are going to implement, as this is the larger board, so to speak. There is a time commitment and some other things that are involved, and he feels that Mr. Tingey will do an excellent job in following through and making sure that you are aware of what is happening and what we are going to do cooperatively to make this work in our community. He has done an excellent job in bringing the Neighborhood works into the City; it is a way for us to control the use of those RDA Funds.

Mr. Shaver made a motion to approve the recommendation.
Mr. Stam 2nd the motion.

Call vote recorded by Carol Heales:

A Mr. Stam
A Mr. Brass
A Mr. Shaver
A Ms. Dunn
A Mr. Dredge

Motion passed 5-0

G. MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Snarr said that, unfortunately, the flooding damage in Salt Lake County did not meet the \$2.8 million threshold to qualify for the Federal assistance. It is unfortunate in some ways, but fortunate in others; but it did not meet the level, so there will be no Federal assistance. Whatever damage occurred in Murray City, associated with the cost of the flooding, the City will be responsible for. They do not have an idea yet of what that total cost is going to be; when the press kept pressing him, he would not give them an answer. The City will not know for several months, until after they get a handle on what damage was done and what the cost will be to make repairs – particularly the bridges, which have had some structural damage in the park. They will have an idea as to the costs in the next few weeks on what some of the potential costs will be.

Some bad news: the third time is not the charm; the funding for the Big Cottonwood Bridge at Main Street has fallen through. Again, this is an issue where we were working cooperatively with the County to replace the bridge, as that is our boundary line at the center of the creek. Both the City and the County are responsible for the bridge, but UDOT is looking to see if there are any other options to get this bridge replaced soon; it does have some issues, and they would like to see it fixed. As developments come across, he will keep the Council in the loop.

This last week was really, really nice. They had a great time with the judges from the America in Bloom; he had the opportunity to spend several hours with them on Sunday and they were blown away. He took them to the top of Guardsman Way, and they wanted to stop about every 100 yards to take another picture. They seemed to really enjoy seeing Murray, and we are really looking forward to the report that they are going to be giving the City. They had some excellent comments as they were being chauffeured around, and the Mayor wanted to thank Ms. Hansen and the others for their work on this project, they were really good. There are only three cities in the same population class as Murray, who are competing for the national recognition which will be given at the end of September; the thing that fascinated them more than anything else, was how unique Murray is compared to other cities that they have been to, because we are so independent. They had a lot of questions about Murray Power, and where our power comes from, sustainable, renewable energy resources, how the Parks Department works, and the encouragement we give to our neighbors and businesses to step up and recognize them with our beautification awards each year, and how we handled the flooding situation; we talked about how it was a lake when they drove through, and walked around the park and arboretum, showing them where the water level was just a few weeks ago, and they were very impressed.

Mayor Snarr said that they are looking forward to their report- they had some excellent suggestions; they work really hard to go over everything very thoroughly. He was very impressed with their program and it ended up being a lot more than he had expected.

H. QUESTIONS OF THE MAYOR

None

ADJOURNMENT