

**MURRAY CITY MUNICIPAL COUNCIL
COUNCIL MEETING**

Minutes of Tuesday, September 10, 2024

Murray City Hall, 10 East 4800 South, Council Chambers, Murray, Utah 84107

Attendance:

Council Members:

Paul Pickett	District #1
Pam Cotter	District #2 – Council Chair
Rosalba Dominguez	District #3
Diane Turner	District #4
Adam Hock	District #5 – Council Vice-Chair

Others:

Brett Hales	Mayor	Jennifer Kennedy	City Council Executive Director
Doug Hill	Chief Administrative Officer	Pattie Johnson	Council Administration
G.L. Critchfield	City Attorney	Rob White	IT Director
Brenda Moore	Finance Director	Greg Bellon	Power Director
Craig Burnette	Police Chief	Margaret Horton	History Board
Camron Kollman	IT	Phil Markham	Community and Economic Dev. Director
David Rodgers	Senior Planner	Zac Smallwood	Planning Manager
Lori Edmunds	Cultural Arts Director	Citizens	

Call to Order: 6: 30 p.m. – Council Member Pam Cotter

Approval of Minutes: Council Meeting, July 23, 2024 and Council Meeting August 6, 2024.

MOTION: Mr. Hock moved to approve, and Ms. Turner SECONDED the motion.

Voice vote taken, all “Ayes.” Approved 5-0

Special Presentation:

Presentation of the 2024 Jim and Jean Hendrickson Beautification Awards. Forestry Supervisor Matt Erkelens introduced new Shade Tree Commission Members who assisted in Murray City’s 40th Annual Beautification Awards Program. Landscaping photos were displayed and each category winner was recognized and came forward to receive a special award.

Special Recognition:

Consider a Joint Resolution of the Mayor and Municipal Council of Murray City, Utah, declaring September 2024 as National Senior Center Month. Mayor Hales shared the resolution and praised the Murray Senior Center as a phenomenal place that provides wonderful programs for seniors of all ages. He also highlighted volunteers who contribute many hours of service.

MOTION: Ms. Turner moved to approve the joint resolution. Mr. Pickett SECONDED the motion.

Council Roll Call Vote:

Ms. Dominguez	Aye
Ms. Turner	Aye
Mr. Hock	Aye
Mr. Pickett	Aye
Ms. Cotter	Aye
Motion passed:	5-0

Citizen Comments:

Kathryn Lichfield – Murray Resident

Ms. Lichfield said she respected the process that goes into amending City Code. She expressed a desire to add standards to a future proposed Fence Code Amendment and appreciated the planning process for locating sidewalks within the current Fence Code. She believed 80% of the City's sidewalks are non-conforming, many fences are non-conforming and not in uniform and fences are not held to the same standard because she has seen fencing located next to both six- and three-foot-wide sidewalks. She wanted to participate in the City process but did not want to see the City prosecute a homeowner for being out of code, due to a neighbor complaint. She asked that Code language reflect that only the City would direct fencing violations and matters, and not neighbors.

Michael Tanner – Murray Resident

Mr. Tanner shared about the shortage of affordable housing in the City and encouraged Council Members to make a good decision by banning STR (short-term rentals) to increase long-term housing availability. He felt doing so would preserve neighborhood character and prevent transient people from moving in and out of neighborhoods who do not get to know neighbors, do not attend neighborhood churches, or attend city council meetings. He felt banning STRs would reduce noise and congestion, increase economic stability for local residents and focus on sustainable tourism. Noting the Council would not address the matter in this meeting, He said by banning STRs the City would maintain integrity of Murray communities, noting how cities like Barcelona and New York City have successfully preserved residential character through similar restrictions. By banning STRs Murray can ensure that housing is available to community members who want to be homeowners.

Consent Agenda:

Consider confirmation of the Mayor's appointment of Margaret Horton to the History Advisory Board for a partial term beginning August 2024 through August 2026. Mayor Hales introduced Ms. Horton and expressed excitement about having her serve the City on History Advisory Board.

MOTION: Mr. Pickett moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Ms. Turner SECONDED the motion.

Council Roll Call Vote:

Ms. Dominguez	Aye
Ms. Turner	Aye
Mr. Hock	Aye
Mr. Pickett	Aye
Ms. Cotter	Aye
Motion passed:	5-0

Public Hearings:

1. **Consider an ordinance relating to land use; amends the General Plan from Office to Low Density Residential and amends the Zoning Map from G-O (General Office) to R-1-8 (Low Density Single Family) for the property located at 5172 South 935 East, Murray City.** Planning Manager Zac Smallwood said property owner Yubaraj Sapkota requested the rezone. Mr. Smallwood displayed an aerial map of the 0.20-acre parcel located east of 900 East and confirmed that the request was in line with the Future Land Use map. Noting that the property owner would like to construct a single-family home on the property, Mr. Smallwood reviewed existing zone standards, compared differences between the existing GO zone and the proposed R-1-8 and shared findings to confirm that staff supported the request. The Planning Commission also recommended approval on June 6, 2024 voting 6-0.

The public hearing was open for public comments. No comments were given, and the public hearing was closed.

MOTION: Ms. Turner moved to approve the ordinance. Ms. Cotter SECONDED the motion.

Council Roll Call Vote:

Ms. Dominguez Aye
Ms. Turner Aye
Mr. Hock Aye
Mr. Pickett Aye
Ms. Cotter Aye
Motion passed: 5-0

2. **Consider an ordinance relating to Land Use; amends the Zoning Map from A-1 (Agricultural) to R-1-8 (Single Family Low Density) for the property located at 5712 South 800 West, Murray City.** Senior Planner David Rodgers said property owners Brent and Lucinda Milne requested the rezone for the 1.07-acre site. Mr. Rodgers displayed an aerial photo to show that currently the lot line runs through a tennis court. The Future Land Use Map was studied to explain that the rezone was needed prior to a lot-line adjustment and potential infill development for a flag lot in the future. The rezone would ensure that none of the surrounding parcels do not cross boundaries. Standards for the existing zone were compared to the proposed R-1-8 zone and shared the findings to confirm why staff and the Planning Commission recommended approval to the City Council.

The public hearing was open for public comments. No comments were given, and the public hearing was closed.

MOTION: Ms. Dominguez moved to approve the ordinance. Mr. Hock SECONDED the motion.

Council Roll Call Vote:

Ms. Dominguez Aye
Ms. Turner Aye
Mr. Hock Aye
Mr. Pickett Aye
Ms. Cotter Aye
Motion passed: 5-0

Business Item:

Consider a resolution amending the Murray City Council Policies and Procedures. Council Member Pickett said the request was intended to remove the requirement to read every email comment that is submitted to Council Members, as a public comment during a council meeting. The resolution removes the requirement to read every single email.

MOTION: Ms. Dominguez moved to amend the resolution based on Mr. Hock's suggestion to keep the existing language about forwarding comments to Council Members prior to a Council meeting. Mr. Hock SECONDED the motion.

Council Roll Call Vote:

Ms. Dominguez Aye
Ms. Turner Aye
Mr. Hock Aye
Mr. Pickett Aye
Ms. Cotter Aye
Motion passed: 5-0

MOTION: Ms. Dominguez moved to approve the resolution as amended. Mr. Hock SECONDED the motion.

Council Roll Call Vote:

Ms. Dominguez Aye

Ms. Turner Aye

Mr. Hock Aye

Mr. Pickett Aye

Ms. Cotter Aye

Motion passed: 5-0

Mayor's Report and Questions: Mayor Hales introduced Murray Fire Chief Mittelman who provided information about Murray Firefighters who assisted in their fifth two-week deployment to assist in battling wildfires near Fish Creek in West Yellowstone National Park, which also served as a training opportunity. Mayor Hales also announced that Murray's Public Power Celebration would take place on Thursday, September 12, 2024 from 4:00-6:30 p.m.

Adjournment: 7:22 p.m.

**Pattie Johnson
Council Office Administrator III**