

**MURRAY CITY MUNICIPAL COUNCIL  
COUNCIL MEETING**

Minutes of Tuesday, March 18, 2025

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

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**Attendance:**

Council Members:

Paul Pickett	District #1
Pam Cotter	District #2 – Council Chair
Scott Goodman	District #3
Adam Hock	District #5 – Council Vice-Chair

Others:

Brett Hales	Mayor	Jennifer Kennedy	City Council Executive Director
Doug Hill	Chief Administrative Officer	Brooke Smith	City Recorder
G.L. Critchfield	City Attorney	Pattie Johnson	Council Administration
Brenda Moore	Finance Director	Joey Mittelman	Fire Chief
Rick Urban	Cottonwood Presbyterian Church	Ben Gray	IT
Kim Sorensen	Parks and Recreation Director	Rob White	IT Director
Katie Lindquist	Parks and Recreation Department	Citizens & Guests	
Rick Urban	Cottonwood Presbyterian Church		

Excused: Diane Turner – District #4.

**Call to Order:** 6:30 p.m. – Council Member Goodman

**Approval of Minutes:** Council Meeting, February 18, 2025.

**MOTION:** Ms. Cotter moved to approve, and Mr. Pickett SECONDED the motion. Voice vote taken, all “Ayes.”  
Approved 4-0

**Consent Agenda:** Mayor Hales requested the following:

1. Consider confirmation of the Mayor’s reappointment of John Prestwich to the Public Safety Advisory Board for a term beginning February 1, 2025 through January 31, 2028.
2. Consider confirmation of the Mayor’s reappointment of Andrea Washburn to the Public Safety Advisory Board for a term beginning February 1, 2025 through January 31, 2028.

**MOTION:** Mr. Hock moved to approve the consent agenda. Mr. Pickett SECONDED the motion.

**Council Roll Call Vote:**

Mr. Hock	Aye
Mr. Pickett	Aye
Ms. Cotter	Aye
Mr. Goodman	Aye
Motion passed:	4-0

**Public Hearings:**

- **Consider an ordinance enacting Chapter 3.58 of the Murray City Municipal Code relating to donations and sponsorships.** Parks Director Kim Sorensen said the ordinance would now allow the Parks and Recreation Department to accept sponsorships or donations. The mayor would have full authority to accept donations or sponsorships under \$100,000 without City Council approval, providing that the finance director report donation amounts to the City Council on a quarterly basis. The ordinance does require Council approval to accept sponsorships or donations over \$100,000.

Mr. Sorensen said the Mayor would authorize naming rooms or features inside a City facility such as stages, ticket booths or concession stands. Naming an entire facility, park, golf course, or anything outside of a City building after the donor, requires City Council approval. Even a bench inside a facility can be named with mayoral approval. Mr. Sorensen reported that the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board unanimously supported the proposal.

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

**MOTION:** Mr. Hock moved to approve the ordinance. Mr. Pickett SECONDED the motion.

**Council Roll Call Vote:**

Mr. Hock	Aye
Mr. Pickett	Aye
Ms. Cotter	Aye
Mr. Goodman	Aye
Motion passed:	4-0

- **Consider an ordinance enacting Chapter 3.60 of the Murray City Municipal Code relating to fees for use of preserving the Murray City Theater and Murray Park Amphitheater.** Mr. Sorensen said the ordinance would allow the City to charge a \$1 preservation fee per ticket for outdoor amphitheater events and a \$1 fee per ticket for Murray Theater tickets priced \$15 and under. A \$2 fee per ticket would be charged for Murray Theater tickets priced over \$15, and all fees would be excluded for complementary tickets, educational programming and free rehearsals.

Mr. Sorensen noted that Zions Public Finance, who determined the fees, also included a maximum preservation fee of \$4 in their report. He explained that after further discussion with the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, the board voted unanimously to support the lower \$1 and \$2 fee amounts, with direction that fees be reevaluated in one year. He reminded the Council that the preservation fee was not intended to fully maintain or operate these facilities but would be set aside in a savings account to be used for needs not covered by the General Fund or during times of economic downturn.

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

Mr. Hock asked how the advisory board concluded to support the lower fee amounts. Mr. Sorensen said their decision to support lower fees was due to comparing fees with other County venues and not wanting to charge an amount limiting those who could afford to attend the new venue.

Mr. Goodman asked if a percentage amount per ticket could be calculated in the future if necessary. Mr. Sorensen agreed they could do that, however the fee should not exceed the \$4 maximum.

**MOTION:** Mr. Pickett moved to approve the ordinance. Ms. Cotter SECONDED the motion.

**Council Roll Call Vote:**

Mr. Hock	Aye
Mr. Pickett	Aye
Ms. Cotter	Aye
Mr. Goodman	Aye
Motion passed:	4-0

- **Consider an ordinance amending Section 17.156.020 (C-N Commercial Neighborhood District) to allow Land Use No. 7410 "Sport Activities" as a permitted use.** Planning Manager Zac Smallwood said the

company Another Round Golf made the request to add sports activities as a land use category to the C-N zone. Mr. Smallwood said the Planning Commission held a public hearing on December 19, 2025 and voted 5-0 in favor of recommending approval and that City staff fully supported the amendment.

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

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

**Council Roll Call Vote:**

Mr. Hock	Aye
Mr. Pickett	Aye
Ms. Cotter	Aye
Mr. Goodman	Aye
Motion passed:	4-0

- **Consider an ordinance relating to Land Use; amends the Zoning Map from R-1-10 (Single Family Low-Density) to R-1-6 (Single Family Medium-Density) for the properties located at 1504 and 1508 East Vine Street, Murray City.** Mr. Smallwood said the land owner requested the rezone and shared the future land use map to confirm that the request was in compliance. He noted other properties in the area that were also zoned R-1-6, reviewed low density residential requirements and compared zoning standards of the existing R-1-10 to the requested R-1-6. He outlined four findings approved by the Planning Commission on December 19, 2025 who voted 5-0 in favor of forwarding approval to the City Council, which City staff also supported.

Mr. Pickett asked about plans to divide the parcels for allowing two additional homes. Mr. Smallwood confirmed two new dwellings could be constructed on four separate lots. Mr. Hock asked how the parcels would be divided to allow one driveway for four dwellings of equal size. Mr. Smallwood said a 39 foot access drive would be required down the center of the combined parcels to serve all four lots. Mr. Pourkazemi spoke confirm.

Mr. Pourkazemi said the large gate to the rear was there when he bought the property, he knew it was owned by the church and they gave him permission to use the gate and preferred the gate remain open. He said he had allowed gate access for the past 12 years and he had no plans to use it in the development and he believed they approved of his use of the back of his property.

Mr. Goodman asked about communication with the church. Mr. Pourkazemi said communication was open and church representatives were cooperative. Mr. Goodman expressed concern with the impact of construction on the neighborhood and church community.

Ms. Cotter asked about the church owned garden property. Mr. Smallwood said the large area to the south west was used for community gardening and a preschool located at the church.

The public hearing was open for public comments.

**Rick Urbom – Cottonwood Heights Resident**

Cottonwood Presbyterian Church member Mr. Urbom said the church did not oppose the rezone but had concerns with Mr. Pourkazemi using their parking lot illegally for transporting produce. In 1957 the Presbytery of Utah bought the five-acre property that included the fence and gate, but there was no legal easement to the Pourkazemi property like Mr. Pourkazemi believed. Mr. Urbom shared comments from the

church minister saying he would like to make it known that if the rezone is approved, the property will have the necessary setback needed to build the driveway through the center of his property for full access. This will remove the perceived need to access illegally through the church parking lot. There is no right of way on record for use of the access and the parking lot continues to be used illegally.

Jacob Perry – Murray Resident

Mr. Perry said he lived west of the property and shared a backyard with the community garden, he enjoyed organic tomatoes and fruit trees planted by Mr. Pourkazemi. He expressed concern about adding two more homes to the area, increasing the number of driveways on Vine Street that already has four driveways serving four homes. He felt the development would create more street parking, making it more difficult to access his mailbox, put his garbage cans out and make it would be more dangerous to exit his driveway onto Vine Street due to reduced visibility of traffic to the east and west.

The public hearing was closed.

Mr. Hock asked what could be done about the gate access issue. Mr. Smallwood said the dispute was a civil matter to be resolved between two private property owners. He addressed Mr. Goodman's concern about the construction process saying that the City's engineering department followed strict regulations regarding construction, so it would all take place on the site and not interfere with Vine Street traffic.

Mr. Pickett expressed the importance of focusing on the rezone request and not neighbor disputes regarding the gate and fencing. Mr. Hock agreed and said after visiting neighbors in the area, concerns were equally divided, many were supportive, many were not. Mr. Pickett pointed out that by allowing the rezone, two driveways accessing the property would be reduced to just one driveway because the four proposed dwellings would share one large driveway. Mr. Smallwood agreed.

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

**Council Roll Call Vote:**

Mr. Hock	Nay
Mr. Pickett	Nay
Ms. Cotter	Nay
Mr. Goodman	Nay
Motion failed:	0-4

Mr. Hock felt the change would be too traumatic for the neighborhood. Mr. Pickett agreed. Mr. Goodman suggested that the planning division find a way to address the requests for flag lot projects that were becoming more common throughout the City.

**Mayor's Report and Questions:** Mayor Hales announced that an open house for the Murray Mansion would be held on May 2, 2025 and the Murray Armory would open on June 2, 2025.

**Adjournment:** 7:28 p.m.

**Pattie Johnson**  
**Council Office Administrator III**