

Murray City Municipal Council Chambers Murray City, Utah

The Municipal Council of Murray City, Utah, met on Tuesday, the 21st day of January, 2014 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:

Brett Hales,	Council Chair
Jim Brass,	Council Member – Conducted
Blair Camp,	Council Member
Diane Turner,	Council Member
Dave Nicponski,	Council Member

Others who attended:

Ted Eyre,	Mayor
Jan Wells,	Chief of Staff
Brent Davidson,	Deputy City Recorder
Frank Nakamura,	City Attorney
Janet Lopez,	Council Administrator
Janet Towers,	Mayor's Office
Pete Fondaco,	Police Chief
Craig Burnett,	Deputy Police Chief
Gil Rodriguez,	Fire Chief
Kevin Potter,	Deputy Fire Chief
Doug Hill,	Public Services Director
Greg Bellon,	Assistant General Manager, Power Department
Michelle Lundeen,	Power Department
Justin Zollinger,	Finance Director
Tim Tingey,	Administrative and Development Services Director
Ben Hathaway	Harmony Home Health Representative
Citizens	

5. Opening Ceremonies

5.1 Pledge of Allegiance – Kevin Potter, Deputy Fire Chief

5.2 Approval of Minutes

5.2.1 January 7, 2014

Mr. Camp made a motion to approve the minutes

Mr. Hales seconded the motion

Voice vote taken, all “ayes.”

5.3 Special Recognition

5.3.1 Murray City Council Employee of the Month, Michelle Lundeen, Office Administrator III, Power Department. (Greg Bellon and Brett Hales presenting.)

Staff presentation: Greg Bellon, Assistant General Manager, Power Department and Brett Hales, Council Member

Mr. Hales stated this was a great honor for him because Ms. Lundeen and he are neighbors as well as co-workers. He said that Ms. Lundeen is an awesome lady and when her name was submitted, he was really excited. Mr. Hales turned the time over to Greg Bellon, Assistant General Manager of the Power Department.

Mr. Bellon said that Ms. Lundeen has been with the Power Department for 10 ½ years and he has been there for 5 ½ years. He said that Ms. Lundeen is an amazing employee and deserves the spotlight on her tonight. Ms. Lundeen always has a positive, up-beat attitude. He said that he works in the building across the way and if he needs a pick-me-up he can walk across the parking lot and see Ms. Lundeen and Diane Taylor who greet everyone who walks into their office and makes them feel like they are somebody.

He continued stating that Ms. Lundeen is a very valuable employee. She handles payroll, which can be a monumental task all by itself. She handles the phones and deals with customers as well. Her title is Office Administrator III which means she is usually doing about three tasks at any given time. She is always doing great work.

Mr. Bellon stated that Ms. Lundeen handles the Power Departments Apprentice and Journeyman hours. They have to log so many hours every month and Ms. Lundeen is in charge of that and helps them keep track of

that because they really cannot keep track of their hours on their own sometimes.

Mr. Bellon added that Ms. Lundeen has also been serving on the MCEA (Murray City Employee Association) for ten years. He said that if you have ever been to a Murray City Employee Association party, Ms. Lundeen is responsible for the cool awards you get, the food, and the entertainment.

Mr. Bellon continued saying that when Ms. Lundeen is assigned to do anything, she always says, "I can do that" which is huge for the department because it is nice to have someone you can go to and you know the job is going to get done. It is a very refreshing approach for those in the Power Department.

He said that Ms. Lundeen deals with contractors and people walking in. She is very professional and "a jewel". Mr. Bellon introduced Ms. Lundeen's family. Mr. Bellon added that Ms. Lundeen loves her family more than anyone he has seen in a long time. She is a very dedicated mom. Anyone that deals with her in the sports world benefits greatly. She is amazing and dedicated to her family.

Mr. Bellon ended saying that he is very happy that Ms. Lundeen is part of the Power Department and turned the time back over to Mr. Hales.

Mr. Hales said that this program was started last year and it has been really cool and everyone is excited about it. It is a neat thing. He presented Ms. Lundeen with a certificate from the City Council and a \$50.00 gift card to the Fashion Place Mall. He congratulated Ms. Lundeen.

6. Citizen Comments (Comments are limited to 3 minutes unless otherwise approved by the Council.)

Bruce Cutler – 6051 Mohican Circle, Murray, Utah

Mr. Cutler wanted to inform everyone that he is going to be running for the Legislature this year in District 44. He is having a campaign kick-off meeting this Thursday in Midvale at the Staybridge Hotel and he invited anyone who would be interested in attending to do so.

He said he has lived in Murray since his oldest child was one year old and he grew up in the Cottonwood area. He has spent a lot of time in Murray. He has been on the School Board for eight years. He just completed six years by the appointment of the previous Mayor on the Library Board here in Murray and he wants to continue to serve the community.

Mr. Cutler said he wanted to mention publically today that he is going to give it a shot.

He said that some people say he is a “glutton for punishment” but he thinks this will be a good experience to be able to serve the communities of Murray and Midvale.

7. Consent Agenda

- 7.1 Consider confirmation of Mayor Eyre’s reappointment of Brandon Beckstead to the Murray City Arts Advisory Board in an At-Large position for a two-year term to expire January 15, 2016.
- 7.2 Consider confirmation of Mayor Eyre’s reappointment of Scott Mooy to the Murray City Arts Advisory Board in an At-Large position for a three-year term to expire on January 15, 2017.
- 7.3 Consider confirmation of Mayor Eyre’s new appointment of Kimberly Lewis to the Murray City Arts Advisory Board in an At-Large position for a three-year term to expire on January 15, 2017
- 7.4 Consider confirmation of Mayor Eyre’s reappointment of Morgan Selph to the Murray Parks and Recreation Advisory Board in an At-Large position for a three-year term to expire on January 17, 2017.

Ms. Turner made a motion to adopt the entire Consent Agenda
Mr. Nicponski seconded the motion

Call vote recorded by Brent Davidson

 A Ms. Turner
 A Mr. Hales
 A Mr. Nicponski
 A Mr. Camp
 A Mr. Brass

Motion passed 5-0

8. Public Hearings

8.1 Public Hearing #1

8.1.1 Staff and sponsor presentations and public comment will be given prior to Council action on the following matter:

Consider an Ordinance amending Sections 17.68.030 and 17.68.040 of the Murray City Municipal Code relating to landscaping requirements for nonresidential developments.

Staff Presentation: Tim Tingey, Administrative and Development Services

Director.

Mr. Tingey said that this item was considered by the Planning Commission for a recommendation in November 2013. It is a very basic change. This Ordinance was changed last year to include a different element related to landscaping, planning and what was required as far as submittal for a building permit. Those changes were made, but since that time there is a need to clarify some of the issues related to it.

Mr. Tingey continued stating that it is really related to three issues: front setbacks, park strips, and parking areas. The changes are to clarify what is determined as ground cover as well as the percentage of coverage for the ground cover.

Mr. Tingey said that some of the issues that have come up are that some individuals submitting plans stated they were proposing trees with a certain caliper and that those trees constituted ground cover. Mr. Tingey said they want to clarify that and say ground cover includes these elements related to low growing vegetation but does not include trees but it does include grasses and other things.

Mr. Tingey stated that the Planning Commission recommended approval of this Ordinance change and staff is also recommending approval of these changes to landscaping. He added that this is in commercial and industrial areas, not residential areas.

Public Hearing Open for public comment.

No public comment was given.

Public comment closed.

8.1.2 Council consideration of the above matter.

Mr. Hales made a motion to adopt the Ordinance
Mr. Nicponski seconded the motion

Call vote recorded by Jennifer Kennedy

 A Ms. Turner
 A Mr. Hales
 A Mr. Nicponski
 A Mr. Camp
 A Mr. Brass

Motion passed 5-0

8.2 Public Hearing #2

8.2.1 Staff and sponsor presentations and public comment will be given prior to Council action on the following matter:

Consider an Ordinance amendment to Section 17.48.120 of the Murray City Municipal Code to allow for additional height and size for on premise signs on properties adjacent to I-15 in the G-O (General Office) zoning district. (Attachment 1)

Staff Presentation: Tim Tingey, Administrative and Development Services Director.

Mr. Tingey said this item was considered by the Planning Commission and they provided a recommendation. It was quite some time ago, over a year, that this recommendation was provided. There were some delays that were requested by the applicant which is the reasoning behind the time frame for this.

Mr. Tingey stated the applicant submitted a proposed text change that is for property adjacent to freeways in general office zones where the sign is freeway oriented. He said the maximum height may be determined from freeway grade rather than the grade at the sidewalk of the property level.

Mr. Tingey said that in addition to that on these properties adjacent to freeways in general office zones where the sign is freeway oriented, the maximum square footage allowed would be 300 square feet.

Mr. Tingey added that the intent of the General Office zone is to be a buffer or a transition area from industrial, retail or commercial areas to residential areas. He said the Ordinance states that there should be an emphasis on neighborhood compatibility related to the design, which includes the structures and the signs.

He said the key part of this is that General Office is a buffer area; that there are limitations on those signs. In the City's current Ordinance in these areas, detached signs, which are what is being considered tonight, are only allowed to be 50 square feet. The applicant is proposing 300 square feet which is the maximum size of a sign that the City would allow as a detached sign in any part of the city: retail, C-D-C, or manufacturing. That is the maximum size of a sign.

Mr. Tingey stated the City has that maximum size and emphasized that reduction of the signage in General Office is to promote neighborhood compatibility, the buffer elements, of signage between residential and

industrial or heavier commercial areas.

He said that is the emphasis of what the intent of the Ordinance is at this time. This proposal went before the Planning Commission and there were a number of concerns by Planning Commission members. The Planning Commission recommended denial of this change by a 4-3 vote. Mr. Tingey added there were concerns with the buffering elements related to this.

Mr. Tingey reiterated that the concern is preserving the buffer of the transition area between residential and heavier commercial areas. This Ordinance as proposed by the applicant would impact neighborhoods and other areas. On the map of Murray City, he showed State Street, I-15, the property the applicant owns which is General Office, other General Office properties running along the freeway, I-215 and other General Office areas. He added that General Office is also located along other areas on Van Winkle and 900 east. He said there are a number of properties that are adjacent to residential neighborhoods on interstates and what this Ordinance is proposing is to allow for that maximum sign size of 300 square feet on interstates.

Mr. Tingey emphasized that the Ordinance and amendments are not consistent with the General Plan. In the General Plan, it talks about the importance of maintaining the viability of the quality of life of neighborhoods. Buffering and transitions are an important part of that. An increase of height and square footage of signs does not contribute to the compatibility with residential areas. He said the existing sign code allows adequate signage for G-O zones so they can have detached signs but they can also have signs on their buildings. Distinguishing the zoning district as a transitional zone buffering residential properties is important. He added that it is difficult to justify the size of the sign area based solely on freeway adjacency because there are other properties where there are General Office zones where there are high speed traffic areas, such as Van Winkle.

Mr. Tingey stated that based on all of this and the recommendation by the Planning Commission; staff is recommending denial of this proposal.

Ben Hathaway, Attorney, appeared on behalf of the applicant, Harmony Home Health Care.

Mr. Hathaway said it is important to understand where the Harmony business is located. It is on 5650 South Green Street in a G-O zone that is in a little narrow strip bordered on the north and south by a C-D-C zone. He stated that the property that is being referred to tonight is in a G-O zone and it does lie between a residential area and I-15; as do all the

neighboring properties.

Mr. Hathaway stated the problem is that along Green Street on this particular strip, it is lined with freeway oriented signs such as the Summerhays Music sign and the Kentucky Fried Chicken sign. He said the Harmony building is a one story building. With respect to staff's comments the signage on the building; whether on the side or top, it is still not going to have the freeway orientation because Green Street is well below the grade on the freeway.

Mr. Hathaway showed a photo where all the businesses to the north have freeway oriented signs: Piano Gallery and Kentucky Fried Chicken. The building immediately next door to the Harmony building has signage on the building on the third story and the same on the south. They all have freeway oriented sides. He said it is quite odd as you drive down the freeway to see these signs all lined up then suddenly there is a void where Harmony's building is. It is the only building situated in this G-O zone and it is really not being used to its highest and best use because of the inability to advertise the business.

Mr. Hathaway said they have suggested this change and the concept of being oriented to the freeway is not unique to what they are suggesting. They have borrowed language from the C-D-C code which allows for different sizing and different height if a sign is freeway oriented. They are suggesting that the 15 feet be measured from the freeway grade rather than the street grade on G-O property that meets two requirements. The first requirement is that the property is adjacent to a freeway and the second is that the sign is a freeway oriented sign.

He said that the standard that an applicant must clear to get a text change is that it needs to be consistent with the Master Plan. Mr. Hathaway suggested in this case that not only is it consistent with the Master Plan, it advances the purposes of it.

The policy he is referring to says that the applicant will have to conform to the intent of the General Plan. In this case, the goal of strengthening the City's medical related commercial activity is met. Harmony is in the medicine business. It is a home health and hospice service provider.

Secondly, it increases the number of consumers of Murray's retail business by enabling them to advertise their business to the large population that is moving through the I-15 corridor.

Mr. Hathaway added that it meets the goal of increasing the utilization of land in Murray. As he mentioned, if you drive by right now there is a void, it may as well be an empty field if you are driving down I-15 and you see

the signs lined up and then the empty space.

It retains the existing businesses within Murray City. This has posed a hardship for Harmony and continues to do so. This would enable them to more fully use their property.

Lastly, it is still going to preserve and protect the quality of life in the residential neighborhood. Mr. Hathaway showed the Council some pictures that illustrated this, including a picture of where Harmony's sign would be. He also noted that a sign that would fit within the 50 foot requirement would be meaningless to have the height without the size increase on a freeway oriented sign. He said there was some literature in the signage material that a sign that cannot be easily read may create more of a hazard.

Mr. Hathaway reiterated that there are two prerequisites that are incorporated within the suggested text change. One is that it has to be adjacent to a freeway and the other is that it has to be a freeway oriented sign. He said he has already talked about I-15 and the G-O zone there. He pointed out the G-O zone where Stevens Henager College is located. He added this is significant because if you look at the other G-O zones in the City, they are above freeway grade so none of it will be affected in any meaningful way by a text change allowing an increase in height and size of signs. Stevens Henager has their building built and they have their signage up on their building and are utilizing it to have that freeway orientation for their business.

Mr. Hathaway said that the other property that is in a G-O zone is along the I-215 corridor and is also above freeway grade. He said there is no benefit to raising the signage any higher and the proposed text change would not affect it except to the degree that there could be some increase in the size of the signs that are used on those pieces of property. He said that it really only makes sense and it gives the benefit of having that access in those zones.

Otherwise, in Murray City, there are no other G-O zones that are adjacent to freeways. There are some G-O zones along 4500 south but 4500 south is not a 55 or 65 M.P.H. street. There are also some along Van Winkle. Again, they are not adjacent to the freeway so the language would not apply to them. Not even a plausible argument could be made because they are not high speed traffic kinds of areas.

Mr. Hathaway continued stating that aside from a spot or two on 900 east that is all the G-O zoned property in Murray City. So the proposed language is really going to make it possible for those who should be in the position to take advantage of that freeway traffic to increase their presence

and make available whatever services they have to that larger cross section. He added that is one of the purposes of the General Plan and it is consistent with it. That is what Harmony is hoping to take advantage of by advertising to that group.

He reiterated that property adjacent to the freeway and signs that are of freeway orientation may be affected by the suggested language that they are requesting the Council consider. He asked the Council if they had any questions.

Mr. Camp asked if rather than a text change to the G-O ordinance, because this is kind of a unique property, has a variance been considered or is that an option?

Mr. Hathaway said that a variance was attempted and it did not pass. They have tried to look for a way to not do something that is unique and inconsistent with the General Plan, but try to approach it in a way that it fits within the General Plan. Therefore, they have come around this direction.

Public Hearing Open for public comment.

No public comment was given.

Public comment closed.

Mr. Camp said the residential area there is Hidden Village which is in his district. He said that as he has talked to some of the residents there during his campaign there were some concerns about that property along there because of the impact that those buildings have had on their neighborhood and on the view and so forth. As he deliberates this, he is keeping this in mind.

He said that on the other hand, this is a unique piece of property as it sits between two three story buildings and to the north all of those signs line up.

Mr. Camp said he has two concerns. His first concern is the impact on Hidden Village. He said he did not believe any of the neighbors were in attendance to address that tonight. His second concern is the impact this would have on other G-O areas to the north that are on I-15. He directed that question to Mr. Tingey.

Mr. Tingey said there would be the same types of issues. You are not looking at one specific property. This text change would apply to all General Office zones adjacent to the freeways which include I-215 and I-

15. It is not just one property they are talking about and not just the impact upon that one neighborhood. It is the potential impact on all properties that are General Office all along the freeway areas. It is a text change that would allow you to go six times larger than what would be allowed now in a General Office zone going from 50 to 300 square feet which is the largest amount of signage that is allowed in any zoning district.

Mr. Brass asked if this was for an electronic sign.

Mr. Tingey said no. In a General Office the sign still would not be allowed as electronic. Electronic signs are only allowed in C-D-C and in general manufacturing zones. That is not included as part of this zone change.

Ms. Turner said her concern is eroding the buffer zone area. She thinks it is important that the City has those for our residential areas. She said she thinks the City needs that transition area.

Mr. Hathaway said that the City has previously suggested that Harmony could build a larger sign on its building. It would be on the side or the roof of the building. He suggests that a sign on top of the building would be more of an obstruction and less consistent with the intention of the G-O zone than the smaller sign that is being suggested would be.

He said that another option would be to build a two or three stories taller building. Again, that is an option and if they did that they could put bigger signs up on the building; they are allowed to. If it is an attached sign it can be larger than the requirements that the G-O zone has. He does not think that is consistent and that does not preserve the buffer zone. If anything, it obstructs it. That is why they are trying to focus on that little sign instead of having to do some more extreme changes; that are allowed as currently zoned, that would defeat the buffer zone. That is why Harmony is taking this approach.

Mr. Brass said he agrees with Mr. Camp. If you look at it, it is an interesting dilemma. One thing he has learned over the years, especially with zoning changes, is the law of unintended consequences. Regardless of how the Council thinks, if you can put it in a G-O zone, it will get put in a G-O zone. Even if I-215 is located up on a hill and it is not necessary. He said that he finds often in signage is if you can do it, do it.

He continued saying the other thing he has found is that typically when we talk about billboards, the Council Chambers will be filled up with people. It is one of the things that Murray's citizens are passionate about. He added that he understands Harmony's dilemma, but they have to look at the entire City and all of the G-O zones.

Mr. Brass stated he imagines you could clear the ideal definition of a freeway being I-15 and I-215 but if you said highway then 4500 south does come into play and maybe even Van Winkle although he said he was not sure if that was a state highway. However 4500 south is a state highway and certainly State Street. That is his concern; how many other G-O zones to they pull in. It is not so much one property; it is all the properties the Council has to look at.

Mr. Camp asked Mr. Tingey to clarify regarding the statement of constructing this sign on the building. He asked if it was technically allowed to build the sign elevated on top of the building.

Mr. Tingey said that, for clarification purposes, the City does not allow signs on top or on the roof of a building. The sign can be attached to the building and go up four feet above the height of the roof, but only four feet above. The City does not allow a sign to attach to the top of a roof that is fully above the roof line; only four feet above. He added that when we are talking about attached signage, it has to be attached to the building. It has to be below the roof or four feet above.

Mr. Brass asked if all the other signs that were in the pictures were in the C-D-C zone and this one was in the G-O zone.

Mr. Tingey responded to the north is a C-D-C zone.

Mr. Brass said that is what he thought.

Mr. Tingey said there was a question from the applicant on whether signs are allowed on top of the roof. Mr. Tingey stated he believes that is accurate and he would have to located the section of the Code that states that there is a four foot allowance, but they are not allowed on top of the roof. He asked for time to look up the Code.

Mr. Camp asked if once a variance is denied is it not allowed to come back to the Board of Adjustment.

Mr. Brass said they can appeal to the Board of Adjustment and asked Mr. Tingey to verify that.

Mr. Camp stated he was going back to a variance of this particular building. Once that has been denied, since they applied before, is that the end of the road or is there a timeframe that they can come back.

Mr. Tingey responded that what occurred is the Board of Adjustment denied the variance request so it can be appealed within 30 days to District Court. That is the process; that timeframe went by.

Mr. Nakamura added that the exact issue cannot be brought back. It has been decided and the only recourse would be an appeal to the District Court. It cannot be brought back because the decision is final from the Board of Adjustment.

Mr. Hales asked Mr. Tingey if the four feet was correct.

Mr. Tingey replied he had located the exact code and it is correct. Section 17.48.280 says a sign may be attached that faces a parapet wall. The sign projection above the top of the parapet wall may not exceed one-fourth, or four feet, above that parapet wall.

8.2.2 Council consideration of the above matter.

Mr. Hales made a motion to deny the Ordinance
Mr. Camp seconded the motion

Call vote recorded by Brent Davidson

 A Ms. Turner
 A Mr. Hales
 A Mr. Nicponski
 A Mr. Camp
 A Mr. Brass

Motion to deny the Ordinance passed 5-0.

Call vote recorded by Jennifer Kennedy

9. Unfinished Business

9.1 None scheduled.

10. New Business

10.1 Consider a Resolution approving the Mayor's appointment of representatives to Boards of Interlocal Entities.

Staff presentation: Mayor Eyre

Mayor Eyre said this is a Resolution of those Interlocal Board Representatives of which the Council has a copy of. He asked the Council to consider those proposals as they are for those 11 Boards.

Mr. Camp made a motion to approve the Resolution
Mr. Hales seconded the motion

Call vote recorded by Brent Davidson

 A Ms. Turner
 A Mr. Hales
 A Mr. Nicponski
 A Mr. Camp
 A Mr. Brass

Motion passed 5-0

- 10.2 Consider a Resolution approving an Interlocal Cooperation Agreement between the City and the Utah Department of Transportation to receive financing from the Federal-Aid Highway Funds for the roadway project at 5900 South; State Street to 700 West.

Staff presentation: Doug Hill, Public Services Director

Mr. Hill said that if anyone has driven on 5900 south they know that it is in dire need of repair from the east to the west end of the City. He said he often gets asked when the City is going to fix this road.

We have been waiting for funding assistance to do this project because it is a multi-million dollar project. The City has received Federal Aid Highway Funds in the amount of \$5,000,000.00 to go towards reconstructing 5900 south between State Street and 700 west. Murray City would be required to provide matching dollars to that \$5,000,000.00; however it is only a little bit under 7% matching funds, or about \$370,000.00. This is a great opportunity for the City to reconstruct this section of 5900 south with minimal local dollars.

The project will be a complete reconstruction from sidewalk to sidewalk. It will also receive new storm drain lines, a new waterline which will be funded with funds from the Water Department, and a new resurfacing of the roadway.

Mr. Hill said the item before the Council is an Interlocal Agreement with UDOT who administers these Federal Aid funds. If approved, the City will begin the design of this project. It is planned to start construction in 2015 and most of the construction season will be dedicated to reconstructing 5900 south between State Street and 700 west.

Ms. Turner made a motion to approve the Resolution
Mr. Nicponski seconded the motion

Call vote recorded by Brent Davidson

 A Ms. Turner
 A Mr. Hales
 A Mr. Nicponski
 A Mr. Camp
 A Mr. Brass

Motion passed 5-0

- 10.3 Consider a Special Presentation of Mayor Ted Eyre’s “State of the City” address for year 2014.

Staff presentation: Mayor Eyre

Good evening, City Council Members, staff, residents and friends. It is my honor tonight to present my first State of the City Address. As your new Mayor, perhaps I can start with an introduction. As many of you know, my grandparents moved to Murray in 1920. They purchased a home just a few blocks away from this building on Wasatch Street. My parents started their family in this home as well. My wife and I have raised our four children here for the past 27 years, thus continuing four generations of our family as Murray City residents. This is not uncommon for our City, for many of our citizens have been multi-generational residents. This speaks very highly of the quality of life that has existed here for decades. However, as proud as I am of our families’ Murray history, I am equally proud and excited for our first-generation residents who will raise their children here and subsequent generations thereafter while beginning their own family traditions and memories. They too will enjoy the many great services, exceptional educational experiences, varied cultural and athletic opportunities and a wonderful sense of community.

I am grateful to be entrusted with this position. Before I ran for office, and during the campaign, I was able to meet and come to know each of the members of our City Council, and many employees and staff who truly make this City function in such an exceptional way. It has been so impressive to observe their talents and dedication in serving the residents of Murray. I come into this position with an open mind and heart and with a willingness to learn how I might contribute to keeping our City a place known for its great neighborhoods, thriving businesses and outstanding quality of life.

Tonight I would like to set my remarks in a tone of history, recent accomplishments, and plans for the future. In 2013, Murray City celebrated our 110th birthday. We live in a city with deep roots and strength from the early settlers who came with a focus to make this a self-contained and livable community. In the past decade, we have celebrated centennial birthdays of our Police and Fire Departments, Murray City Power, Library, along with our

current roads and water systems. The founders of this City came with ideas and aspirations for independence. Their foresight and hard work laid the foundation for our current ability to provide the majority of city services in a way that was both self-determined and self-governed.

On the side of each of our police cars is written the saying, "Proudly serving since 1903." That is ever since this City was incorporated. During that year, our first mayor, C. L. Miller hired the first, and only at that time, city marshal by the name of Michael Mauss. He remained the sole law enforcement officer until he hired his first deputy in 1910. Today, this City has every right to be proud of a police department that works both day and night to keep Murray a safe place to live and work. These dedicated individuals put their own safety at risk as they clear warrants, make drug arrests, patrol our neighborhoods and businesses, and educate the public. They provide School Resource Officers that work with all the schools in the City to keep students in a good and safe environment for learning. Last year our D.A.R.E. Officer helped 650 fifth-grade students complete this program that addresses drug and alcohol abuse, along with providing advice on bullying and coping with stressful situations. During 2013, the Police Department coordinated with the Fire Department to obtain a grant to replace the computer system in the Emergency Operations Center (EOC). Another grant they received provided body cameras for all patrol officers. These cameras help officers with reports, court testimony and provide training, as they record both audio and video at the scene of incidents. Through a coordinated effort, which was led by our City Council, we were able to replace our aging fleet with 24 new police cars and four new motorcycles. Our Police Department is unified in purpose and unified as a group, and they should always remain the Murray Police Department.

In 2006, we celebrated the centennial of the Fire Department. Although they began with humble roots and horse-drawn water wagons, today they provide a multitude of services. Our three strategically placed fire stations, along with our Medical Response Station, provide for rapid response to all areas of the City. In 2009, we began providing Advanced Life Support (ALS) ambulance service, responding to 3,500 medicals calls in 2013, with just over 2,000 of them being transported for further treatment. Our firefighters are specialized in helping victims in medical distress, injuries resulting from accidents, along with water rescue. They often take advantage of buildings that will be demolished for practical training drills. They also practice in the EOC for earthquake drills and other types of large-scale disasters. But, our firefighters go well beyond the basic requirements of their duties and are well loved in the City. This can be evidenced by their very successful "Fill the Boot" effort to help fight Muscular Dystrophy along with many other activities of community involvement.

In the early years, our residents could not depend on reliable electrical power. So, through a challenging but concerted effort, they began producing hydro-electric power from McGhie Springs which also served as a culinary water

resource. Their hard work and determination resulted in our being able to celebrate 100 years of service to Murray residents in 2013, and today we continue to be the only city-owned power utility in Salt Lake County.

In accordance with the provisions of their own charter: "The Power Department's primary role and mission is to provide, in a safe and efficient manner, the electrical needs of the department's designated service area; including supplying reliable, cost effective, and adequate sources of electrical capacity, energy and associated services." Under outstanding leadership and dedicated employees, this department has done precisely that. Along with enjoying the centennial activities in 2013, the Power Department made significant contributions to improving the financial stability of the department itself. With the wide array of changes impacting power companies around the country, they focused on improving reliability by clearing lines from tree branches and testing most of the transformers or other components of our electrical grid. This effort to the infrastructure of the system will pay great dividends in keeping the power on. While not only providing our citizens with a reliability rating of 99.9 percent, our power company does so while offering our residents some of lowest utility rates in the state. Just recently they were able to complete four very complex and long-range contracts that will assure us of safe, dependable and cost-effective power for decades to come.

Murray is one of the few municipalities in the entire state that has its own library system. It first began with the construction of the Carnegie Library, located just one block to the north of this building, which opened its doors for learning on January 6, 1911. From these humble beginnings we have progressed to our current facility, which opened in 1992, offers a small amphitheater for children, study spaces, conference rooms and Wi-Fi access throughout the building. What a tribute this has become to our early settlers who had such an earnest desire for education and learning. Today more than 270,000 people visit and utilize this facility each year. Computers were used by our residents 127,000 times and for more than 80,000 hours last year alone. The creative staff have developed after-school programs that had over 2,800 students participating in them. Even though we have seen large increase in the advanced technology of e-books with over 17,000 being checked out last year, the interest in and the availability of traditional books is still evidenced by over 570,000 being circulated throughout the year. With all these new advancements and innovations, our library has not forgotten its roots, as it celebrated its centennial with a beautiful new stained glass Legacy Window to show case its history and to continue its mission statement, "To be your friendly, hometown library."

One of the most noticeable and significant aspects of making Murray such a wonderful place to live and raise our families, are the beautiful parks and recreational programs available to our residence and those who visit our city. Open space was important to our early settlers who acquired the property for our present Murray City Park in 1924. Following the Great Depression, the City was

able to receive various federal grants to develop our city park system, to refurbish its existing 22-acre city park and to purchase 12 additional acres for fairgrounds. By 1939, Murray was the site of the annual Salt Lake County Fair. Today we have nine beautiful parks, strategically located throughout the City along with the Park Center, Murray Aquatics Center, Lynn F. Pett Murray Parkway Golf Course, baseball fields, soccer and rugby fields, playgrounds, and an outdoor amphitheater, just to name a few. The dedicated City employees that maintain and staff these facilities offer well over 100 recreational programs.

The cultural art opportunities thrive in our community. We are the home of several professional and amateur performing-arts groups. The Murray Symphony Orchestra is a community-based orchestra of professional and amateur musicians. They, along with the Murray Ballet Centre, the Murray Arts Center, and our theaters combine to provide opportunities in plays, various dancing groups and musical productions. The Murray City Cultural Arts program was created in 1992, along with the Arts Advisory Board and Cultural Programs Office which create year-round cultural activities. Recently we have included the Storytelling Festival, and the new Murder Mayhem in Murray which, in concert with other city-staffed productions, have allowed over 35,000 people to participate in, and enjoy.

The L. Clark Cushing Heritage Center is a vital and important recreational center for our citizens that are 55 years and older. They provided 12,700 meals last year, had 6,000 hours of volunteer service given, and have a wide variety of programs available. With choices including golfing, dancing, exercising, computer classes, quilting, games and socializing, almost 77,000 seniors attend during the year – and some come every day! There isn't a membership fee, but some of their activities have charges to offset cost. A monthly newsletter outlines all of their programs.

One of the basic services that a city needs is water. In 1905, the water system was successfully started as water was brought from McGhie Springs. Over the years, wells have been drilled and reservoirs built as growth brought greater demand. As new regulations have been put into place for cleaning and re-using water, we have created a Storm Water Division. This year they completed a Storm Water Management Plan that will help us continue to make improvement in cleaning the water that flows into our rivers, streams and lakes.

Roads and streets are services that evolved through the years. With the invention of the first automobiles, the demand came for more and smoother surfaces for driving. When you look around Murray now and see the extensive road system, along with this comes the constant need to keep it serviceable. With additional transportation options including buses, Trax, trains, bikes and walking, this system is very important to our current lifestyles. While we maintain streets, we also take the opportunity to improve other infrastructure below them, including water lines, drainage and moving power lines. There are also curbs and gutters

that often need to be fixed in the process. During the 2013 construction season, some of the larger projects were on Kenwood Drive, Winchester, Fayette Drive, 235 East and 625 East. The majority of our road funding is used for overlays, crack sealing, asphalt rejuvenating and slurry seals. These give our roads longer life and prevent expensive rebuilding. We spend time and energy planning for larger projects like the continuation of Cottonwood Street north to 4500 South and rebuilding portions of 5900 South through the City. These projects take funding from many levels of government and work must be done to secure them prior to beginning construction.

The Murray City Justice Court has a shorter history, beginning in 1999. Since that time, they have implemented programs to reduce problems with recurring domestic violence actions and driving under the influence. Last year there was a huge effort with the Warrant Division of the Police Department to tract and address outstanding warrants. Over 1,000 cases were cleared or closed during the year. A grant was received for replacement of security cameras. With continued advances in technology, e-filing of citations is now in place as well as other online services.

The Administrative and Development Services (ADS) Department covers a wide variety of programs. They manage the building department, code enforcement and redevelopment efforts. This has been an exciting time with new projects coming out of the ground all around the City. Three new hotels are under construction, work continues in the Fireclay Transient Oriented Development (TOD), and in our downtown there are 60 new units at the Center Court Apartments. Larry H. Miller dealerships completed the rebuilding of their stores and made a substantial investment on State Street. With the improving economy, 50 new commercial businesses came into the City this year.

The ADS supervises many additional night meetings including Planning & Zoning Commission, Board of Adjustment, and Murray City Center District (MCCD) meetings. They are key to implementing the City Strategic Plan by working with two committees--one to encourage thriving neighborhoods and the other to enhance business development. The Redevelopment Agency also functions under this department.

ADS oversees many of our internal services. The Information Technology (IT) Division is under this department. They responded to almost 1,200 requests for computer help in the various departments and installed 50 new computers. Geographic Information Services (GIS) completed over 200 mapping projects that are valuable to many of the in-house services we provide. ADS coordinates with the Recorder Division who added a new service providing passports and have completed about 200 since its implementation in September. The Treasurer Division oversees utility billing and meter reading. These require high levels of customer service which they capably handle. The representatives handled almost 33,000 phone calls plus countless customers who come to the counters. ADS also

manages our relationship with NeighborWorks, an outstanding organization that rehabilitates housing for low income residents.

The City Attorney's Office provides legal service for the City. They handle many very difficult cases that require much work and time. This year they contracted with a firm for additional help in managing claims. Our City Prosecutors handled over 13,200 criminal cases and 50 appeals to the District Court last year.

The Finance Department provides numerous reports to help with projections and planning. Under their direction, we have been able to pay off bonds early and make plans for sooner elimination of others. They are leading the effort to move to new city software that can improve services in many areas. Balancing the City budget is under their jurisdiction with input from elected officials. The Finance Department helped start a grant-writer program with a consultant who can identify possible grant opportunities.

Murray City has 370 full-time employees and about 470 seasonal employees. The Human Resources Department helps manage these employees and their benefits. They oversee health and safety programs and hired a new manager to handle these duties. They handled almost 700 applications for 22 jobs that were posted in 2013.

With these many services that are taken care of for the residents, we are constantly looking for the best and most responsible ways to allocate tax dollars that are entrusted to use.

Thus far, we have had the opportunity to review our rich history, emphasize and describe many of the areas that make our City so unique in character and quality, and now I would like to take a few minutes to briefly explain some of the areas that I think are vital to our future and ones that you, as our City Council, our employees, and citizens should expect their Mayor to be well versed in and competently informed.

I have come to appreciate, even in this short time, the myriad of complex issues that face any city, but I would like to limit my discussion this evening to four such items.

The first item is that of UTOPIA. We have already initiated a policy, and put into practice a method whereby many of us can ask questions and expect answers to previously unresolved issues. The approach that I am taking, is to list viable solutions and then identify, in detail, all of the conditions and consequences of each of them. Then, and only then, will the individuals who the citizens have entrusted to make these decisions, be empowered with the knowledge necessary to choose the solution that is best for our community. We owe this to our residents and tax payers, and the Mayor should assume this responsibility to be the point-man on this issue.

Item two—Downtown redevelopment. Due to the hard work and determination of the prior mayor, the City Council, and various department heads and employees, along with a more favorable economy and renewed faith of builders and developers, we have seen a resurgence of new buildings and businesses in our City. This is an exciting time for all of us, yet with this opportunity we have a duty of accountability, not only to our future, but to our past as well. As we revitalize our downtown area, we will work together to insure that we protect the character and history of this area as well as developing an attractive and inviting place that we can be proud of.

Item three—An important element is in the investment of a new City Hall. This building has served us well, but our City has outgrown its original use and the residents of Murray want their employees to work in a safe, efficient, attractive, yet fiscally responsible facility. I hope to be directly involved in working with our City Hall Committee to bring this to fruition in the very near future.

The fourth item I feel responsible for—the well-being, safety and motivation of our employees, as well as our residents. All of us have the right to feel that our elected officials have, as their preeminent objective, to provide a safe, beautiful and well-planned community, and to ensure an environment that enables our residents to be an integral and vital part of it. This incorporates sound financial choices, zoning and land-use decisions that continue, as it has in the past, to have the individuals' best interest at heart, as well as, maintaining consistency, and providing a vision of the future that inspires us to make our dreams become our realities.

With your help, your knowledge, and your patience, we can work together to make Murray a city without equal. Thank you.

11. Mayor

11.1 Report

No report was given.

11.2 Questions for the Mayor

12. Adjournment

Attachment 1

G-O Signage(Harmony Home Health)

Proposed Text Change:

Harmony proposes that Murray City Code 17.28.120(C) be modified to read as follows:

Maximum sign height allowed is fifteen feet (15 feet) from sidewalk grade to the top of the sign. On property adjacent to freeways, where the sign is freeway oriented, the maximum sign height may be determined from a freeway grade.

Harmony suggests that Murray City Code 17.48.120(A) be amended to read in full:

A detached on premise sign for each developed parcel not exceeding one-half (1/2) square foot of sign area for each linear foot of street frontage, may not exceed fifty (50) square feet of total sign area. On property adjacent to freeways, where the sign is freeway oriented, a detached on premise sign may not exceed one and one-half (1 1/2) square feet of sign area for each linear foot of street frontage, provided no sign may exceed three hundred (300) square feet of total sign area.



45' OAH

Discussion

1. The proposed ordinance amendments are not consistent with the purpose of the General Office zone for a buffer or transition area separating commercial uses from residential areas. Increased emphasis is given to buffering commercial uses from residential uses, neighborhood compatibility and reduction of the size and height of signs in the General Office zone due to proximity and impact on the adjoining residential properties. The proposal is not consistent with the intent and purpose of this zoning.
2. The increase in height and square footage of signs does not contribute to compatibility with residential areas.
3. The existing sign code allows adequate signage for G-O zones, while distinguishing the zoning district as a transitional zone buffering residential properties from commercial and industrial properties.
4. It is difficult to justify additional sign size/area based solely on freeway adjacency