

# Murray City Municipal Council Chambers Murray City, Utah

Tuesday, June 21, 2022

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The Murray City Municipal Council met on Tuesday, June 21<sup>st</sup>, 2022, at 6:30 p.m. (or as soon as possible thereafter) for a meeting held in the Murray City Council Chambers, 5025 South State Street, Murray, Utah.

The public was able to view the meeting via the live stream at [www.murraycitylive.com](http://www.murraycitylive.com) or <https://www.facebook.com/Murraycityutah/>. A recording of the City Council meeting can be viewed [HERE](#).

## **Council in Attendance:**

|                   |                                  |
|-------------------|----------------------------------|
| Kat Martinez      | District #1                      |
| Pamela Cotter     | District #2                      |
| Rosalba Dominguez | District #3                      |
| Diane Turner      | District #4                      |
| Garry Hrechkosy   | District #5 - Conducting         |
| Jennifer Kennedy  | Council Director                 |
| Patti Johnson     | Council Office Administrator III |

## **Administrative Staff in Attendance:**

|                |   |
|----------------|---|
| Brett Hales    | Mayor                                       |
| Doug Hill      | Chief Administrative Officer                |
| Tammy Kikuchi  | Chief Communication Officer                 |
| GL Critchfield | City Attorney                               |
| Laura Bown     | Deputy City Recorder                        |
| Brenda Moore   | Finance and Administration Director         |
| Craig Burnett  | Police Chief                                |
| Joey Mittelman | Fire Chief                                  |
| Jared Hall     | Community and Economic Development Director |
| Danny Astill   | Public Works Director                       |
| Kim Sorensen   | Parks & Recreation Director                 |
| Rob White      | IT Director                                 |
| Ben Gray       | Senior IT Technician                        |
| Joe Goodman    | Water Distribution Supervisor               |
| Brett Taylor   | Water Electrician                           |
| Steve Ellefsen | Fire Captain                                |

**Others in Attendance:**

|                |           |                |                |
|----------------|-----------|----------------|----------------|
| Loran Pasalich | Dave Carr | Krystal Walker | Charles Turner |
|----------------|-----------|----------------|----------------|

**Opening Ceremonies**

Call to Order – Councilmember Hrechkosy called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance – The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Loran Pasalich.

**Approval of Minutes**

Council Meeting – June 7<sup>th</sup>, 2022

**MOTION**

Councilmember Cotter moves to approve the meeting minutes. The motion was SECONDED by Councilmember Martinez.

*Council roll call vote:*

*Ayes: Councilmember Martinez, Councilmember Cotter, Councilmember Dominguez, Councilmember Turner, Councilmember Hrechkosy*

*Nays: None*

*Abstentions: None*

*Motion passed 5-0*

**Special Recognition**

**1. Murray City Council Employee of the Month, Brett Taylor, Water Electrician**

Presenting: Danny Astill and Garry Hrechkosy

Danny Astill, Public Works Director, thanked the City Council for the opportunity to recognize Brett Taylor as the June recipient of Employee of the Month. Taylor has worked for the City for seven years starting in the Wastewater Division and in 2016 came to work in the distribution section of the Water Division as our "Water Electrician". Part of Brett's regular duties requires him to monitor our electronic Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition System (SCADA) which monitors and controls our water distribution system including all our wells, reservoirs, and our wastewater lift stations. Brett has worked extensively over the past two years as we upgraded our SCADA system, the last remaining pieces were completed in 2021. Brett is a great person with a great work ethic and is a pleasure to be around no matter how wet, dirty, smelly, or clean the job happens to be. He is always willing to help wherever he is

needed and we have utilized his electrical expertise throughout the public works department as well as assisting other departments saving the City a considerable amount of money.

Brett's talents, knowledge, and dedication are a true asset to Murray City and he is well deserving of this recognition.

Councilmember Hrechkosy congratulated Brett Taylor for the recognition. Taylor received a certificate and a \$50 gift card, and his name will appear on the plaque located in the Council Chambers.

Taylor introduced his wife and daughters. He acknowledged his supervisor and co-workers for their support. He thanked the council and Mayor for the special recognition.

Councilmember Dominguez and the Mayor thanked Taylor for his years of service, and they appreciate him being a part of Murray City.

#### **Citizen Comments**

The meeting was open for public comment.

No comments were given, and the open public comment period was closed.

#### **Consent Agenda**

- 1. Consider confirmation of the Mayor's re-appointment of Bob Dunn to the Personnel Advisory Board for a three-year term beginning July 2022 to expire June 2025.**
- 2. Consider confirmation of the Mayor's re-appointment of Sage Fitch to the Murray Library Board for a three-year term beginning July 2022 to expire June 2025.**
- 3. Consider confirmation of the Mayor's re-appointment of Dustin Lewis to the Murray Library Board for a three-year term beginning July 2022 to expire June 2025.**

#### **Presenting: Mayor Hales**

Mayor Hales expressed his appreciation for the continued service of the three re-appointed individuals.

Councilmember Dominguez also personally thanked Bob Dunn for his work with the Boys and Girls Club and Sage Fitch for her work on the Library Board.

**MOTION:**

Councilmember Cotter moved to approve the recommendations made on the Consent Agenda. The motion was SECONDED by Councilmember Martinez.

Council roll call vote:

Ayes: Councilmember Martinez, Councilmember Cotter, Councilmember Dominguez, Councilmember Turner, Councilmember Hrechkosy

Nays: None

Abstentions: None

Motion passed 5-0

**Public Hearings**

None Scheduled

**Business Item**

- 1. Consider a resolution authorizing Murray City pick up of Public Safety and Firefighter employee retirement contributions.**

Presenting: Brenda Moore, Finance Director

Resolution # R22-31

Brenda Moore shared that the purpose of the resolution is to request approval for Murray City to pay the Public Safety and Firefighter employee retirement contribution.

In 2020 the state legislature changed the retirement benefits for Tier 2 Public Safety, to pay for the change, the law required a mandatory contribution by employees. The law allows, through the consent of the governing body the Cities, to pay this amount on behalf of the employees. In 2021 the City Council voted to contribute and it was included in the Fiscal Year (FY) 2022 budget.

For FY2023 the amount went up from .32% to 2.59% and was included in the FY2023 budget. The original ordinance contained a specific contribution of 2.27% and therefore did not cover the FY2023 contribution.

The ordinance allows the city to pick up the contributions for this year and all subsequent years regardless of the contribution percentage. In the future, the city council could choose to not pick up the contribution by adopting a new

resolution. The FY2023 cost of the .32% increase is \$15,006 and the total cost of the 2.59% is \$121,459.

Brenda Moore will include in future budget books a line item that states that this is voluntary for the city to provide.

Even though this cost increased, the required contributions for other city employees decreased, causing an overall decrease in retirement benefit costs.

Moore expressed that paying for the firefighters' retirement is an important thing to do. No other city employees have to contribute to their retirement.

Councilmember Hrechkosy asked whether the firefighters only get the voluntary contribution.

Moore explained that this amount is added to the other portion that the city already pays.

Councilmember Hrechkosy asked if there was a mandatory portion for all other employees.

Moore answered that no employee is required to pay for their retirement. The city makes those contributions.

Councilmember Hrechkosy asked if the percentage will change every year.

Moore said that she believes so. That is why there isn't a percentage in the resolution anymore, and since this part of the contribution is voluntary, it can be canceled by the city in the future.

## **MOTION**

Councilmember Martinez moves to adopt the resolution No. R22-31. The motion was SECONDED by Councilmember Turner.

*Council roll call vote:*

*Ayes: Councilmember Martinez, Councilmember Cotter, Councilmember Dominguez, Councilmember Turner, Councilmember Hrechkosy*

*Nays: None*

*Abstentions: None*

*Motion passed 5-0*

## Mayor's Report and Questions

Mayor Hales and Councilmember Martinez thanked the Murray City firefighters for responding so quickly and putting out a fire in the dry grass of a field along the parkway today.

The Mayor highlighted the following city events:

- The food trucks are back for the season in the Murray Park on Tuesdays from 5:00 p.m.- 8:00 p.m.
- The production of Matilda the Musical, which is presented in the amphitheater on Thursday and Friday, ends this week.
- There will be no movie in the park this week.
- Murray Concert Band will perform on June 25<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 p.m. at the amphitheater.

Kim Sorensen was invited to the podium and highlighted some of the 4<sup>th</sup> of July activities being held in the city. The same agenda as in the past will take place and includes: sunrise service at 7:00 am, the parade begins at 8:30 a.m., activities throughout the day in the park, an evening concert on the softball field starting at 7:00 p.m., and fireworks at 10:00 p.m.

Councilmember Hrechkosy urged citizens to follow the established rules for fireworks.

## MOTION

Councilmember Dominguez moves to adjourn the meeting. The motion was SECONDED by Councilmember Turner.

All Councilmembers were in favor.

## Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

  
Laura Bown, Deputy City Recorder

