

**MURRAY CITY MUNICIPAL COUNCIL
COUNCIL MEETING**

Minutes of Tuesday, April 2, 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	Pattie Johnson	Council Administration
Doug Hill	Chief Administrative Officer	Crystal Brown	Council Administration
Mark Richardson	Senior Attorney	Brenda Moore	Finance Controller
Steve Olsen	Fire Department	Robert White	IT Director
Matt Youngs	Power Department	Ben Gray	IT
Craig Burnett	Police Chief	Laura Brown	Recorder
Kim Sorensen	Parks and Recreation Director	Greg Bellon	Power Department Director
Phil Markham	CED Director	Ella Olsen	Murray Journal
Citizens			

Opening Ceremonies:

Call to Order – Council Chair Pam Cotter called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m.
Pledge of Allegiance – Clark Bullen led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Minutes: Council Meeting – March 5, 2024.

MOTION: Ms. Turner moved to approve, and Mr. Pickett SECONDED the motion.
Voice vote taken, all “Ayes.” Approved 5-0

Special Recognition:

1. **Consider a Joint Resolution of the Mayor and Municipal Council of Murray City, Utah declaring Thursday, May 2, 2024 as Arbor Day.** Mayor Hales read the joint resolution.

MOTION: Mr. Pickett moved to approve the joint resolution. Ms. Dominguez 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

Forestry Supervisor Matt Erkelens said this was the City’s 47th consecutive Tree City USA award and that Murray City was the longest running Tree City in the State of Utah. The City would celebrate Arbor Day on Thursday, May 2, 2024 at noon at the Murray Amphitheater.

Citizen Comments:

Lawrence Horman – Advocate for the homeless.

Mr. Horman introduced his grandson.

Clark Bullen – Murray resident.

Mr. Bullen asked if a visual timer could be placed in the chambers for those who address the Council when making citizen comments. He said a timer reflecting the 3-minute count down would make it easier for people to pace their speaking. Mr. Clark thought the timeline for posting final public agendas should be expanded to increase public attendance and improve that participation process.

Public Hearing:

1. **Consider an ordinance amending the City's Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Budget.**

Finance Director Brenda Moore reviewed the budget amendment that included \$23,451 for Election Services; \$42,000 for Parks and Recreation to help host activities for the June 2024 Centennial Celebration; \$13,000 to add the Spanish language option to the automated Utility Billing phone service; and an increase of \$150,000 to convert the MCCC (Murray City Center District) zoning code into a FBC (Form-Based Code) by hiring a person to write a new City Code; Ms. Moore noted that funding for FBC was readily available from interest revenue and sales tax revenue. Last was a request for \$137,000 for a retirement payout for the High Intensity Drug Trafficking State financial coordinator.

The public hearing was open for public comment:

Clark Bullen – Murray resident.

Mr. Bullen favored the FBC and the proposed cost for developing downtown Murray. The FBC would set the direction to get the city where it needs to go and the \$150,000 cost would pay off for many years, which would be a culmination of many surveys, open houses and all that has been done to accomplish what citizens have wanted. He trusted the City's planning department and asked the Council to vote in favor of funding the FBC financial request.

The public hearing was closed.

Mr. Hock asked if there was money already available in the current budget to fund FBC. Ms. Moore confirmed there was.

Ms. Turner said the \$150,000 cost was too much and urged the Council to take a closer look at FBC in a Committee of the Whole work session. She said she supported the proposed budget amendment with the exception of FBC funding and made a proposal to modify the budget amendment.

Ms. Cotter called for a motion to discuss and vote on that item separately, which was to approve the ordinance amending the City's FY 2023-2024 budget leaving out the \$150,000 for professional services, to write a FBC in the CED (Community and Economic Development) division.

MOTION to modify:

Ms. Turner moved to modify the budget amendment as read by Ms. Cotter. Ms. Cotter SECONDED the motion.

Discussion on the motion:

Ms. Cotter asked if FBC could be written into the existing MCCC zone Code. Mr. Markham said the

current MCCD Code is constructed through Euclidian Zoning, which is an entirely different type of zone that locates types of businesses to specific areas. FBC provides harmony with how buildings and the environment relate to one another.

Ms. Cotter did not oppose FBC but felt the Council should not consider funding it prior to understanding the MCCD Strategic Plan or before a review of the Mayor's FY 2024-2025 tentative budget. She asked Mr. Markham if the FBC expense could be budgeted into the FY 2024-2025 CED department budget instead of using funds of the current fiscal year.

Mr. Markham agreed the expense could be budgeted next fiscal year and confirmed that the MCCD Strategic Plan would be reviewed in the April 16, 2024 Committee of the Whole work session. He confirmed that he and CED staff met with all Council Members individually over the last month to present the FBC method.

Ms. Cotter expressed gratitude for the individual meetings about FBC but noted that the usual Committee of the Whole process was skipped that would have involved all five Council Members collaborating together. Mr. Markham said there was a good chance that the professional services cost to implement FBC would be reduced and the timeline for completion would be six months. Ms. Cotter asked if that timeframe was guaranteed. Mr. Markham said it was an estimation according to the steps involved for rewriting the code.

Ms. Turner reiterated her concerns about the cost. Ms. Cotter agreed the amount was significant for the Block One area and she could see no other location within the MCCD zone where FBC could be applied. She thought the same success could come from adjusting the existing MCCD Code.

Ms. Dominguez clarified FBC was not just for Block One but would replace the entire MCCD zone Code. Mr. Markham confirmed. He said the process to change the existing MCCD Code would involve several adjustments related to height, density and setbacks, requiring discussion meetings every month, which would slow the process to develop the area as fast as possible.

Mr. Hock asked if there was a way to simplify changing the MCCD zone Code. Mr. Markham explained planning and rezoning requires changing ordinances, holding a series of public hearings, having monthly meetings with the MCCD Advisory Board, presentations to the planning commission and several Committee of the Whole work sessions, prior to final consideration in a council meeting. Mr. Hock said FBC would simplify the life of a developer and CED staff. Mr. Markham agreed.

Ms. Turner said the Council completed the process to change the MCCD zone Code very smoothly when facilitating the development of the new City Hall. Because that process went well, she was not convinced that it was necessary to expend \$150,000 for FBC. She requested further discussion and reiterated that FBC should be excluded from the proposed budget amendment ordinance.

Mr. Pickett said Mr. Markham and CED staff were helpful and available to him, he felt their explanation of FBC was satisfactory. Since the Council is under direct demand of what constituents want, it was important to approve FBC to move the City forward. He expressed appreciation to Mr. Markham and staff for laying the groundwork to move development forward.

Ms. Cotter noted Ms. Turner's motion to discuss and vote on FBC separately, the modified motion was to approve an ordinance amending the City's FY 2023-2024 budget leaving out the \$150,000 for professional services related to writing a FBC in the planning and licensing division. Ms. Cotter

restated her **SECONDDING** the motion.

Ms. Dominguez explained why she would vote no, which was related to the proposed cost for FBC. She noted that if the cost was reduced to below \$100,000, the RFP (Request for Proposal) bidding process and related information would not be made public. If the RFP was above \$100,000 all bidding information would be made public.

Council Roll Call Vote:

Ms. Dominguez	Nay
Ms. Turner	Aye
Mr. Hock	Nay
Mr. Pickett	Nay
Ms. Cotter	Aye
Motion failed:	2-3

MOTION: Consider an ordinance amending the City's FY 2023-2024.

Mr. Pickett moved to approve the ordinance. Ms. Dominguez **SECONDED** the motion.

Council Roll Call Vote:

Ms. Dominguez	Aye
Ms. Turner	Nay
Mr. Hock	Aye
Mr. Pickett	Aye
Ms. Cotter	Nay
Motion passed:	3-2

Mayor's Report and Questions

Mayor Hales reported that playground equipment would be installed at Woodstock Meadows Park this week, new pickleball courts will be ready soon at Riverview Park and dog waste dispensers were installed at all Murray parks. Public Works is ready with 5,000 sandbags for the spring runoff; and because girls softball is growing in popularity, the recreation division is working hard to organize many teams.

Adjournment: 7:14 p.m.

Pattie Johnson
Council Office Administrator III