

**MURRAY CITY MUNICIPAL COUNCIL
COUNCIL MEETING**

Minutes of Tuesday, April 7, 2026

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

Attendance:

Council Members:

Paul Pickett District #1
 Pam Cotter District #2
 Clark Bullen District #3
 Diane Turner District #4 – Council Vice Chair
 Adam Hock District #5 – Council Chair

Others:

Brett Hales	Mayor	Jennifer Kennedy	City Council Executive Director
Kim Sorensen	Chief Administrative Officer	Pattie Johnson	Council Administration
G.L. Critchfield	City Attorney	Brooke Smith	City Recorder
Joey Mittelman	Fire Chief	Brenda Moore	Finance Director
Russ Kakala	Public Works Director	Ben Ford	Wastewater Superintendent
Serra Nemelka	Rockworth Companies	Chad Wilkinson	Community & Economic Dev. Director
Greg Bellon	Power Director	Eric Bracewell	Power Operations Manager
Victor Meza	Journeyman	Matt Erkelens	Power Forestry Division
Jordin Hundley	Journeyman	Britton Farr	Journeyman
Crosby Mortimer	Journeyman	Cody Nesi	Journeyman
Mike Tingey	Journeyman	Colten Kakala	Journeyman
Ryan Madsen	IT Supervisor	Ben Gray	IT Technician
Citizens and Guests			

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

Approval of Minutes: Council Meeting March 3, 2026.

MOTION: Ms. Cotter moved to approve. Mr. Bullen seconded the motion. All in favor 5-0.

Citizen Comments:

Kathy Houston – Murray Resident.

Ms. Houston thanked the Council for supporting the Murray Senior Center, praised its clean and healthy environment, and the variety of classes offered. She said senior artwork would soon be displayed at City Hall and suggested expanding the center to accommodate individuals on waiting lists for art classes.

Sue Williams – Murray Resident

Ms. Williams expressed concern about a neighbor who became a safety risk due to drug addiction. She stated the home had been condemned by the Board of Health and had become a drug house with high traffic. She requested the house be boarded up.

James Lamb – Murray Resident

Mr. Lamb was frustrated despite a meth house being foreclosed and condemned by the Health Department. He stated that he and his neighbors still feel unsafe after contacting Murray Police three times about ongoing issues. Neighbors are repeatedly harassed by individuals coming and going from the house, break-ins are continual and drug activity is still happening. He questioned why Code Enforcement was unaware of the foreclosure or why the City has not helped to board up the house or demolish it.

Cassie Lamb – Murray Resident

Ms. Lamb raised concerns about a meth house, describing it as unsafe, atrocious, poorly maintained, with debris in the yard and ongoing break-ins. She expressed frustration with a lack of coordination between the Board of Health and City agencies and no solutions to longstanding drug activity. She urged the City to board up the home, citing health and safety concerns for nearby children.

David Best – Murray Resident

Mr. Best reported a neighboring meth house and said that, after contacting Murray Code Enforcement, only illegal backyard sheds were addressed while the condition of the house was neglected. He also raised concern about a large tree overhanging his home that damaged a wall and caused repeated power outages due to branches in power lines. He urged Murray Power to remove the tree and the City to board up the house immediately.

Christy Arnold – Riverton Resident

Ms. Arnold asked the City to close City Corner Store at 4300 South and Main, saying the owner had a criminal history and was selling alcohol, vapes, and THC to her underage son. She reported that police told her they could do nothing to close down the store and that other parents had raised similar concerns. Ms. Arnold urged the Council to protect vulnerable youth and help shut down the store.

Mervyn Arnold – South Jordan Resident

Mr. Arnold urged the City to revoke the business license of the City Corner Store, citing concerns that his great-grandson was able to purchase alcohol and other harmful substances. He asked the Council to support the community by shutting down the store and noted his experience as a lobbyist who worked to pass legislation to protect children from pornography.

Special Recognition:

1. **Consider a Joint Resolution of the Mayor and Municipal Council of Murray City, Utah, declaring Thursday April 30, 2026 as Murray Arbor Day.** Forestry Supervisor Matt Erkelens discussed the upcoming Arbor Day celebration and presented the Joint Resolution for approval.

MOTION: Mr. Hock moved to approve the Joint Resolution. Ms. Cotter SECONDED the motion.

Council Roll Call Vote:

Ms. Cotter	Aye
Mr. Bullen	Aye
Ms. Turner	Aye
Mr. Hock	Aye
Mr. Pickett	Aye
Motion Passed:	5-0

2. **Recognize new Power Department Journeyman** – Power Director Greg Bellon introduced and congratulated Murray City Power employees Victor Meza, Jordin Hundley, Crosby Mortimer, Britton Farr, Cody Nesi, Mike Tingey and Colten Kakala for completing their Journey level certifications.

Public Hearings:

1. **Consider a resolution waiving golf cart fees for the Murray Area Chamber of Commerce on June 12, 2026, at the Murray Parkway Golf Course for a golf tournament.** City Council Director Jennifer Kennedy stated the Murray Chamber requested a waiver of golf cart rental fees for a June 12, 2026 golf tournament and confirmed the total waiver amount of \$2,880.

The public hearing was open for public comments.

Kathy White – Murray Chamber of Commerce President/CEO

Ms. White stated that the fee waiver would be helpful for the non-profit organization and thanked the Council for their consideration.

Patty La Forte – Murray Resident

Ms. La Forte said the in-kind donation would reduce Chamber costs, improve raffle prizes and ticket sales, and increase the likelihood of covering all event expenses. She expressed enthusiasm for hosting the tournament at the Murray golf course, anticipated full participation, and thanked the Council for considering their request.

The public hearing was closed.

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

Council Roll Call Vote:

Ms. Cotter	Aye
Mr. Bullen	Aye
Ms. Turner	Aye
Mr. Hock	Aye
Mr. Pickett	Aye
Motion Passed:	5-0

- 2. Consider an ordinance vacating two municipal utility easements located at approximately 4816 South State Street and 4837 South Poplar Street, Murray City, Salt Lake County, State of Utah.** Community and Economic Development Director Chad Wilkinson presented a plat map showing two Murray Power utility easements in the center of Block One that must be vacated. Mr. Wilkinson stated that all other easements held by private parties must also be vacated as part of ongoing efforts to clean up the site and prepare for construction. He reviewed the construction timeline in the Rockworth development agreement to confirm that the project was on schedule, building permit applications had been submitted, plan reviews were completed, and next steps are to issue building permits and begin construction within 60 days. He confirmed that Enbridge Gas had completed the relocation of a large gas line that will serve the entire site and noted that the Council approved the initial plan exactly one year ago to highlight significant progress.

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

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

Council Roll Call Vote:

Ms. Cotter	Aye
Mr. Bullen	Aye
Ms. Turner	Aye
Mr. Hock	Aye
Mr. Pickett	Aye
Motion Passed:	5-0

- 3. Consider a resolution approving the 2025 Municipal Wastewater Planning Program Report.** Wastewater Superintendent Ben Ford stated the report is required annually by the State of Utah and provided an overview of reporting requirements, general system information, including new connections, and financial data. He confirmed that the Wastewater Fund maintains adequate reserves and that sewer revenues are sufficient to cover operations, maintenance, and capital improvement projects. In 2025, the average

monthly user charge was \$55.58 and impact fees totaled \$1,258.

He noted only one Class 2 sanitary sewer overflow that was repaired, outlined staffing information, updates to the Sanitary Sewer Management Plan and modifications to the Capacity Assurance Plan. Mr. Ford said the sewer system was well maintained and in very good condition despite its age and mentioned that the 2021 Wastewater Master Plan was currently being updated.

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

MOTION: Mr. Hock moved to adopt the resolution. Ms. Turner SECONDED the motion.

Council Roll Call Vote:

Ms. Cotter	Aye
Mr. Bullen	Aye
Ms. Turner	Aye
Mr. Hock	Aye
Mr. Pickett	Aye
Motion Passed:	5-0

Business Item:

- 1. Consider a resolution authorizing and approving the amended and restated Power Pooling Agreement with the Utah Associated Municipal Power Systems for the pool project; authorizing execution and delivery thereof; and related matters.** Mr. Bellon gave a review about the UAMPS (Utah Associated Municipal Power Systems) organization and the Pool Project, noting that UAMPS members were not required to purchase all power from UAMPS.

He explained why the resolution was necessary reminding Council Members that UAMPS was part of the PacifiCorp East Balancing Authority Area and because PacifiCorp joined EDAM (Extended Day-Ahead Market) effective May 1, 2026, UAMPS was mandated to participate in EDAM also. Because UAMPS must participate in EDAM, the Pooling Agreement must be amended and restated to modernize a 40 year old process and make required operational changes.

Mr. Bellon outlined the major differences between the 1980 agreement and the new amended and restated 2026 agreement, pointed out other agreement provisions and emphasized that UAMPS participants can elect to withdraw their authorization for UAMPS to make purchases on their behalf in the Annual Purchase Plan.

MOTION: Ms. Turner moved to adopt the resolution. Ms. Cotter SECONDED the motion.

Council Roll Call Vote:

Ms. Cotter	Aye
Mr. Bullen	Aye
Ms. Turner	Aye
Mr. Pickett	Aye
Mr. Hock	Aye
Motion Passed:	5-0

Mayor's Report and Questions: Mayor Hales announced that youth recreation programs have started and that the outdoor pool would be opening for Memorial Day.

City Council to consider moving into a closed meeting per Utah Code 52-4-205-1d for a strategy session to discuss the purchase, exchange, or lease of real property. Mr. Pickett called for a motion to enter a closed meeting.

MOTION: Mr. Hock moved and Ms. Cotter SECONDED the motion.

Council Roll Call Vote:

Ms. Cotter	Aye
Mr. Bullen	Aye
Ms. Turner	Aye
Mr. Pickett	Aye
Mr. Hock	Aye

Motion Passed: 5-0

Mr. Pickett stated that the City Council would enter a closed meeting in the Mayor's Office Conference Room, Suite # 390, to discuss the purchase, exchange, or lease of real property. The closed meeting would not be open to the public.

Consideration to approve strategy discussed in closed session regarding the purchase, exchange or lease of real property. Mr. Pickett stated that Council Members met in a closed meeting to discuss the purchase, exchange, or lease of real property. The closed meeting was held because public discussion would prevent the City from completing the transaction on the best possible terms. Following the discussion the City Council voted to approve the strategy discussed in the closed meeting.

MOTION: Mr. Hock moved to approve the strategy discussed in the closed session. Ms. Cotter SECONDED the motion.

Council Roll Call Vote:

Ms. Cotter	Aye
Mr. Bullen	Aye
Ms. Turner	Aye
Mr. Pickett	Aye
Mr. Hock	Aye

Motion Passed: 5-0

Adjournment: 8:13 p.m.

**Pattie Johnson
Council Office Administrator III**