

Bluff Town Council
Bluff Community Center
190 N 3rd East Street
P.O. Box 324
Bluff, Utah 84512

Minutes

The council met Tuesday, October 2, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. in a public meeting.
Present were: Mayor: Ann Leppanen, Brant Murray, Jim Sayers, Luanne Hook, and Linda Sosa

The meeting started at 6:01 p.m.
Minutes from Tuesday, September 25, 2018 were unanimously approved with the addition of, the vote was unanimous, to #11. Motioned by Leppanen, seconded by Sayers.

Planning and Zoning Committee presentation by Sarah Burak and Amanda Podmore.

Burak explained the committee recommended establishing seven zones: pristine (green), light agricultural, residential, residential with recreation, light commercial, historic, and geologic. Each zone would have its own codes. They researched similar small towns such as Torrey, Springdale, Tropic, Telluride, and Hanksville and compared their planning and zoning and ordinances. Key issues were Dark Sky lighting using international standards, affordable housing, and animals in residential areas.

Suggestions included grandfathering in and support for people not in compliance because of the difficulties of enforcement.

The committee has compiled 100 pages of information and ordinances; Amanda will pare it down to 70 pages and give Google Docs admission to council members when they send her their email addresses. This committee worked with the General Plan Committee for continuity.

Leppanen stated the importance of the work they have done and progressing into the Planning and Zoning Commission as soon as possible to keep the momentum and structure going forward. We will need a work session to determine questions such as: how do we do the application process, how many members, and what is the start date. Murray suggested a public meeting and Leppanen said it could be a joint meeting for all the committees. The Council thanked them for all their work.

Unfinished Business

1. Letter from the Council to San Juan County Commissioners on the land swap (the transfer station and Hole in the Rock Foundation (Leppanen)

Leppanen modified the response letter to reflect that it was from the Council and we believe it is best to retain the transfer station land because the land swap is not in the best interest for Bluff. Murray motioned and Sayers seconded that the letter be sent. The vote was unanimous. It will be posted on our website for the public to read.

2. Visit from County Commissioners (Leppanen)

The Commissioners and Kelly Perhson, had asked to be on our agenda. Leppanen explained to Perhson that we were not ready to negotiate or sign the Interlocal Agreement at this time. The council needed a work session and time to understand it. The Commissioners declined to attend since we were not ready to sign it. Discussion centered around having a work session to prepare for meeting about the Interlocal Agreement. The 12-page document is geared to Monticello not Bluff, for example it has a snow removal portion. Kelly Perhson represented in a second letter that services would remain as is until we get together with him. We need to be aware that the County will try to pressure us. It was agreed that we would hold a public work session for the purpose of researching and understanding the Agreement. And our options. All council members will research services before the session, which will be Tuesday, October 9, 2018 at 8:30 a.m. at the Bluff Community Center. Sosa stated that we are entitled to the services we already have. The session will be posted.

3. Acknowledgement of Indigenous People as a Mission Statement (Sayers)

Sayers suggested that he and Hook work together on turning his acknowledgement into a mission statement that could include some of her strategic planning ideas. Carolyn Jackson is working on a similar idea and they will check with her. It could be part of the General Plan.

4. Meeting with UDOT (Murray)

Murray is working with Michael Haviken to set up a meeting with UDOT in Moab next week. Haviken needs a colored Google map that will show our roads and Skip Meier can print a larger Google map that Murray and Haviken will color with colored pencils to emphasize the town's roads. Leppanen reminded the Council that we could do nothing in terms of money yet.

5. Letter to San Juan County on TRT (Leppanen)

The letter is ready to go when Business Owners Of Bluff give the go ahead. Leppanen will check in with Diana Davidson to see if they have heard about their grant. Sayers suggested sending it soon. Leppanen asked if members had read a recent Moab Zephyr article on marketing San Juan County. She will forward it.

6. Report on meeting with Sean Michael of Utah State U (Murray)

Murray reported on his meeting in Logan at Utah State U with architectural landscaping department head Sean Michael and his colleges. He presented them with our planning and zoning documents from the '90s and Listening to Bluff. They are very interested in working with us in some capacity and will be looking at their options, such as overlay maps or consulting. They have resources and expertise that could be very helpful. Sosa suggested sending them our General Plan for an overview.

New Business

1. Phone Conference with Cameron Diehl and Membership Dues (Sosa/Leppanen)

Cameron Diehl of the Utah League Cities and Towns was very supportive in the conference call with Leppanen and Sosa. The League has resources, including tutorials, training and legal support. Leppanen will set up a phone meeting with David Church, their attorney. He emphasized the need to do our budget. Leppanen showed the example of Dutch John's proposed 2019 budget.

2. Marysa Ryan and Jones and DeMille's request to meet (Leppanen)

Leppanen will ask for more information about this firm that is working on the County General Plan. We want to be included in this but would like more information and to know how we would fit into it.

3. Letter for Jennifer Davilla to Secretary Zinke for Advisory Committee position (Leppanen)

Davilla has asked Leppanen to write a letter of support for her application to this federal committee. Several other locals have applied and if the deadline for application is extended she is willing to write letters of support for them.

Other

Hook reported that Mary Lou Harvey, Director of Bluff Senior Citizen Center, will be retiring in January and when the new Mexican Water Chapterhouse is open vans will take seniors on the Reservation to it for lunch instead of in Bluff. Leppanen asked Hook to research this to see if the County or Navajo Nation is involved in this change.

Adjourn 7:24.

Linda Sosa, Clerk