

Bluff Town Council Joint Work Session with BWW  
Tuesday, January 15, 2019  
Bluff Community Center at 8:30 a.m.  
190 N 3<sup>rd</sup> East  
P. O. Box 324  
Bluff UT 84512

Draft Minutes

The meeting started at 8:35 a.m.

Roll Call Mayor Ann Leppanen, Luanne Hook, Brant Murray, Jim Sayers, and Linda Sosa  
BWW – Marx Powell, Steve Simpson, and Brandt Hart  
Audience – Ed Dobson

Sayers stated the purpose of the meeting was to talk about the BWW (Bluff Water Works) submitting a CIB grant and the folding of the BWW into the town.

Simpson agreed that at some point there should be consolidation but suggested that the Council has a lot on our plate right now and are overwhelmed with what we are currently involved in, making this not the right time. They had no plans to pursue grants or improvements.

Murray stated we do not have the expertise yet.

Leppanen said we are busy but not overwhelmed and our purpose is to move forward so we have one town entity instead of the Council, BSA, and BWW. While we are not ready for that to happen, we want to have a plan for how we learn how the BWW operates.

Murray, At what future time does the BWW see consolidation starting?

Simpson, Six to twelve months.

Murray, What would happen in six months? How do we bring you in? How do you see what the Water Department would look like?

Powell, We would be providing quality water to the town a low price. The BWW is monitored by the State, submits budgets to the State and is audited. You would need to be educated about what it takes to run the water system.

Simpson, High quality water at a reasonable price. Marx has equipment for maintenance and repairs and years of expertise.

Hook, Most towns have a Water Department and you could become the Town Water Department.

Sayers, This needs to be cohesive, three entities is a town of three hundred is too much. The Council is different from the BSA because we will have our own revenue stream. We will be able to apply for grants to upgrade and maintain the system. I don't see a big change in the running of the water system.

Simpson, The BWW is receptive to a merger with the town and feels great responsibility in this, he supports developing a plan.

Powell, We were able to get a grant for the arsenic plant and used depreciation to do it, these systems must have state or federal approval.

Leppanen, What would be the best way to educate ourselves about water, framework, and state agencies?

Simpson, Send a Council member to the BWW meetings with questions.

Sosa, Can we read your minutes?

Simpson, Yes, get them from Jenn Davila.

Leppanen, We need to engage the younger generation. We are investigating a CBDG grant to help pay Sunrise Engineering for the 50-year plan. It is a good idea for a meeting about the wells, tanks, and the plant.

Powell, Everything is in place and paid for next year. The Council could get a list of questions and bring them to our meetings.

Simpson, We are happy to cooperate.

Murray, Twelve months is a fair target. And your group could write down concerns for us. Like, maintenance, repair, and seasonal requirements.

Hook, Would you be willing to come over under the Town and report to the Council?

Simpson, Talk to your lawyer about what we need to do. We have a good level of trust.

Powell, Our concern is also financial, we do not the water rate increased by three times.

Murray, Water pays for water plant expansions through the enterprise fund.

Leppanen, I would vote against a water rate increase. How does the Board work with the County?

Simpson, We are appointed by the County and legal things go through the County Attorney.

Sosa, Can I contact Jenn and Melanie Kranz about basic procedures.

Simpson, Yes.

Sosa, Let's meet and come up with questions.

Adjourned