

Bluff Town Council
Tuesday, March 26, 2019
Bluff Community Center at 6:00 p.m.
190 N 3rd East
P. O. Box 324
Bluff UT 84512

Regular meetings are held every Tuesday at 6:00 p.m. at the Bluff Community Center. Requests to be on the agenda may be submitted to Ann Leppanen at least 4 days before the meeting.

Minutes

The meeting started at 6:01 p.m.

Roll Call Mayor Ann K. Leppanen, Luanne Hook, Brant Murray, Jim Sayers, and Linda Sosa

Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes of March 19, 2019

Murray voted to approve the minutes, Hook seconded. All voted in favor except Sayers, who abstained.

Old Business

1. Financial Update and Bills (Sosa)

Murray and Sosa ordered checks and deposit slips for the Roads account and deposit slips for the regular account. We have received a second disbursement into our Roads account for a total of \$19,219.67. We have received \$6,000 PILT funds and a donation of \$108 from Jenepher Stowell. There is about \$4,500, minus check fees, in the general fund. Roads and PILT are dedicated funds. Sosa recommended paying Dufford, Waldeck, Milburn and Krohn \$1,415.50 and Utah Local Government Trust \$250.00 of the \$2492.00 bill. Sayers motioned to pay \$1,415.50 and \$250.00, Murray seconded and all voted in favor.

2. 5-year Capital Improvement Plan for Bluff Airport (2019-2023) Comments due by 4/23/19 (Leppanen)

Leppanen talked to Jim Hook about this yearly comment period. Hook lets the County know when the airstrip needs chip sealing or mowing and he takes care of minor repairs. There is a possible State grant to widen and lengthen the pavement. Murray will check with Hook about that and they will check the airstrip. This could allow commercial tours. Sayers asked if the strip is long enough for life flights. The land was leased by the County from the BLM and transferred to the Town. The lease is up this year and Hook is working on securing it,

3. Report on Meeting and Town Hall with Congressman Curtis on 3/21/19 (All)

Curtis encouraged people to work together about the Bears Ears and promoted local control. The Council met with him before the Town Hall and he gave the Council several referrals, including a financial consultant referral and will contact the Utah League of Cities and Towns on our behalf.

4. Discussion and Vote on Ordinances to Enact both a Resort Community Sales and Use Tax of 1.1% and a Municipal Transient Room Tax of 1%

Hook presented ordinances for the Council to vote on and explanations about how they work. We far exceed the requirement of population numbers vs. transient housing units for the Resort Tax. The Feasibility Report lists this as a possible \$72,000, and it would go into the General Fund. The tax is on sales like food, motel and campground housing and gas. Sayers motioned to enact this tax of 1.1%, Sosa seconded and all voted in favor. The Municipal Transient Tax is a 1% tax imposed by municipalities. It is only for overnight loddinq stavs of less than 30 days. It is in addition to the 4.25%

already being collected and expended by the county. There was discussion as to allowed uses of these funds by the county as well as the town. Hook read Utah Code 59-12-352(4) which states that a municipality may use these funds for general fund purposes.

Sayers motioned in favor of enacting this 1% tax, Hook seconded and all voted in favor.

5. Application to the State of Utah to Collect the Restaurant Tax and the Telecommunications Tax for the town of Bluff (Hook)

The County is already collecting this 1% tax and the County can give it to us or not. Sayers motioned to apply for it and Murray seconded, all voted in favor. The Telecommunications Tax is a State tax recently added to mobile phones for 911. Bluff is not collecting it and does not receive any of it.

6. Municipal Energy Tax Update (Sosa)

We will start collecting this 3% in July. The Council is part of a phone conference tomorrow with Deb Dull and Paula Burt of Rocky Mountain Power to discuss a plan to reconcile street addresses with homes. This will give us a consistent database we can use for other applications.

7. Waste Management Plan Discussion (Murray/Helgerson)

Steve Helgerson has been working with Murray on possible plans to transport trash to the White Mesa Transfer Station. He has been transporting local trash for \$25 per person. Murray suggested that the Town is not equipped to take this on yet. Leppanen said that the legality of our Transfer Station being taken away from us has not been resolved. Hook suggested Helgerson continue what he is doing and see if it expands. He will send out a town email.

8. Use of Bluff Library for Planning and Zoning (Leppanen)

Since the County Librarian is not allowing the use of the Library with out the librarian present and during library hours it was agreed that the Planning and Zoning meetings should stay at the Community Center.

9. Capital Improvement Plan for Community Development Block Grant/CIB (Leppanen)

Jade Powell is working with Leppanen on this plan, which is due March 31st. We have put in \$500 matching funds and the total is \$96,300 for a water project. Sayers is working on the County CIB list and we are listed for Secondary Water Infrastructure and Old School/Town Hall Improvements. Projects will be approved at the County Commission meeting. In a recent conversation with those involved in bringing fiber optics to Bluff it was indicated to Leppanen that the plan for the old school was to remove it. Sayers will check with Kyle Hostler.

10. Report on Meeting on 3/26/19 with UDOT and Council Members (Murray/Leppanen)

Leppanen and Murray met with eight others at the UDOT compound and discussed projects that had been discussed previously including the school turn lane, Bluff Dwellings turn lane, fixing the Post Office road, repairs for right-of- ways, and painting lines at Twin Rocks.

11. Update on Pelorus Training on March 29th (Sosa)

Training is March 29th with an overview of the accounting system, then Leppanen and Sosa will work with the trainer.

15. Request for the town to Include a Food Pantry (Ginny Burns/Robbin Bond)

Leppanen will attend a meeting on April 2nd with Burns, Bond and a Food Pantry representative about setting up a local Food Pantry. There is confusion over EIN and SOLC3 numbers needed and whether they can come under the Town EIN number. Leppanen will bring information back to the Council.

12. Update on Planning and Zoning, Roads, Water (Leppanen)

Leppanen called for a closed meeting at 7:17 based on a), page 70 in the Handbook, professional competence for the Planning and Zoning Commission.

Sayers motioned for the closed session to be over at 7:37, Sosa seconded and all voted in favor.

New Business

13. Copper Cliffs II Road (Leppanen)

We would like to get the Planning and Zoning Commission's recommendation about the road at Copper Cliffs II. We need to know if Steve Simpson submitted a written application or request to them to give the Town the road and what the Commission's action was. We need to have a procedure in place. Murray liked Monticello's policy of not accepting new roads for a year: Sosa suggested consider accepting.

14. Marx Powell's Representation at San Juan Water Conservancy Meeting on March 14, 2019 (Leppanen)

This Board has not done minutes in the past or posted agendas. Sayers motioned that we ask Marx Powell to come to our next meeting to report on the March meeting, Murray seconded and all voted in favor.

15. Request for the town to include a Food Pantry (Ginny Burns/Robbin Bond)

Covered earlier.

16. Enterprise Zone and Request to Participate (Leppanen)

Tabled until next week.

17. Rural Community Planning Survey as to UDOT (Leppanen)

Leppanen has been working on this and it will be used to help us work with UDOT.

18. Reminder of Work Session on Wednesday, March 27, 2019 at 10 a.m. (Agenda: Municipal Energy Tax Collection and Meeting with Utah Department of Alcoholic Beverages)

Other Business

Adjourn at 7:46

Linda Sosa Recording Officer