

Bluff Town Council Meeting
Tuesday, June 11, 2019
Bluff Community Center at 6:00 p.m.
190 N 3rd East P.O. Box 324
Bluff UT 84512
435-672-9990

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 (ann@townofbluff.org) at least 4 days before the meeting. Agendas and minutes are posted at: townofbluff.org and audio, in addition, at the Utah Public Notice Website

The meeting started at 6:01 p.m.

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

Minutes

Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes of June 4, 2019

Murray motioned to approve with one modification, Sayers seconded and all voted in favor except Sosa who abstained.

Approval of Budget Public Hearing Minutes of June 4, 2019

Sayers motioned to approve, Murray seconded and all voted in favor except Sosa who abstained.

Approval of Work Session Minutes of June 4, 2019

Murray motioned to approve, Sayers seconded and all voted in favor except Sosa who abstained.

Leppanen is having technology issues posting audios on the Utah Public Notice Website but they should be resolved soon.

Old Business

1. San Juan Economic Development Grant, Marketing Cooperative, Discussion with Diana Davidson (Sosa/Leppanen)

Jen Davilla and Marcia Hadenfeldt, representing Business Owners of Bluff, explained an opportunity from County Economic Development for promoting tourism called the Cafeteria Plan. BOB will be applying for grants for events but the municipalities must apply for the Cafeteria Plan. There are three options, social media, community guide, and RIP map of the town. They felt this was a good opportunity for the town. Murray asked, is this for this year or next year; unknown, there is no timeline provided. How would it be marketed; through the motels. What about shoulder seasons; a good idea. Leppanen asked, what would our responsibility be; Davilla suggested Leppanen call Diana Davidson, who would do a great deal of the work on the project. Leppanen asked if we start this project but decide at some point that it is not a good fit can we drop out of it; Davilla and Hadenfeldt thought yes. Sosa was hesitant to be working on a town guide when we are just forming ideas for the town but liked the idea of the map. Murray motioned we select the rip map, Sayers seconded and all voted in favor. Leppanen will call Natalie Randall and get more details about the process and product.

Randall asked the Council for a letter of support for the San Juan County Economic Diversification Project. The Council was concerned about the lack of specific details vs. broad generalities and not enough lead-time. Sayers suggested that some projects have stipulations tied to their funds and might not be where we want to go. The Council decided not to write a letter of support but ask to be kept in the loop.

5. Resolution on Oil and Gas Leases near Hovenweep (Murray) Moved forward.

Amanda Podmore explained this resolution. Murray motioned to sign the resolution, Sayers seconded and all voted in favor. Podmore explained the need to complete information online that would be part of the resolution and she will help us with that.

2. USU Regional Advisory Council (Murray/Sayers)

Sayers volunteered to be on this Council and Leppanen will inform Anthony Lott.

3. Vote to Approve Budget for 2020 (Leppanen)

Murray motioned to approve the budget, Sayers seconded and all voted in favor.

4. Declarations for Candidacy for Fall Election (Leppanen)

Murray and Sayers are the only ones to declare candidacy. September 6th is the write-in deadline.

5. Resolution on Oil and Gas Leases near Hovenweep (Murray)

Covered earlier.

6. Sales Tax Update (Hook)

Hook explained that we received \$164.19 in sales tax because someone filed early. We will get 100% of the sales tax at point of sale. There is a two-month lag, April and May, so we will receive funds monthly starting the end of June.

New Business

7. Planning and Zoning, Roads, Water

Water - Leppanen and Sosa will attend the BWW meeting this week. The school project has been using water from a fire hydrant instead of the County water at the fire station. Leppanen will ask BWW if the school district is paying for this water.

Planning & Zoning – The Council made a great deal of progress going over the General Plan today and will have a work session Friday, June 14th to finish it so we can send it to Chris McAnany for review. The process for the public hearing is complex so we need to get it to him soon. When we get it back we will schedule a work session with Planning and Zoning. Leppanen suggested a better way to proceed with projects in the future is have a joint work session at the time of the hand off so we can understand the thinking of the other party. Sam Cantrell, County Surveyor, discussed with Leppanen the topic of perceived and real conflicts of interest because his wife, Robin Cantrell, is on the Planning and Zoning Commission. He volunteered to provide services to Planning and Zoning to answer questions and supply information directly. Sayers and Hook will attend the June 13th meeting.

Roads – Murray and Michael Haviken are writing a letter to UDOT concerning unanswered questions, especially about the road improvement by the post office. Ben Musselman sent an update on the recently granted UDOT project for 69 million dollars in the Aneth/Montezuma Creek area. He thanked the Council for our letter of support. Jared Berrett sent an email asking for a letter of support to UDOT to cover some of the costs for a turn lane. Without a turn lane he is limited to 18 – 20 rooms and the speed of vehicles coming down the canyon is a safety issue. Murray asked if this extra money would come from UDOT or be part of a pool of money designated to Bluff. Sayers is in favor of the letter of support if it does not effect Bluff's allotted funds and would like more information. Leppanen remarked that Berrett stated earlier that if the project doesn't have enough money for completion, he would abandon the project. The Council will get more information but is inclined to write a letter of support.

UDOT has started its' Speed Study.

8. Report on Bluff Town Yard Sale (Leppanen/Sosa)

Leppanen reported \$2,582 plus \$40 more today and \$183 for BARC. The Council is grateful for the donations and hard work of so many town people.

9. Financial Report (Sosa)

Sosa presented the May bank reconciliations and current bills. Sayers motioned to pay:

Chris McAnany - \$1,436.50 for legal fees

Pelorus - \$400.00 for quarterly bill

San Juan Record - \$32.40 for legal fees

Murray seconded and all voted in favor.

10. Report on Record Management Training (Sosa)

Sosa would like to do a short training at a work session. All Council members are working on projects and she reminded members to keep correspondence and emails for those projects because they are legal documents. We follow the State retention schedule for different kinds of documents.

11. Report on County Economic Development Meeting (Sosa)

The meeting is in July.

12. Report on General Plan Work Session (All)

Covered earlier.

13 Transit Letter of Support (Hook)

Hook read her letter in support of the community service of the Navajo Transit bus. She included the idea of a two-hour layover in Blanding to allow for shopping and other services. Sosa felt we should gather more information about the service before sending it. Leppanen suggested going on a ride. We will hold this until our next meeting.

Other Business

Because several members will be out of town it was decided that we cancel the June 18th meeting.

Hook would like to add a public comment section to agendas.

Adjourn at 7:36 p.m.

Linda Sosa Recording Officer