

Bluff Town Council Work Session
August 11, 2020
Bluff Community Center at 9:00 a.m.
190 N 3rd East P.O. Box 324
435-672-9990

Regular meetings are held the first three Tuesdays of every month at 6:00 p.m. at the Bluff Community Center. Requests to be on the agenda may be submitted in writing 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

This meeting was held electronically.

Minutes

The meeting started at 9:04 a.m.

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

4. Discussion of Bluff's Airport Management Plans for Hangar, Mowing, Maintenance, Liability Insurance

Jim Hook, manager, emailed an update of airport information to Council members. He suggested working with Steve Helgerson on mowing, showing him what was needed and determining the amount of time needed. He suggested two options for his hanger: he owns it and leases the land from the Town, or the Town buys the hanger from him and he leases it from the Town. Leppanen commented, we have no experience and it would be difficult to take on more responsibility at this time. She would like Hook to work on a succession plan for a future owner. Murray felt the Town should buy the hanger. Sosa considered making it an enterprise zone but to do that it would have to generate enough income to pay for itself, which includes liability insurance and the BLM lease. Sayers pointed out in normal times we would buy it but we are not in a good financial position for that this year. Jim Hook pointed out it is not for sale at this time and suggested he pay the Town \$900 a year to lease the land, with the right of first refusal if it is for sale. Leppanen thought it was not financially reasonable to buy the hanger without owning the land. The process of getting the land from the BLM is a ten to fifteen-year process. Leppanen has been talking to Michael Bryant about getting a grant cover our \$8000+ for our matching funds for the

pavement improvement grant. Hook would like to start working with the **Jviation** engineers and get an appraisal for the airport.

1. Discussion on Use of COVID-19 CARES Act Funds

Murray and Hook have been working on priorities and prices from suggestions at an earlier meeting. Included were: PPE for firemen and EMTs, paying the Citizen's Response Team leader, porta-pottys, hand sanitizing equipment and supplies, Wi-Fi and picnic tables at hot spots, and signage. Leppanen noted Parks and Rec funds could be used for picnic tables and hand sanitation stations, and was concerned that there may not be another disbursement and the need to keep part of these funds. Kathy Carson is researching grants for an AED for the CC. Sosa felt \$2,600 was too high for the leader. Leppanen noted the fiber optics were still stalled on White Mesa and Wi-Fi could be pushed to the bottom of the list. A porta-potty could be placed across from Recapture Lodge.

Break – 10:00 a.m.

Resume – 10:06 a.m.

2. Discussion of Fiber Optic through White Mesa and Letters of Support]

Leppanen will contact Emery Telecom.

3. Discuss on Ordinance to Require Face Coverings in the Town of Bluff

Hook and Leppanen supported removing an age limit for children wearing masks. The other change was rewording a piece about the seasonal surge in tourism. It was suggested the Council reach out to different entities, such as the school district, the County Commission, and workers in town, like Emery. Murray will talk to the Senior Center workers. Hook said businesses had been refusing to serve unmasked people.

5. Discussion of UDOT Road Map and Any Changes/Corrections

Murray said the map was adequate. The deadline for changes is Sept. 1st.

6. Other

Sayers asked about the alley issue on the evening agenda. Leppanen explained the need to clarify that the Town owned the alleys after incorporation, not the County. The issue has come up because someone wants to buy a piece of property near the Mokee Motel, FCM, and Nancy Sumner's cottages and they would like access to the back of

the property. It is also important to clarify for insurances purposes. Murray suggested we have Sam Cantrell map them for the Town.

Hook clarified she keeps a phone log of messages.

Sayers motioned to adjourn at 10:45 a.m., Murray seconded, and all voted in favor.

Linda Sosa, Recording Officer

This meeting took place electronically in order to follow the social distancing guidelines given by state and local authorities. The public was able to connect and participate electronically.