

Bluff Town Council Regular Meeting Minutes

March 9, 2021

Bluff Community Center at 6:00 p.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.

The meeting started at 6:00 p.m.

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

Sayers had some technical difficulty for the first 10 minutes

Approval of Bluff Town Council Meeting Minutes from March 2, 2021

Murray motioned to approve, Sosa seconded and Leppanen, Murray, and Sosa voted in favor, Hook abstained.

Unfinished Business

1. Discussion on Revisions to Code of Conduct and Rules and Procedures (All)

Leppanen explained this is in progress and it will be on the agenda when it is completed.

2. Citizens' Institute on Rural Design: Letter of Support from Bluff Town Council and Updates (Leppanen)

Leppanen commented on what a great job Adrienne Caesar and Molly Schmidt of Design/Build/Bluff had done on the grant. She submitted a letter of support for the project.

3. Update on Clean-Up of the Intersection at Highways 191 and 193 (All)

The day was changed to Sunday because of windy weather. Chief Lott and the Fire Dept. did a great job reducing the fire hazard but had no long-term solution. Dudley Beck took pictures of the project. Lott and K.B. Bushnell will set up a fire information board outside the Post Office. Leppanen thanked the Fire Dept. for their hard work. Weather permitting, we will have a trash pick-up day at the intersection at 8:30 a.m. Tuesday the 23rd. There is a lot of broken glass so heavy gloves are needed. Leppanen will contact Steve Helgerson, who suggested placing a dumpster for the event. Hook suggested an adopt a highway for that stretch and asked if it could count toward our Wildland Fire volunteer hours. Leppanen will check. Michael Haviken pointed out there is roadside trash along the bypass road. Jen Davilla asked would the Council would consider a chipper for Spring clean-up.

4. Discussion of Date for 2021 Amended Budget Hearing (Leppanen)

The tentative 2022 budget hearing will be May 4th and the amended 2021 budget hearing will be April 20th. Leppanen will get the notices in the paper.

5. Update on the Town of Bluff's Representation on the San Juan Transportation District (Leppanen/Haviken)

Leppanen announced that Michael Haviken volunteered to represent Bluff on this County Special Service District. Haviken attended the first meeting and explained the District gets funding from oil and mineral leases on public land and it oversees the road work it is spent on. Towns can apply for funds and there is a 50% match through bonding. Leppanen thanked him for serving.

6. Update on Congressman Curtis' Visit to Bluff on Monday, March 29, 2021 (Leppanen)

This will be a socially appropriate dinner for the Council, a member of BOB, a member of P&Z, Curtis and his staff at 7:00 p.m. March 29th at Twin Rocks. Leppanen will post it in the paper since five Council members will be there.

7. 4H Rental of BCC and Review of Documents (All)

This will carry over to next week's agenda. The documents are due the 24th.

8. Reorganizing Offices Update (Sosa), NetForce Update (Sayers), Organizing Maps (Sosa)

Office #1 and the hallway are ready to have the carpet shampooed. The Mayor will move into that office and the BSA computer will be set up in office #2 for Kathy Carson to scan BSA minutes. NetForce sent a bill for \$268.38 for a rolling cart for the video controller. Leppanen motioned to approve, Sayers seconded and Leppanen, Hook, Sosa, Murray and Sayers voted in favor. Murray questioned why we were charged extra; our bill was supposed to cover all equipment. Leppanen will check on that. Kathy Carson is working on organizing and logging maps by date and category.

New Business

9. Bluff Arts Festival (Podmore)

Podmore explained the Art Festival group is looking for ways to benefit the Town and would like to have a Friday night outdoor concert series at restaurants in town. They would pay musicians out of a \$1000 fund. Restaurants they spoke with were excited about the idea. The Council agreed it was a good idea. Leppanen was concerned about the Governor's plan to remove mask mandates April 10th, whether masks would be required or strongly recommended is unknown. BOB is in favor of masking longer than April 10th. Leppanen will check with Chris McAnany and this will be a future agenda item.

10. Review of the Bureau of Land Management's Policy on "Vehicular Intrusions"

Leppanen and Amber Johnson (BLM) recently went on a hike and discussed this illegal intrusion on BLM lands issue. Leppanen suggested contacting Johnson with public comment or questions at the BLM office.

11. Update on Roads, Food Pantry, Planning and Zoning (All)

Haviken has been in communication with T.J. Adair about the crack sealing project. Four more days are allotted but he felt it would only take three days to finish. It is dependent on the weather, if it is wet or too warm it will have to wait until Winter. Haviken was happy with the work that has been done so far. Leppanen reported the Food Pantry received its usual shipment Friday but received more food from the Catholic and Unitarian Churches in Grand Junction the day before. She encouraged people to reach out to needy people. Ginny Burns and Kathy Carson are in touch with

the school and other entities. Podmore said the public hearing was positive and end of the comment period for the new ordinances is March 13th.

12. Financial Report (Sosa)

Sosa reported in February we received airport lease fees, around \$5000 for property tax and around \$5000 for the last of the BSA transfer. She explained we had projected this money and it is part of the budget.

13. Other

14. Executive Session to Discuss the Purchase, Exchange, or Lease of Real Property (All)

At 6:51 p.m. Sayers motioned to close the open meeting and go into closed session to discuss real property and then adjourn, Murray seconded and Leppanen, Murray, Hook, Sayers and Sosa voted in favor.

Linda Sosa Recording Office

This meeting took place electronically in order to follow the social distancing guidelines given by state and local authorities. The public will be able to connect and participate electronically. For requests to receive emails/meeting invitations email linda@townofbluff.org