

Bluff Town Council Regular Meeting Minutes

January 18, 2022

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.

5:00 – 5:30 Presentation by Cathy Orcutt on "Priority Telecommunications"

Moved to February 1, 2022

The meeting started at 6:02 p.m.

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

Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes of January 11, 2022

Sayers motioned to approve with one modification, Murray seconded and Leppanen, Murray, Hook, Sosa, and Sayers voted in favor.

Recognition of the Service of Deborah Westfall on Planning and Zoning and Michael Haviken as Manager of Class C Roads

Leppanen expressed gratitude and appreciation for the hard work and service these two have performed for the Town since 2018. Deborah Westfall was recognized earlier by P&Z as a strong leader with great intuitional history of the town. Michael Haviken mapped neglected roads and worked with UDOT and class C Road funding. He has used his expertise in maintenance and the improvement of our roads. He also worked on P&Z for several years and is representing Bluff on the San Juan County Transportation Board. Both have done a phenomenal job!

Public Comment: There will be a three-minute time limit for each person wishing to comment. If you exceed that three-minute limit, the meeting controller will mute your line.

Nathan Sosa encouraged the replacement of playground equipment if unsafe equipment is removed. Sayers mentioned the formation of a playground equipment group.

Unfinished Business

1. Update on January 11, 2022 Meeting of Local Committee on Homelessness in San Juan County and Discussion of Point In Time Count on January 27, 28, 29, 2022 (Leppanen)

Leppanen and Father Joe Hubbard serve on this committee and Leppanen explained a count of unsheltered persons would be taken in the county January 27, 28, and 29. The question asked is, where did you sleep January 26th? She urged anyone aware of someone homeless to contact her or Father Joe so they can be counted. There are also funds available to help those who are three or less months behind in their rent or mortgage. She mentioned Spanish Valley may need help conducting their count.

2. Update on Meeting with Utah Dine Bikeyah on January 18, 2022 and Report on Cooperative Cultural Center's Redevelopment and Design Committee, Utah Dine Bikeyah Event on January 29th, 2022, Policy for Use of Common Areas and Occupancy (Sayers/Murray/Hook)

Sayers and Murray felt the meeting went very well and there is a shared vision. The group did a walk through and shared introductions. Leppanen asked the Design Team to bring up the issue of the playground and the need for use and occupancy policy at their next meeting. Sayers volunteered to check with the Health Dept. about use of the kitchen. Sosa stated if the kitchen cannot be used or granted a certificate of occupancy UDB needs to do an application for use of the CC kitchen right away for their upcoming event.

3. Update on Status of NetForce (Sayers)

Sayers reported we were unable to complete the training last week because of a missing part.

4. Report on San Juan County Commission Meeting on January 18, 2022 (Leppanen) and Report of Bluff Water Works Meeting on January 12, 2022

Leppanen will listen to the audio of the meeting since we were attending the joint UDB meeting. The water system is good.

5. Report on the Status of UDOT Main Street Program and Conversation with Jared Beard, Regional Engineer (Leppanen)

Leppanen talked with Beard about a face to face meeting where stakeholders could walk through Bluff but covid numbers are still increasing, making it necessary to plan farther out. She suggested a larger stakeholder group so that everyone can be on the same page. Only the Town can sign off on projects with UDOT. The signs have come in and UDOT is looking for an appropriate place for them on each side of town. Leppanen will follow up with Beard in February.

6. Update on CDBG (Leppanen)

Leppanen explained the low to moderate income survey has been submitted to the State and we have not received the results yet. While we don't know if we have met the criteria, we must have an engineer sign off on our CC office remodel and ADA upgrade before January 31st. Sayers will check with Tri-Hurst. Hook also suggested Jones and DeMille.

New Business

7. Discussion of Playground and Equipment at the Bluff Community Center and Cooperative Cultural Center (All)

Sayers spoke with Utah Government Trust about issues with the playground equipment. The representative suggested getting it evaluated by a certified playground inspector. Leppanen reported several parents are interested in working on playground issues.

8. Report on Fuels Reduction Grant Notice for the Catfire Grant and another funding source (Leppanen)

Duncan Fuchise has been working on grants for fire control. Leppanen thanked him and Jackie Warren for pursuing funding. This would be for fuel reduction along the river.

9. Discussion of 2022 Boundary and Annexation Survey for the U.S. Census Bureau (Leppanen)

Leppanen explained this yearly request consists of comparing the census map to our boundary. She noted no change.

10. Status of American Rescue Plan Act's Final Rule for use of Local Fiscal Recovery (Leppanen)

This is a 100+ page document. Leppanen pointed there are three years to use the funds and there will be summaries and a workshop from Utah League of Cities and Towns.

11. Report on Financial Reports and Finances (Sosa)

Sosa reported that Murray checked the bank reconciliation. Sosa sent Council Members a copy of current bills. Murray motioned to pay the bills, Sayers seconded and Leppanen, Hook, Sosa, Sayers and Murray voted in favor. Sosa reported that she and Leppanen had finished and submitted the Deposit and Investment, Transparency, Federal form 491, State form 491, and Quarterly State Unemployment. She has finished W-2s and 1099 and is mailing them out.

Currant bills

P&Z Stipends - \$150.00
Carol Shook - \$184.70
Kathy Carson - \$118.20
Erin Richards - \$102.00
Erin Richards - \$26.00
Patricia Bellson - \$34.17
Helgersen - \$50.00
Rocky Mtn. Power – \$354.91
River Canyon - \$70.99
Bankcard - \$126.24
 XMission - \$15.00
 Google Suites - \$51.24
 ULCT - \$60.00
Diamond Propane \$676.28
Waldeck Dufford – \$1,653.00
San Juan Record - \$66.50
Emery - \$99.95
BWW - \$45.00
US Treasury - \$194.50
Frontier - \$112.32
NetForce - \$1372.50 parts and labor
Loan Transfer to Roads - \$32,777.65

School - BWW - \$35.00

Roads

Galen Headley - \$1,462.50

Kilgore - \$32,777.65

12. Application for Bluff Airport lease UTU-0-34653 and Report by Bluff Airport Manager for Continued Authority to Complete the Report (Leppanen)

Leppanen thanked Jim Hook for working on this and his airport management.

13. Report on Recycling Discussion by Citizens on January 12, 2022 (Adrienne Caesar)

Leppanen set in this local citizen group as a private citizen. Drew Cooper explained the scope of the group and their research into recycling possibilities. Topics discussed included volunteers, how and where to do drop offs, Moab could take recycling, other companies could be helpful. Steve Helgerson is looking into ways he could offer services. The group has several action items they are moving forward with.

14. Revisit Policy for Temporary Vendor Business License (Leppanen/Sosa)

Leppanen noted several food pop-ups during the Balloon Festival and suggested we look at our business license policy to help them be compliant and make sure they have food handler's permits.

15. Other

Leppanen said there have been no applicants so far for the Bluff position on County P&Z and she will get more information about meetings and expectations.

Jen Davila thanked the town for their support of the Balloon Festival and was very happy with the attendance. Leppanen added Davila and Business Owners of Bluff did a great job.

Leppanen reminded covid testing would happen at the CC again tomorrow and thanked Lois Young for all her work interfacing with the Public Health Dept. She noted the covid numbers are probably higher than those reported.

Jackie Warren and Joyce Martini tried the Biden link for free test kits and said it was easy.

Sayers motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:05 p.m., Brant seconded and Leppanen, Hook, Sosa, Murray, and Sayers 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 will be able to connect and participate electronically.

For requests to receive emails/meeting invitations email linda@townofbluff.org