

Town Council-Elect Work Session
Bluff Community Center
190 N 3rd East Street
Bluff, Utah 84512

Minutes

The mayor-elect and council-elect met Tuesday, August 28, 2018 at 8:30 am in a working session that was open to the public.

Present were: Ann Leppanen mayor-elect, Brant Murray, Jim Sayers, Lu Hook, and Linda Sosa

The Work Session Started at 8:33 a.m.

Minutes from Tuesday, August 21, 2018 were approved with a spelling correction and modification of HIRF to Hole in the Rock Foundation.

1. Report from Dawn DiLego as Chair of the Public Safety Advisory Committee (PSAC). DiLego presented written "Ambulance Data through 8/20/18," "Bluff Ambulance Calls," and "Bluff Fire Department Incidents." Roughly, 1/3 of the calls are Bluff proper and 2/3s of the calls are outside of Bluff proper, both of which include public service type of calls. Point of information is that fire is funded from the San Juan County general fund through tax money and EMS is self-funded, ie income generating and not from tax funds. David Gallegos is the county fire chief and Linda Larson is the EMS director.

DiLego, Anthony Lott (Bluff fire chief), David Gallegos and Jim Sayers (council-elect) met with Kelly Pehrson (San Juan County Manager), on Thursday, August 23 in Monticello and DiLego and Sayers agreed that the meeting was productive and that the end result is that there will be no change to the status quo in services from San Juan County. Liability insurance for the volunteers will not change; coverage will continue to be provided. Sayers will memorialize the discussion in a letter to Kelly Pehrson and the San Juan County Commissioners.

DiLego met with Jeremy Redd (Mayor of Blanding). Blanding owns their own fire department which includes the building and property. Blanding exchanges fire calls for snow plowing with San Juan County. There was a lengthy discussion of differences between Bluff, San Juan County and Blanding in terms of who owns what and services provided.

Sayers met with Josh Ewing and Sandy Maillard prior to the meeting with Kelly Pehrson. DiLego reported that Pehrson said that "we need each other."

Recommendations and conclusions are that the status quo of services with San Juan County should remain in place and that the PSAC will continue to work with the council once seated.

Ewing reminded the council-elect that there are state and federal grants available once seated and that there should be no trading or relinquishment of county services until the town can take those over.

2. Website update (Sosa/Ewing). The original Incorporate Bluff website is now the "townofbluff.org" website. Ewing created council email addresses and will work with Sosa to add Sosa and Leppanen as "administrators." Mail Chimp has switched the town email roster to the new town website.
3. Update on Incorporation (Leppanen). Leppanen sent an email with a follow-up email to the Lt. Governor's staff that asked for confirmation that Bluff is incorporated August 31, 2018. No confirmation has been received yet; however, the date to take the oaths remains September 6, 2018. Sam Cantrell with San Juan County has copied the Mylar final local entity plat and then plans for framing should be made. Leppanen received invitations to several meetings, including one at the Hole In the Rock Foundation and a Women's Mayor Summit in Washington DC.
4. Michael Haviken's meeting with UDOT on September 6, 2018 (Leppanen). Murray will go to this and the time changed from 11 a.m. to 9 a.m.
5. Requests for involvement (Leppanen). Utah Rock Art Research Association asked Leppanen to give a brief opening at their upcoming symposium in October. Rural Community Consultants (Mike Hansen) is working with San Juan County on updating their general plan and Hansen would like to meet with the council about how Bluff fits into this plan. Leppanen will email him about a future presentation once the council-elect is seated.
6. Sean Michael and USU trip (Murray). Murray will make arrangements to meet with Michael in Logan at USU in September to talk about future projects by students in Bluff.
7. Letter to school district superintendent re: use for old and new Bluff elementary schools (Sayers). Sayers will send a letter that has been reviewed by Murray and Bob Helmes to the superintendent that sets out the concerns and questions expressed by citizens and the council elect. This will be an action item on the council's agenda once seated.
8. Financial update (Sosa). A written update was presented by Sosa that shows there is money remaining in the incorporation account for future expenses. Sosa will provide the final accounting at the first council meeting of September 6, 2018 for transfer of funds to the town.
9. Procedures for council members and citizens contact County officials (Leppanen). It was agreed that the council-elect will continue with the process of "no agreements to be reached" with the County or any entity until such time as the council is seated. It was agreed that the council-elect would continue to stress that citizens do the same.
10. Update on liability insurance (Sayers). Sayers received an email on August 28, 2018 from the carrier that the policy is in the final approval phase. Sayers will update at the September 6, 2018 council meeting.
11. Rules and Procedures, Code of Conduct (All). Leppanen will work on publishing a Google Doc for the council members with the help of Hook. Suggestions were made as to additions and the document should be available to all for review and comment on as soon as possible.

The public work session adjourned at 10:09 a.m.

THE FIRST OFFICIAL TOWN COUNCIL MEETING IS THURSDAY, 6, 2018 AT THE BLUFF COMMUNITY CENTER. THE OATH OF OFFICE WILL BE OFFICIATED AT 2:00 PM AND THE MEETING WILL START AT 2:30 PM.