

Bluff Town Council
Bluff Community Center
190 N 3rd East Street
Bluff, Utah 84512

Minutes

The mayor and council met Thursday, September 6, 2018 at 2:30 p.m. in a public meeting.
Present were: Ann Leppanen mayor, Brant Murray, Jim Sayers, Lu Hook, and Linda Sosa

The meeting started at 2:37 p.m.

Minutes from Tuesday, August 28, 2018 were approved.

1. Kirsten Ewing, representing Friends of Cedar Mesa, requested a one-time special event permit for selling alcoholic beverages at their Bears Ears Education Center grand opening September 22, 2018. The permit is through the state; this is the local consent part. It was granted.
2. Incorporation update. Leppanen announced our official incorporation date of August 31, 2018 at 12:01 a.m. and mentioned a letter from the county expressing interest in discussing county services with the council. She is creating an office binder of our incorporation documents.
3. The council discussed a public meeting schedule for the rest of the year. The council voted to meet every Tuesday at 6 p.m. at the Bluff Community Center starting September 18, 2018.
4. Council offices were filled. Sosa is Recording Officer and Murray is Mayor Pro Tem and Treasurer.
5. The council discussed, voted, and adopted a Rule of Procedures. Hook wanted it to be clear about the vote required to sell or transfer property. This is a living document and this issue and others will be added to it as needed.
6. The council voted on and adopted a Code of Conduct. This and the Rule of Procedures will be available for public inspection at meetings.
7. The council discussed where our public committees stand now that we are incorporated and how they continue in the future. It was decided that we would have a new committee meeting. The committees have been important for support, advice, and information. Sosa asked that this be carried over to our next meeting so we can think about details.
8. Sayers has been working our town insurance coverage, both liability and workers compensation. He reported that the policy is close to being complete and the cost is about \$4,000 a year.
9. Sayers read the letter he had written to Superintendent Nielson asking for local and council involvement on committees planning the new elementary school. The letter suggested a new emergency plan, since the school's location is changing and trucks carrying uranium and hazardous materials travel through Bluff daily. It also expressed our interest as a town in owning the old school building and property after the new school is open. It was voted that Sayers make a few changes and Leppanen sign it.
10. The council discussed the letter of August 16, 2018 from the San Juan County Commissioners to meet to and discuss Bluff as an incorporated town. A second letter was received from Kelly Pehrson giving us some time before meeting over services. Leppanen suggested that we needed to research

and be prepared with our options before meeting and we may need a work session. It was voted that Murray would write a letter to Pehrson and the Commissioners requesting a meeting late September or early October.

11. Leppanen met with Diana Davidson of Business Owners of Bluff about the TRT, Transient Room Tax. Because of the complexity and possible changes in the county and Economic Development Committee policy, it was suggested the council meet with Davidson in an open working session. It was agreed that the council would meet with her Saturday September 8, 2018 at the Cottonwood Steakhouse.
12. Michael Haviken and Murray met with Freeman Sam of UDOT to discuss road issues including the poor shape of the roads connecting the highway and local roads. They are not planning to fix any of these problems and do not have Bluff road projects scheduled until 2021 and 2022. Haviken is willing to help us apply for bimonthly road funds from the state. In addition to the application we need a dedicated bank account and a Google map. Murray will work with Haviken filling out the application and with UDOT. Because we are incorporated the county will no longer get these state road funds. Murray will talk to the San Juan Credit Union and get applications.
13. Council members must participate in annual training provided by the Utah League of Cities and Towns.
14. Wednesday, September 12, 2018 LeGrand Bitter of the Utah Association of Special Districts will meet with the Bluff Service Area Board to do a training session at the Bluff Community Center from 2:00 to 4:00. The council is invited to attend at observe. Leppanen has requested an agenda from Bitter but has not received one. The council discussed whether it should attend and are waiting for an agenda.
15. Murray will be in charge of a future town logo contest.
16. The county contacted us to work on their general plan. Leppanen will contact to get more details.
17. Sosa reported that Josh Ewing had changed the Incorporation website to the townofbluff.org website. Ewing and Sosa had their first meeting to train Sosa how to administer the website.
18. Sayers will revisit our insurance status at our next meeting. Leppanen reminded the council to be careful to do nothing that puts us at risk while we are not insured.
19. Hook reported on the River Trail meeting of the Bluff Historic Preservation Association. Kelly Davis is doing a Masters Thesis on the Trail as a social construction of place.
20. Leppanen met with Bill Balaze of Tetra Tech, Mark Bond of the Bluff Service Area, and Ben Musselman of County Works about the narrow road that Balaze created by using a narrow culvert. Things were discussed from signage, safety, replacement and ownership of the road and problem. No resolution was reached. Because the BSA is the client it is their problem to resolve. It was voted that Leppanen will send a letter to the BSA letting them know it was not resolved.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:38.

The next meeting will be September 18, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. at the Bluff Community Center.
Sosa

