

Bluff Town Council Meeting
Tuesday, May 21, 2019
Bluff Community Center at 6:00 p.m.
190 N 3rd East P.O. Box 324
Bluff UT 84512
435-672-9990

Regular meetings are held every Tuesday at 6:00 p.m. at the Bluff Community Center. Requests to be on the agenda may be submitted 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

The meeting started at 6:02 p.m.

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

Draft Minutes

Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes from May 14, 2019

Sayers motioned to approve with modifications, Murray seconded and all voted in favor.

Approval of Town Council Work Session from May 14, 2019

Sayers motioned to approve with a modification, Murray seconded and all voted in favor.

Approval of Joint Work Session with BSA Minutes from May 15, 2019

Murray motioned to approve, Hook seconded and all voted in favor.

May 17, 2019 Work Session Cancelled

Old Business

1. Discussion of Plan for Bluff Elementary School (All) and Report on Tour of the New Bluff Elementary School (Sosa/Sayers/Leppanen)

Sayers, Leppanen, and Sosa joined most of the School District Board in this site visit. Sayers reported the project is going well and looked good. He also attended the School Board meeting later that day and said the District is struggling with finances; they have put a lot of money into this project and other land in Bluff and we need to find money, grants, and loans to meet their possible \$240,000 asking price. Sayers has been working on funding sources and will continue. Murray suggested borrowing the money. Leppanen reached out to Zions Bank about this recently and they encouraged her to talk with Bruce Adams who is head of the CIB Committee. Sayers volunteered follow up with Commissioner Adams. Mid-June we will start to develop a plan to move forward with the community. Sayers also noted that Sarah Burak received an award for teaching excellence at the Board meeting.

2. Status of School Sign by the Fort (Leppanen) and Plan of Action for Dealing with the Sign (All)

Leppanen explained that certain types of road signs, class one signs, must be replaced right away. The school crossing sign run over again at the Fort is that type of sign. Michael Haviken suggested measuring the distance between the stop signs and other crossing signs to figure out where it should be placed then asking the Fort to put up a no parking sign or place barriers around it. Leppanen suggested we put it back up and keep the invoice. Then let the Fort know that we will bill them next time. Murray and Haviken will get the sign in place.

3. Update on the Council's Work on the General Plan (All)

Sayers has edited the first set of comments and Sosa placed the edited copy in Google docs so we can continue with our comments. Sayers will get more feedback from Planning & Zoning and put this on next week's agenda.

4. Roads, Water, Planning and Zoning

Roads - Haviken will be checking on Town right of ways at the County Recorder's Office. Leppanen is meeting with David Everitt, interim County Administrator, Wednesday the 29th and will ask him for help in the process. Monte Perkins sent Leppanen an email asking what our plan is for noxious weeds in Town right of ways. He would charge us \$1,500 to spray along the roadways inside the Town, UDOT takes care of highway right of ways. We are required to control specific weeds and we do not want to spray chemicals. Murray will call Perkins and get more information about alternatives to spray and what the specific weeds are. This will be on next week's agenda. Murray and Haviken will write a follow up letter to UDOT addressing issues brought up at their February UDOT meeting. Leppanen informed the Council that UDOT will be doing a speed study in Town because of several changes, including the new school and new lodging. She suggested that one of us be involved with this project. Pedestrian walking is one aspect of the study and Jen Davila suggested Safe Schools as a good resource for student walking safety.

Water – nothing new to report.

Planning & Zoning – Leppanen reported there is one applicant so far for the opening position on the Commission. The deadline for letters of intent is May 24th.

5. Lyman Family Farms Archive Approval (Leppanen)

Leppanen created a binder for the Office with LFF documents and included a letter that takes the position that future boards do not annex or provide services for LFF. The Council agreed.

6. Emery Telecom Update (Leppanen)

Jeff Bagley reported to Leppanen that the broadband project is moving forward and on target. David Ure is working with people on White Mesa who have not yet signed allowing access on their property.

New Business

7 Report on Meeting with Fire Chief Lott, Heber Hayder, Jason Johnson on Wildland Fires (Leppanen)

Leppanen reported Dawn Dilego and Wes Shook also attended this meeting. Johnson presented and distributed an information packet. Through a mutual cooperation agreement the Town can continue volunteer fireman services and be protected from a large bill, a type of insurance policy. Johnson will come to a meeting and explain the cooperative agreement so we can ask questions and vote on it. If we have a town fire with multiple jurisdictions we can have the help but not a large bill. Last years' Cottonwood Wash fire cost about \$30,000. We have a unique situation because the County owns the fire equipment and the building. The Town and/or the County could sign the agreement. This would cost us \$459 a year. For all the volunteers hours of training, participation, and mitigation monetary amounts are assigned and when the \$459 point is reached, approximately 25 per hour per person, we have met our obligation. This would go back to January 1, 2019 but it must be documented. It is important to do this soon. Johnson will present at our next meeting. This was also covered at the Commission meeting today.

8. Report on Utah's Entity Registry: What is it and What did Bluff have to do? (Leppanen)

The State of Utah is requiring all public entities register with the State and pay \$50. Leppanen has sent the documentation, including a map, a copy of Certification of Incorporation, and \$50.

9. Notice of Public Hearing on Vacating a San Juan County Road in South Cottonwood (Leppanen)

Ben Mussleman asked Leppanen to post this in Bluff. It is posted at the Community Center.

10. Report on W-9 for Rocky Mountain Power Municipal Energy Use Fee (Leppanen)

Leppanen took care of the paperwork and \$50 fee that will allow us to start receiving these funds according to schedule.

11. Report on Signage Committee Meeting in Monticello on Monday, May 20, 2019 (Sosa/Haviken)

Sosa and Haviken reported this project is funded with TRT funds and the County Economic Department spent \$50,000 for four proposals and has \$150,000 set aside for implementation. The purpose of the project is signage that is a visible and cohesive to direct tourists from Monument Valley to Spanish Valley using a design shape, theme or color scheme. UDOT will be involved because initial signs will be along the highway. Murray and Susan Tice are opposed to extra signage. Leppanen encouraged the public to give Sosa and Haviken input. This will also be addressed in the General Plan.

12 Report on San Juan County Commission Meeting on Tuesday, May 21, 2019 (All)

Leppanen and Sayers remarked this meeting was clearly more respectful and peaceful than previous meetings. Sayers noted there was more representation from the southern part of the County and the Navajo Nation present. In the Community Comments section a Spanish Valley representative expressed embarrassment at the treatment and lack of respect toward the Commissioners at the last Commission meeting. She also asked that the Commissioner to assign two Spanish Valley monitors to the County Planning and Zoning Commission.

13. Training in Monticello on GRAMA and Archives (Leppanen)

Leppanen was grateful that Kendal Laws forwarded information about this training to her: we are not yet getting all governmental postings. Leppanen has registered for both and Sosa is registered for the Archive training.

14. UDOT and Speed Study in Bluff (Leppanen)

Covered earlier.

15. Financial Report (Sosa)

Sosa sent out the financial report detailing bills we have for this month.

Frontier - \$66.29

ULCT dues - \$206.37

ULGT ins. - \$1,992.00

Chris McAnany - \$1,936.50

Email dues - \$300.00

After discussion Sayers motioned we pay \$66.29 to Frontier, \$250.00 to ULGT, and \$500.00 to McAnany. Murray seconded and all voted in favor. We have received a third disbursement of Road funds bringing the total to \$26, 297. Haviken explained that the bimonthly amount fluctuates.

Other

Hook asked that a letter of support for the Bluff River Trail and a letter asking for the Navajo Transit Service to stay longer in Blanding so people could get things done be placed on next week's agenda.

Wes Shook let the Council know he just received legal transfer information from the BSA lawyer and forwarded it to the Council.

During the week of June 3 – 7, the period for Declaration of Candidacy for the November election, the Town Office will be open from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and fully manned.

Adjourned at 7:28 p.m.

Linda Sosa Recording Officer