

Bluff Town Council Meeting
November 19, 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 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

Draft Minutes

The meeting started at 6:00 p.m.

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

Approval of Work Session Minutes from November 12, 2019

Murray motioned to approve the minutes, Sayers seconded and Leppanen, Hook, Sayers, Murray, and Sosa voted in favor.

Approval of Minutes from Sunrise Kickoff on November 12, 2019

Sayers motioned to approve the minutes, Murray seconded and Leppanen, Hook, Sayers, Murray, and Sosa voted in favor. We will add the Sunrise minutes to the website.

Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes from November 12, 2019

Murray motioned to approve the minutes, Sayers seconded and Leppanen, Hook, Sayers, Murray, and Sosa voted in favor.

Order changed

12. Dark Sky/Lighting Ordinance: Discussion and Vote (All)

Leppanen suggested this be tabled until the December 6th meeting since the final recommendation has been posted on the website only a few days. This will give the Council more time to read and think about it. Murray motioned to approve moving it to Dec. 3rd, Sayers seconded and Leppanen, Hook, Sayers, Murray, and Sosa voted in favor. Sayers wants to understand how much light a lumen is and Hook has an app. that measures lumens.

13. Report from Lois Young on San Juan Public Health (Young)

The Health Dept. meets every two months and Young reported on issues covered including: budgets, policies, bylaws, and procedures, the oil spill and likelihood of it happening again because of aging oil pipes, licensing of tobacco sales, medical marijuana and distribution, air quality near truck stops, vaping, the contamination of White Mesa water, and adverse childhood experiences and their effect in later life. She felt the focus was data and research and would like the group to move into problem solving. Sayers encouraged her to ask what next, especially to the White Mesa water problem. Murray will work with her to define questions.

14. Request from Business Owners of Bluff (Davila)

Davila asked for assistance with rental fees for the CC and kitchen for the Balloon Festival in January. Leppanen suggested that the Council develop policy for similar requests at a work session since we have also received a request from a nonprofit group. Sayers asked that she submit her request in written form. We will have a work session Thursday the 21st at 11:00 a.m.

16. Request from Leah Schrenk for Local Consent for Alcohol (Schrenk)

Schrenk asked for a Local Consent License for her business. The license is for a beer tavern, although she has been serving pizza. The County does not allow for this type of license, which is why previously she had food and alcohol. We will add this request to our work session and vote

on it Dec. 3rd. She will send details in writing. If approved the earliest she could have it is February 1st, 2020. Rick and Susie Bell sent a letter in support of her request.

Unfinished Business

1. Update on Interlocal Agreement with San Juan County (Murray/Leppanen)

On Nov. 14th Leppanen and Murray participated in a phone conference with Chris McAnany about where we are with the Interlocal Agreement, including snowplowing, toxic weed eradication, the airport lease, and P & Z permits and inspections. Today Leppanen received a draft of the ILA that included all of these issues, showing that McAnany and Mack MacDonald had made progress. Scott Burton sent an email updating the Council on the Krantz permit and informing that there are no new permits. This is how we wanted to work together on permits. We are hoping to vote on this on Dec. 3rd or have a Special Meeting and get on the Commissioners' agenda.

2. Report on San Juan County Commission Meeting on November 19, 2019 (Leppanen)

Sayers attended the meeting instead of Leppanen and updated the Commissioners about Bluff and the ILA. He said a lot of the meeting pertained to Spanish Valley.

3. Report on Bluff Service Area Meeting on November 13, 2019 (Sayers/Leppanen/Sosa)

Leppanen reported that the BSA closed the CIB Storm Water Project instead of completing it in West Bluff. Mark Bond gave reasons why it should be completed but it was voted down. The money will return to the CIB. The Chairman offered to help the Town write a grant to complete the work needed. The Town offered to help the BSA with their petition to dissolve. The goal is for this to be on the June ballot. Murray will help get signatures.

4. Report on Bluff Water Works Meeting on November 13, 2019 (Sosa)

Sosa reported that there were no changes and their Dec. 12th meeting will be their budget meeting. Salaries are increasing by \$5,000.

5. Report on San Juan Economic Development Board Meeting on November 19, 2019 (Sosa)

Kit Mantz from the school district gave a presentation about the focus in schools and the college about CTE, Career and Technical Education, and how it can benefit our county. Sosa informed the Board that USU partnered with Bluff in a graduate level course that did regional planning and analysis of our town and surrounding area. We are also moving forward on becoming a Dark Skies town. Michael Bryant commented on the importance of Astro-tourism.

6. Report on San Juan County School Board Meeting on November 13, 2019 (Sayers)

Sayers made positive comments during the Public Comment part of the meeting about working with the District. They have received his letter offering \$250,000 for the "old" school. Lupe Hanson received a teaching award.

7. Update on Status of Fiber Optic and Emery Telcom (Leppanen)

Leppanen reported that Congressman Curtis and Congressman Romney helped to influence the moving forward of the project. She spoke with Jared Anderson, who also said that President Nez signed off on the project. The fiber optics in Bluff will not be limited to the school but eventually locals will have access. They are looking for a quarter or half acre to buy for a building to house equipment in Bluff.

8. Update on Utilities Transfer from BSA (Sosa) and Internet Account (Leppanen)

Sosa reported transfer letters had been sent to Diamond Propane and Bluff Water Works. Sosa is working with Debra Dull of Rocky Mtn. Power, who helped waive a \$1,000 new customer deposit in addition to making changes. Leppanen is working with River Canyon and needs a deposit. Sayers motioned to approve a check for \$124.98 to River Canyon, Murray seconded and Leppanen, Hook, Sayers, Murray, and Sosa voted in favor. Our monthly bill will be \$69.99 and they say we will get the maximum signal.

9. Business License Update (All)

Michael Bryant suggested adding the date paid and the zoning district to our business license and Sosa added those modifications. He suggested a separate form for cottage occupations. We will address this at the work session.

10. Report on Transparency Report for 7/1/19-9/30/19 (Leppanen)

This was returned to us because the employment part was not filed out. Leppanen let the State Auditor know, again, that we have no employees. The state is updating it.

11. Traffic and Parking for Solstice (Murray)

Murray, Jim Hook, and Joe Pacek have discussed traffic and parking problems from the volume of people that usually attend the Solstice. The Council discussed options and decided that we need to check with our liability insurance on how to proceed. Sayers will contact our insurance carrier and Leppanen will contact McAnany. Murray suggested designated parking areas with signage.

New Business

15. September 16, 2019 Joint Work Session with Bluff Service Area and Resultant Memorandum of Understanding; Request from Bluff Service Area for Another Joint Meeting (Leppanen)

Moved to Work Session

17. Other

Murray and Leppanen discussed airport issues on a phone call with McAnany and Murray is planning to meet with Jim Hook, airport manager, and Luanne Hook about leases, fees, ordinances, etc. He will report back in December.

Adjourned at 7:20

Linda Sosa Recording Officer

November 26th, December 24th, and December 31st meetings canceled for the holidays