

Bluff Town Council Meeting
February 11, 2020
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 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

Minutes

The meeting started at 6:03 p.m.

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

Approval of Regular Town Council Meeting Minutes for February 4, 2020

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

Approval of Special Town Council Meeting Minutes for February 6, 2020

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

Unfinished Business

1. Status of USU Community Garden Survey (Leppanen)

Some people have had problems accessing the survey link and Leppanen will ask Reagan Wytsalucy to reset the link and extend the comment period for a week.

2. Update on Town Council's Public Comment on Oil and Gas Permit to Drill Wells on the Bluff Bench (All)

Kate Groetzinger of KUER interviewed Leppanen about how she felt about the response letter and the possible effect. Leppanen expressed that it was a strong statement that reflected the sentiment of the town and she was aware it could affect grants or loans from the CIB. In an interview with Bruce Adams Groetzinger asked if it would hurt the Town's chances of getting grants for the school he said yes and he had let us know that ahead of time. Murray thought it was the best decision for the Council and the town and had gotten positive feedback. Sayers reminded we are doing the best we can and if we lose our water we lose everything, including health and safety for the town and school. Leppanen stated we need to keep an open mind and the Council agreed it was important to move forward.

3. Update on Community Development Block Grant 50 Year Water Study (Leppanen)

The 50% Update Meeting is February 19th from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. Leppanen was requested to invite Gene Stevenson and he agreed to be there. We have been invoiced a total of \$16,035 so far and Sosa reported we have received \$12,465.00 from Workforce Services out of the \$96,300.00.

4. Status of Bluff Service Area's Petition to Dissolve (Leppanen)

November may be the earliest that dissolving the BSA can be on the ballot but the BSA will check with Rachel Anderson to see if there are options.

5. 2020 Census: Highest Elected Officer's Report (Leppanen)

Leppanen checked with Sam Cantrell who agreed with her that the boundary information from the Census does not show Lyman Family Farms and is not up to date. With research Leppanen discovered there is a time delay in information transfer and the State will fix it eventually. She documented the problem and signed the form.

6. Schedule Community Impact Board Public Hearing and Selection of Bond Attorney (Sayers)

Monday, March 2nd at 7:00 p.m. was selected for this hearing. The grant calls for vigorous community discussion. Greater details are called for in Sayers April 2nd presentation and he will work on information about the cost of a new roof and design, including pictures or drawings and other information. Leppanen has talked with Design/Build/Bluff about ideas for repurposing rooms. She reminded the Council Marcus Keller of Zions Bank will work with Sayers on his presentation. Sayers is working on a recommendation for a bond attorney.

New Business

7. Discussion of Monthly Stipend for Council Members (Sayers)

Sayers brought up the idea of a \$30 monthly stipend, similar to P&Z members, to offset costs of personal resources used and help interest future members. Murray supported the \$30 amount and suggested asking Chris McAnany. Sosa suggested the process could be involved and include steps and a public hearing. Leppanen opposed the idea for several reasons:

no one ran with the idea of a stipend, \$30 does not make a dent in our costs, it is too soon and next year we could revisit it, a future council could find it helpful, we need a manager or accountant first, and we should talk to McAnany about how it would work. Murray likes the idea of a manager.

8. Fiscal Year 2019-2020 Amended Budget: Discussion and Vote (Leppanen)

The Amended Budget was discussed in the public hearing. Bob Springmeyer located Dave Sanderson from the Salt Lake Area to work with Leppanen on the amended budget. The original budget was projected to be \$43,000 and with BSA transfers, the grant, and designated funds it is now projected to be \$403,396.00. Murray motioned to approve the amended budget, Sayers seconded and Leppanen, Hook, Sayers, Murray, and Sosa voted in favor. Sanderson suggested a \$20,000 contingency fund for unforeseen needs. Leppanen again expresses her gratitude for Sanderson and Springmeyer. Sanderson will help Leppanen with next year's budget and Truth in Taxation.

9. Discussion on Links to the Town of Bluff from the San Juan County Website and Possible Other State Websites (Sayers)

Sayers reported the County and State websites do not link to our website but link to BOB. Leppanen stated that the County website has more incorrect information and she will compile the correct information and get it to Mack McDonald so it can be fixed. Jen will check on the BOB website about a link the town website.

10. Request by the Bluff Community Center Manager to Place Tape on the Bluff Community Center
Michael Haviken has donated tape to redo the pickle ball court and would like Denny Bellison to work on it. Sosa suggested this wait until after Celebrate because a product has been applied to the floors to reduce static that takes about a month to cure. This is more than a one-man job and after Celebrate the Council will ask the pickle ball group to come up with a plan to get this done.

11. Financial Report (Sosa)

Sosa stated that no checks were approved before the amended budget was passed. Last week's bills totaled \$7,232.39, the new bills are \$100 to reimburse FCM for a CC rental overpayment, and \$429.55 for Rocky Mtn. Power. We have received \$6,000.00 in PILT funds. Hook suggested investigating solar in the future and locating water meters and utilities for the CC. Murray motioned to pay the bills, Sayers seconded and Leppanen, Sosa, Hook, Murray and Sayers voted in favor.

12. Stuart Smith and the SJC Economic Development Overview of Bluff

Smith has written an overview of Bluff for the San Juan Country website and Leppanen asked the Council members to look at it and suggest edits that reflected our character. Murray expressed interest in talking to Natalie Randall about County economic development.

13. No Current Coronavirus Risk in San Juan County (thank you Lois Young)

Young, our representative on the County Health Board, passed this information to the Council and Leppanen reported that the individuals in question have not been infected, having been monitored for a period of time.

14. Bluff Elementary School Frisbee Disc Learning Sessions

The Council and Community have been invited to Frisbee activities promoted by Tim and Nancy Swanson in February and March. Leppanen is taking the Frisbee challenge.

15. Update on Roads (Hook)

Hook participated In the Bluff portion of the annual County sign survey. She reported each sign is analyzed, rated and recorded. There is a form for reporting signs that need repair or replacement and recording when that work is completed. This is necessary for liability.

The meeting stopped while recording issues were dealt with and resumed at 7:18 p.m.

Leppanen reported two signs need to be replaced and one propped up. Hook will check with Sam Cantrell about them.

16. Updates on Water and Planning and Zoning (All)

Leppanen reminded tomorrow the Council meets with Chris McAnany at 1:30 p.m. and in a joint meeting with McAnany and P&Z at 6:30 p.m. The BSA and BWW both meet at 7:00 p.m. Jen Davila reported that BOB submitted a comment about drilling but she didn't know about the BWW. Hook reported P&Z is interested in talking to the Rocky Mountain Power Alley Specialist and has set a public hearing date of March 18th at 7:00 for animal, off street parking, and short-term rental ordinances. Michael Haviken is organizing ordinances completed and the Commission is interested in revisiting the previous ordinances.

17. Reminder of Meetings with Chris McAnany on February 12, 2020 (Leppanen)

Covered

18. Report on 2020 Canyonlands Business Summit on February 10, 2020 (Sosa)

Sosa reported this was highly effective and informational and the emphasis was knowing the "brand" and character of your town and promoting it clearly. It also covered remote rural jobs opportunities and experiences of tourism destinations. Lt. Governor Cox and Congressman Curtis were speakers. It was a joint summit with Grand and San Juan County.

19. Other

Jen Davila handed out the schedule for the school Star Party and thanked the Council for sponsoring it. She reported that Melvin Gaines suffered a fall and is in Orem and would like to find a way to show the Town's appreciation to and for him. The Council agreed.

Adjourned at 7:34 p.m.

Linda Sosa Recording Officer