

Bluff Town Council Work Session
July 13, 2020
Bluff Community Center at 11:30 a.m.
190 N 3rd East P.O. Box 324
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
This meeting was held electronically.

Minutes

The meeting started at 11:31 a.m.

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

1. Discussion and Plan for Development of Hotline for Fraud, Internal Audit Function, and Internal Audit Committee

Leppanen explained previously that these are best practices from the State Auditor that lower our financial risk. Sayers is going to check our office phone to see if it has the capability to add another mailbox to receive separate, anonymous tips about fraud and waste. He also mentioned he would be present when Rocky Mountain Power met with Bill Davis at the farm about the cause of the recent grass fire. The area is on town and BLM land. Leppanen explained that internal audits will help us look for weaknesses in our systems so we will be better prepared for official audits. The procedure is matching an invoice, check or deposit, and minutes that connect them. Sosa and Leppanen would be on the committee. Erin Richards has expressed interest and has some financial background. Sayers said she was very focused and did inventory control for BAMA. This process would happen twice a year, probably August and February, and she would present a report with findings and concerns at a public meeting. Research shows this pays from \$22.50 to \$30.00 an hour. This will be discussed at our Tuesday meeting.

2. Discussion and Plan for Use of Coronavirus Relief Funds (Bring with your ideas and the Federal Guidelines)

Leppanen reminded we have \$7,100+ in CARES funds, with the possibility of one or two more distributions, and it must be used by the end of November. Sayers suggested enhancing outdoor facilities since classes are not using the CC and paying to clean. Also boosting the Wi-Fi at the CC so it is a hot spot for people in their cars, like the library. Currently it can't be increased but when the new fiber optics come this is possible. Murray added a defibrillator at K&C and the CC and signage. Hook said Diana Davidson is working on masking signs for businesses. She suggested a porta-potty and washing hand stations and paying Dawn Dilego and Kathy Carson for extra work. Sayers asked if we could have testing times in Bluff and Leppanen will look into it with Kirk Benge. Leppanen liked the idea of hand washing stations at the CC and offices. Sosa suggested upgrading Zoom and more PPE. Leppanen advised the Council to prioritize their lists and bring it to tomorrow night's meeting.

3. Discussion of Barking Dogs as a Nuisance (Review the Draft Animal Ordinance from Planning and Zoning on our Website)

Hook explained that P&Z is working on an animal ordinance but felt a noise nuisance ordinance should include idling trucks in town, the start of construction, and other types of noise. and could be different from what P&Z is working on. She emailed the Council copies of Springdale's noise ordinance. Leppanen informed that Wes Shook left a message about idling trucks starting up at 4 a.m. across from residences in West Bluff. BARC was mentioned as a resource but it is not capable of holding or retaining animals in this heat. Leppanen has talked to Jeremy Redd about partnering

with Blanding. Leppanen said there are liability, enforcement, and financial issues and due process is difficult. The Council will continue this at the Tuesday meeting.

4. Discussion of UDOT's Pedestrian/Walkway/Trails/Speed Control Suggestions and Future Planning for Bluff

Leppanen, Murray, Michael Haviken, and Nancy and Tim Swanson have been working on safety issues with Jared Beard. The Swanson's suggested getting the public involved through a public meeting so they would understand what the town is considering in terms of signage, speeds and other changes. They have been working together for about a year and a new plan just came up from a different UDOT project that included a roundabout at the intersection of 190 and 162, near Cow Canyon Trading Post. There are several private land owners and waterlines at this location. Trucks are barreling down the hill or increasing speed to make it to the top. Leppanen discussed this with Beard, who will find out more information and get back to the group at their August meeting.

5. Discussion and Response to SITLA's RIP 780 (well and troughs) on the Bluff Bench

Leppanen has been in conversation about this project and considered writing a letter about our concerns about doing an archeological survey of this area. One well will have waterlines going to four troughs. Sayers wanted to know if this was to have an increase in livestock in the area. He and Leppanen will write the draft of the letter for Tuesday's meeting.

6. Discussion and Plan for Representation on the Bears Ears National Monument Travel Management Plan

The Council voted to be a part of this to have a seat at the table. Britt Hornsby was interested in representing the town. Murray was also interested but felt Hornsby was very knowledgeable.

7. Other

Leppanen contacted Deb Dull about our power outage. The Citizen's Response Team, Kathy Carson and Dawn Dilego, checked with at risk locals to make sure their medical equipment was functioning and they were okay. Landlines, the water system, and generators were discussed.

Sosa asked that typos and misspelling in the minutes be emailed to her to expedite meetings.

Sayers motioned to close the meeting at 1:01 p.m., Murray seconded and Leppanen, Sosa, Hook, Sayers, and Murray voted in favor.

This meeting took place electronically in order to follow the social distancing guidelines given by state and local authorities. The public was able to connect and participate electronically.