

Bluff Town Council Minutes
December 8, 2020
Bluff Community Center at 6:00 p.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 6:01 p.m.

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

Approval of Bluff Town Council Regular Meeting Minutes from December 1, 2020

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

Unfinished Business

4. Discussion of Utah Department of Transportation's Right-of-Way for a Gravel Pit (All) and Mary Gilliam's Analysis (Mary Gilliam)

Mary Gilliam took Leppanen, Bill Crowder, and Lynell Schalk on a trek Saturday to examine gravel options for UDOT instead of the BLM gravel pit in the residential area of North 7th West. Gillam has been following the gravel pit issue for several years and started at the residential site which had a geoglyph. UDOT was not aware there was archeology at this site. Gillam explained gravel was important because of the large road UDOT project that would be starting up between Bluff and Aneth. She said there is continuous gravel between Bluff and Montezuma Creek that is not in the original Bear's Ears boundary that UDOT could lease from the BLM. Gillam is working with others to see if there is a map of the graveled terraces of the San Juan River. If not, she will create one.

Leppanen suggested forming a small group to explore this issue and create a packet of information. Sayers and Debbie Westfall volunteered to be on it and Leppanen thought one or more homeowners in the area of West Bluff would like to join. Leppanen will stay in contact with Jared Beard of UDOT and Amber Johnson of the BLM. Even if it isn't used for this project it is a good idea to swap it out now. Murray stated dust control is important. Hook will research the possibility of changing the law that keeps UDOT from buying gravel from private owners. Leppanen thanked Gillam for her work and expertise.

1. Topics for the Work Session on December 15, 2020 (All)

Included were the job description for a clerk and the most beneficial tasks,

the airport lease, updating the kiosk at the Great House site, how to take on the BSA duties, and a check-in with Jon Haderlie about the audit. Leppanen mentioned the audit was finished today and submitted to the State. We did not go over budget. She was very grateful to Emily Niehaus for recommending Larson and Co.

2. Discussion of Job Description for a Part-Time Town Council Clerk (All)

This was pushed to the Work Session.

3. Discussion of Strategic Planning and the Peer Town Meeting on December 1, 2020 (All)

Sosa felt it was informative and very helpful. They are willing to connect with us and were generous with their time.

5. Update on Emery Telcom's Plan for Bluff's Fiber Optic (Leppanen)

Emery sent Leppanen information for the public about pricing and installation and Sosa sent it out in an email blast. Sayers will check with Emery to get a map of installations.

6. Update on NetForce (Leppanen)

Leppanen reported the equipment is arriving at NetForce. Installation had been put off because of Covid and deciding on the location of the equipment. Murray suggested waiting until January because of the holidays and the Covid numbers. Leppanen and Sayers will do a virtual meeting with Josh Daggs.

New Business

7. Update on Bluff Water Works Meeting on December 2, 2020 (Sosa/Leppanen)

This was their budget meeting and they kept the same budget numbers as 2020 since water use was down because of Covid issues. They discussed what to do about a bill that had not been paid for a year.

8. Update on Bluff Service Area Plan now that They are Dissolved (Sosa/Leppanen)

The last BSA meeting is tomorrow; they will turn in their keys and remaining funds will be transferred to the Town. Leppanen will contact Jackie Warren about moving into their office space and boxing and archiving their records. It was suggested that we scan their records. We may have extra funds to hire someone to do that if the price of the audit is reduced.

9. Roads and Planning and Zoning Updates (Hook)

Michael Haviken said he would contact the County about chip and sealing since it is getting colder. Hook said P&Z is creating a formal process for complaints to be passed on to the Council. They are working on ordinances and will interview candidates for their two vacancies at their December 16th meeting.

10. Cement Pad Pour Across from the Post Office

Several people reported a cement pad was poured in town, it could be part of a construction project and may be in the UDOT right-of-way. It was confirmed with Scott Burton that no one got a permit for a cement pad or construction. A land use clearance was not requested from P&Z. UDOT requested photos. Leppanen asked Chris McAnany to draft a letter to the owner letting them know they need a LUC and permit if construction is planned. Haviken did some research and if it is just a pad it may be okay. Sayers motioned to send the letter, Murray seconded and Leppanen, Hook, Sayers, Murray, and Sosa voted in favor.

11. Discussion and Vote on Establishing a Time and Place for Holding Bluff Town Council Regular Meetings (Leppanen)

Murray motioned to keep same schedule of the first three Tuesdays of each month in 2021, Sayers seconded and Leppanen, Hook, Murray, Sayers and Sosa voted in favor. Leppanen pointed out we still have a great deal of work to cover. Leppanen will publish the schedule in the paper.

12. Discussion of Virtual Meeting with Municode (Leppanen/Sosa)

Leppanen, Sosa, and Amanda Podmore participated in this meeting explaining Municode's codifying services and the choice whether to self-publish or have them publish. Leppanen explained it is easier and cheaper to codify ordinances and resolutions early on and asked the other members to watch the presentation. It will be on next week's agenda.

13. Other

Hook had concerns about how google meets works and Sayers will work with her on it. Hook thought the email invites should be on the agendas.

Sayers motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:12 p.m., Murray seconded and Leppanen, Hook, Sayers, Murray, and Sosa voted in favor.

Linda Sosa Recording Officer

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.