

Bluff Town Council Meeting Minutes
February 9, 2021
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.

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 on February 2, 2021
Sayers motioned to approve, Murray seconded and Leppanen, Hook, Murray, Sayers and Sosa voted in favor

Unfinished Business

1. Set a Work Session Date and Time (All)

Wednesday the 17th at 9:00 a.m.

2. Update on MuniDoc Training on Thursday, February 11, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. (Leppanen)

Leppanen sent BSA documents and agendas from their first couple of months in 1993 to MuniDocs to use for the training. Leppanen, Sosa, Kathy Carson, and Amanda Podmore are attending and anyone else interested can let Leppanen know tomorrow. Leppanen read an excerpt from the records that mentioned things we are presently doing as a town.

3. Update on Bluff Cemetery District and Next Steps (Leppanen)

Leppanen recapped that after research there exists no legal certification of the Bluff Cemetery District. According to the State any municipality can create a cemetery and a cemetery district is created for taxation. This issue will be brought to the Work Session or the next regular meeting.

4. Update on Bluff Airport and Hangar Leases (Leppanen)

Leppanen noted conversations between Jim Hook and Chris McAnany are moving forward. Jim Hook reported he was waiting on an appraisal of the hanger and he has invoiced the four people who have leased hanger space; the checks will come to the Town of Bluff.

5. Update on Bluff Alleys (Leppanen)

Sam Cantrell created a map of West Bluff showing vacated and non-vacated alleys. While technically the alleys belong to the Town, Leppanen has been working for 18 months to get the deeds to alleys that the County has not vacated so we can record them. After that happens the Council will to develop policy for if and when alleys can be vacated.

6. Update from Roads Committee (Hook/Haviken)

Michael Haviken reported the County crew has spent four days out of eight and finished crack sealing the airport road, Sand Island road, West Bluff South and will move to West Bluff North when they return next week. Hook reported the County did a good job grading East of Town. Leppanen thanked Haviken and Hook for all their work. Jim Hook said the airport road was wonderful.

7. Reorganization of CC Offices and Removal of Old Desk (Sosa/Leppanen)

Leppanen and Sosa have moved an old desk out of the mayor's office and are reorganizing the offices to be more efficient. Sosa will use Room 2 because there is more room for financial work. Kathy Carson is organizing the BSA records. Ginny Burns has resigned the lease for the Food Pantry office. When the archive room has been reorganized it will be painted. Murray and Sayers agreed with Leppanen that it would be good to remove the carpet and stain the concrete. Murray volunteered to create a budget. Sayers will get some radon test kits. Sosa explained that we cannot just give away property, even though the old desk is ancient, we need to vote on it. Sayers motioned to give the desk away, Murray seconded and Leppanen, Hook, Murray, Sayers and Sosa voted in favor. It is first come, first serve.

New Business

8. Discussion on Wall Street Marketing Plan for Appropriation of Water (Sayers)

Ed Dobson emailed the Council members this article because of the importance of water in the West. Sayers stressed the importance of water asset management. There is a San Juan Rights on Nature zoom meeting tomorrow at 2:00 p.m. that Leppanen and others will attend. Leppanen will send a link to Marx Powell and anyone else who is interested.

9. Status of Bluff River Trail (Leppanen) and 15. An Expansion for Utah-Based Domo and Outdoor Recreation Grant (Sosa)

Leppanen is planning to walk the River Trail with Amber Johnson (BLM) next week. Jim Hook will meet with Silas and Paul about the trail. Leppanen supplied Tina Krutsky with a letter of support for grant funding. Stuart Smith of County Economic Development called Sosa about available grants for recreation and she connected Tina Krutsky and Jim Hook with the engineer who had the information. Jim Hook is happy to take anyone on a ride of the Trail. The trail is ten miles and has been ten years in the making. Leppanen thanked the trail volunteers for all their work.

10. Bureau of Land Management Determinations of No Adverse Effect for Cactus Park Project and Indian Creek Climbing Access Routes (Leppanen)

Leppanen received two mailings from the BLM about these determinations. There is a 30-day comment period. The Council declined comment.

11. Discussion with Design/Build/Bluff' Adrienne Caesar and Molly Schmidt on Thursday, February 4 re: A Community Engagement Process (Leppanen)

Leppanen met with Caesar and Schmidt to gain understanding about the scope of their project. Schmidt explained she is doing a master's thesis about repurposing the old elementary school and how to use community engagement in ideas for design. Leppanen thought it was a cool concept to create a bank of ideas from local feedback. This information will be available to whoever buys the building.

12. Trash at the Junction of 191 and 163: A Possible Solution (Leppanen)

Leppanen reminded that a concerned citizen pointed out this issue and when she observed the area it had tires, glass and risky trash imbedded in vegetation. Things difficult to remove and risky to burn, not appropriate a public clean-up day. Currently Chief Lott and the Fire Dept. are assessing the area for a possible fire training.

13. Requests for Use of the Bluff Community Center (All)

The CC manager has had two requests, a large wedding in June and a monthly 4-H group starting at the end of February. The Council felt it was too soon for a large group of people and had concerns about the small group, even with masks and social distancing. Leppanen will check with Food Pantry guidelines; it is a red zone and this may violate restrictions. The manager will check with the 4-H group about using the outdoor pavilion.

14. Update on Copper Cliffs II Road (Leppanen)

Steve Simpson checked with Leppanen on the status of his request to give the road to the Town. He has not yet asked to be on the agenda.

15. An Expansion for Utah-Based Domo and Outdoor Recreation Grant (Sosa)

Covered earlier.

16. Legislative Updates on Rainy Day Funds and Signs (Leppanen)

The legislature is considering allowing 100% of town revenue to be saved in rainy day funds and the lack of local control of signage is stalled in committee.

17. Other

Murray encouraged people to aggressively pursue vaccinations.

Leppanen welcomed J. Michael Redd, writer for Utah Political Underground to our meeting.

Leppanen, Hook, Sosa, Murray, and Sayers voted in favor of adjourning at 7:10 p.m.

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. For requests to receive emails/meeting invitations email linda@townofbluff.org