

Bluff Town Council Regular Meeting Minutes

November 9, 2021

Bluff Community Center at 6:00 p.m.

190 N 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 of November 2, 2021

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

Approval of Bluff Town Council Working Session Minutes of November 3, 2021

Sayers motioned to approve with one modification, Hook seconded and Leppanen, Sayers, Sosa, Murray and Hook voted in favor

Approval of Planning & Zoning Joint Meeting with Bluff Town Council Minutes of November 3, 2021

Moved to November 16<sup>th</sup>.

### **Unfinished Business**

#### **1. Request by the Business Owners of Bluff to be Heard on Dark Sky Ordinance (Diana Davidson)**

Diana Davidson gave a presentation outlining her concerns as a businesswoman about the Dark Skies ordinance which goes into effect December 31, 2021. Her concerns included timing, the cost to come into compliance, the complexity of the ordinance and violations. She noted the importance of safety to customers, employees, and the parking areas. Her recommendations included pushing out the date of compliance, getting expert help, facilitating audits for businesses and home owners, and getting help with grants. The Council thanked her for her well thought out presentation.

#### **2. Discussion and Vote on Dark Sky Ordinance as Enacted in 2019 (All)**

Leppanen reported that she and Davidson had recently talked about these issues. Leppanen is opposed to extending the date but is aware covid has impacted people. She suggested working together in stages. Sarah Burak is looking into an expert who can help people, a community meeting would help, and exploring grants. Staying the implementation of the ordinance until the end of a target date would help. Because the CC lights are not compliant, they are usually off. Murray motioned to work on these ideas at a Work Session, Sayers seconded and Leppanen, Sayers, Sosa, Murray

and Hook voted in favor. The issue will be voted on at our next meeting.

### **3. Update on Old Bluff Elementary School Plan (Murray/Sayers)**

Sayers has called for a meeting this week with Murray, Dave Conine, and Heather Atene. Conine is working on the proportions of the common area, Town area and UDB area. Sayers is taking minutes of their meetings. He will talk with James about taking care of the building. Leppanen said he is very interested in doing the work. Sayers will look into whether we can lock into a lower propane price by getting volume.

### **4. Report on November 8, 2021 AmeriCorps "Lunch and Learn" (Leppanen)**

The group had planned on a hike but just found out a member had been exposed to covid eight days previously; Leppanen canceled the hike so the group was not in a vehicle. Bill Crowder picked up Subway sandwiches and spoke about the Native American history of the area in a socially distanced setting.

### **5. Discussion and Vote on Proposed Noxious Weed Ordinance (All)**

The Council agreed this would be better as a resolution, so it needs a little reworking. The vote is moved to next week.

### **6. Summary of Meeting and Joint Meeting with Planning and Zoning on Wednesday, November 3, 2021 (audio will be posted on UPNW under Planning and Zoning)**

Sayers noted the Commission asked the Council for direction and will have a public hearing for several ordinance changes. Hook added changing zoning for kennels, Dark Skies and variance questions. She reported a land use clearance had been approved at the P&Z meeting.

### **7. Discussion and Vote on Off-Street Parking (All)**

Sayers motioned to approve, Murray seconded. Hook had concerns about whether current businesses would have to make changes and Leppanen explained current businesses would not be affected; it is not retroactive and will affect new construction. Sayers withdrew his motioned and Leppanen will add a sentence to clarify Hook's concerns.

### **8. Discussion and Vote on Policies (All)**

Sosa motioned to approve the Email Management, Social Media, and Laptop policies, Sayers seconded and Leppanen, Sayers, Sosa, Murray and Hook voted in favor

### **9. Results of Election (Leppanen)**

The County did count votes but did not publish them since Leppanen, Hook, and Sosa were running unopposed. The Council will need to choose and publish meeting dates and times for 2022, and choose a Pro Tem. Leppanen will work with Mac McDonald about the bill we received for the 2019 election. We were charged almost \$4,000 but Leppanen has paperwork stating the agreement was for about \$1,000.

## **New Business**

### **10. Elected Officials Training in Blanding at USU (Leppanen)**

This is December 11<sup>th</sup> from 8 to 3 and \$60. Registration is on the ULCT website for those wanting to attend.

### **11. Financial Report (Sosa)**

Sosa reported that Murray had verified the checking account balance and accounting balance. She sent October's financial report. She noted the third meeting of the month is when payments are approved. They are listed in the minutes and she will group the school projects bills at the end of the list.

**12. Other**

Leppanen will not be able to attend tomorrow's BWW and asked others to attend. The Murdered and Missing Indigenous Women and Girls Task Force Meeting is meeting November 20<sup>th</sup> and there was concern about the meeting with the increase in covid. Leppanen will check with the lead person about the possibility of meeting outside. The Mainly Marathon was not following our masking mandate. Sayers will call our insurance company about the broken camera NetForce installed. Hook thought one camera may be sufficient.

Sayers motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:06 p.m., Murray seconded and Leppanen, Hook, Sosa, Murray, and Sayers 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 will be able to connect and participate electronically.

For requests to receive emails/meeting invitations email [linda@townofbluff.org](mailto:linda@townofbluff.org)