

## Bluff Town Council Regular Meeting Minutes

February 1, 2022

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 6:02 p.m.

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

Approval of January 18, 2022 Minutes of Joint "Meet and Greet" Between Utah Dine Bikeyah and Bluff Town Council

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

Approval of January 18, 2022 Bluff Town Council Regular Meeting Minutes

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

Approval of January 19, 2022 Strategic Planning Meeting Minutes

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

Approval of January 25, 2022 Dark Sky Work Shop Minutes

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

Approval of January 25, 2022 Special Bluff Town Council Meeting Minutes

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

### **Introduction of Cathy Orcutt and Priority Tele-communications: Presentation by Cathy Orcutt**

Cathy Orcutt presented the Government Emergency Telecommunications Services, a program available to many entities that enhances security through the ability to use emergency communication and override congested areas with either a landline or cell phone. The Council felt it is was a good idea and it will be put on the next agenda.

Public Comment: There will be a three-minute time limit for each person wishing to comment. If you exceed that three-minute limit, the meeting controller will mute your line.

There were no public comments

### **Unfinished Business**

#### **1. Update on NetForce (Sayers/Hook)**

Sayers is working on the use of the NetForce system and its interface with YouTube.

#### **2. Update on Status of Cooperative Cultural Center, United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Grant (Murray/Sayers)**

Sayers met with David Conine and discussed the playground options. Sayers has submitted the pre-proposal application for a fire suppression system.

### **3. Report on Status of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) for Renovation of Bluff Community Center and Results of Low to Moderate Income (LMI) Survey (Leppanen)**

Leppanen reported the results of the survey show we barely qualify for the grant and will need to do another survey next year if we apply for another grant. She suggested we do another survey to see if it strengthens our position. She was extremely grateful to those who helped her prepare it, Mitch McComb and Murray, Sam Wheldon and Molly Schmidt, and Jocelyn Meyers. Murray thanked Leppanen for all the work she did. The grant was submitted Monday and we will find out the outcome in two to three months.

### **4. Report on State and Local Homeless Coordinating Committee Meeting on January 25, 2022 and Status of Point-In-Time Count on January 26, 2022 (Leppanen)**

Leppanen got training materials from the State and she and Father Joe Hubbard were able to locate 18 individuals over the three-day canvassing period.

### **5. Update on Bluff Community Center and Cooperative Cultural Center Playground Committee (Leppanen)**

Leppanen received a letter today from the Playground Committee, Sarah Burak, Jen Davila, Dan and Jocelyn Meyers. They have located a playground inspector, who may not charge, and he is coming Friday to inspect the playground. There are recreation funds available if needed. They will work with Dine Bikeyah and consider continued inspection and cleaning. Sayers motioned that the Playground Committee continue to move forward, Hook seconded and Leppanen, Hook, Sosa, Sayers, and Murray voted in favor.

### **6. Report on Planning and Zoning (Hook)**

Hook reported P&Z is tweaking the zoning code, their regular meeting is tomorrow night at 6:00 and the tentative date for the public hearing is February 16<sup>th</sup>.

### **7. Discussion of Lighting Ordinance Strategic Planning and Establishment of a Bluff Town Council Work Session; Announcement of Policy for Public Use of Unihedron Sky Quality Meter with Lens (All)**

Leppanen thanked Diana Davidson for buying the Town a light meter for community use and for locating a possible town consultant. Dr. Magargal, who is leading the U of U class working with us, suggested we may want an additional light meter for individual buildings. It was suggested someone be in charge of it and sign it out to those who wanted to check their homes. Hook suggested Recapture Lodge, although it is a little more difficult since it is closed currently. Leppanen has it for those interested in trying it. Leppanen reported she met with Sarah Burak about the scope for P&Z revisiting the Lighting Ordinance. Sayer motioned that P&Z be given a wide berth in the depth they want to go into in revisiting the ordinance, Murray seconded and Leppanen, Hook, Sosa, Sayers, and Murray voted in favor. Davidson has located a Dark Skies consultant who can help us with things we could do and what we should do to get a Dark Skies designation for the Town. Leppanen and Burak will get information from him. Burak is planning a Dark Skies event for the end of the month. The work session will be February 15<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 a.m. Several Council members are unable to attend the next meeting so Murray motioned to cancel the February 8<sup>th</sup> meeting, Sayers seconded Leppanen, Hook, Sosa, Sayers, and Murray voted in favor.

### **8. Discussion and Vote on Bluff Town Manager Position/Salary (All)**

The Town Manager position has been advertised at \$30,000 to \$40,000 and the Council discussed raising it to \$60,000 in the January 19<sup>th</sup> Work Session. There was discussion about the duty list since there are two lists, the original list and Erin Richard's updated list. Some Council members thought they were both comprehensive. The inclusion of the CCC was brought up but Sosa pointed out at the work session there was consensus not to include it as a

Town Manager duty. Sayers is not in favor of sidelining the CCC. Sosa favored a range for the salary. Murray motioned to go as high as \$60,000, Sayers seconded and Hook, Sosa, Sayers, and Murray voted in favor, Leppanen voted against.

## **New Business**

### **9. Meeting on January 24, 2022 with Elaine Gizler of San Juan Economic Development Regarding 100 Mile Bike Trail and Bluff's Main Street Project and Creation of a San Juan County Housing Committee (Leppanen)**

Leppanen reported she and Gizler saw commonalities with Bike Utah, the Main Street Project and a 100-mile bike trail from Monticello to Oljaito. Sosa is on the SJED and will keep both sides informed. Gizler announced the start-up of a county-wide housing committee with representation from each town. The Council supported the idea.

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

Sosa reported Murray the reconciliation of the bank statement and accounting. She sent the January Financial report out. She will buy a vacuum for the CCC.

### **11. Announcement on Bureau of Land Management Virtual Open Houses (Leppanen)**

This is a reminder, tomorrow the Bear's Ears is a topic.

### **12. Other**

Sayers mentioned the ongoing Fuel Load grant to mitigate wildland fires. Jim Hook explained the hazard reduction included mastication with large equipment, application of herbicide, and aerial reseeding along the river.

Sosa noted we received more propane at the CCC and asked Sayers to find out why we haven't received a bill.

Sayers motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:36 p.m., Brant 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)