

Bluff Town Council Regular Meeting **Draft Minutes**

April 19, 2022

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.

Draft Minutes

The meeting started at 6:01 p.m.

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

Approval of Bluff Town Council Regular Meeting Minutes of April 5, 2022

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

Public Comment: None

Introduction of Dr. Grant Sunada, San Juan Public Health Director (Leppanen)

Rescheduled to May 3rd

Unfinished Business

1. Update on Priority Telecommunications Application and Cards (Hook)

Hook explained she just received one card and can request others. She was expecting more than one and will check back. She explained these cards and apps allow communication overrides in emergencies.

2. Report on CCC Design Review Team Meeting on April 19, 2022; Report on Utah Dine Bikeyah Celebrate the Restoration of the Bears Ears National Monument (Sayers)

Sayers reported Celebrate went well and was also UDB's 10-year anniversary. There was food for about 100 people. He reviewed the Design Team Meeting. Leppanen asked, as a citizen, about having space for a recycling receptacle. The team will discuss it. The team discussed policies, a project director, scope of work, designs and the grant. Leppanen asked for a copy of the grant so she can see how it factors into the amended and tentative budgets which are due by the end of June. Sayers said the first year is \$100,000 and UDB earmarked it for the fire suppression system. Sayers is planning to go to RCAC and USDA for additional funds. Leppanen suggested getting a bid from Tri-Hurst since they installed a system for the new school and are familiar with the CCC building; they should be able to get one quickly. The Council thanked Sayers for all his work.

3. Update on Dark Sky Committee Meeting on April 13, 2022 and Schedule of Dark Sky Events for International Dark Sky Week; Possible Grant Possibility (Leppanen)

Leppanen explained the purpose of this meeting was to plan International Dark Skies Week activities. On April 26 there will be a guided walk in town to look at examples of lighting, bring

a flashlight but cover the light with red. Red balloons will be available to cover flashlights. April 28th will be light measuring. April 30 will be a star party for viewing the sky. Diana Davidson of Business Owners of Bluff and Sarah Burak of Friends of Cedar Mesa worked on a poster that will explain the activities. Sosa picked up the posters in Cortez and thanked Davidson and Burak for the very well-done poster. Davidson did the bulk of the design and Burak and others added information and safety issues. Leppanen and Amanda Podmore will start work on the Dark Skies pre-application form.

4. Announcement and Discussion of Hiring David Sanderson as the Contract Bluff Town Accountant (Leppanen/Sosa)

Several months ago the Council voted to allow Leppanen to hire an accountant and Sanderson has already started helping us with our risk assessment form, quarterly transparency and upcoming budgeting for the amended and tentative budgets. He will cover the year-end audit and grant issues as we get into more complicated funding and free up some of Leppanen and Sosa's time. Leppanen felt it was a very good start. Sosa has been working with him and will continue in-putting data into Pelorus. His fee is \$750 a month and his work may decrease the year-end audit cost. This will be on our next meeting agenda.

5. Status of Applications for Bluff Town Manager (Leppanen)

Leppanen reported there are three applicants and Sayers motioned to close off the advertising and review the applicants, Sosa seconded and Leppanen, Hook, Sayers and Sosa voted in favor. Leppanen will let the Council know the next step.

6. Report on Round Table Discussion at SE Utah Career Expo on April 13, 2022 (Sosa)

Sosa was not able to attend.

7. Report on Easter Egg Hunt at the Bluff Fort (Sosa/Hook)

Hook reported this went well and everyone was happy. Sosa thanked the Fort for hosting and all the work they did to make it successful. They and townspeople contributed many eggs and prizes.

8. Report on Meeting with Joe Hubbard and Amanda Cochran from AmeriCorps (Hook)

Hook reported that Father Hubbard led a tour of all the projects the AmeriCorps had accomplished at the Mission. Hook, Hubbard and Cochran were very happy with their projects and help and discussed possibilities of another team coming out in October for six weeks or January for 12 weeks to work at the Mission and in town. There is also the possibility of getting a Vista for a year. Leppanen will talk with Cochran about possibilities.

New Business

9. General Discussion of "Temporary Signs" as Defined in Zoning Ordinance (All)

Leppanen asked the Council to read the zoning ordinance about the requirements for temporary and permanent signs so they can be discussed at Thursday's Work Session.

10. Planning and Zoning Report (Hook)

Hook reported P&Z meetings are also on YouTube, type in town of bluff. Krieg Benally is now working on the YouTube streaming. A sign request, joint meeting, and legislation on food trucks was discussed. Food trucks need only one permit from any entity in Utah but towns and cities can designate where they park. The State is responsible for health requirements.

11. Financial Report (Sosa)

Leppanen and Sosa finished quarterlies, State Transparency, and billing for the Senior Center and UDB. Murray okayed the bank reconciliation. Sayers motioned to pay the April bills, Hook seconded and Leppanen, Sayers, Hook and Sosa voted in favor.

P&Z Stipends - \$150.00

Carol Shook - \$184.70

Erin Richards - \$232.60
Paul Martini - \$394.45 Reimburse Parts, West Park
Dudley Beck - \$25.60 " " " "
Helgerson - \$50.00
Rocky Mtn. Power – \$362.18
Bankcard – 278.30
XMission - \$15.00
Google Suites - \$51.24
Office Depot - \$96.50
Smartsign - \$25.13
Lt. Gov. - \$25.00 – Entity Registration
High Country News - \$70.00 Job Advertisement
Microsoft - \$74.43 Yearly Plan
Room & Board - -\$79.00 Desk, Credit
NetForce – 378.75 (Jan)
NetForce - \$413.75 (Feb)
Dufford Waldeck - \$ 2,250.00
Emery - \$99.95
Four Corners Free Press - \$75.00 Job Advertisement
BWW - \$60.00
Frontier - \$115.71
Diamond Propane - \$279.90
U.S. Treasury \$228.80 1st Q
San Juan Record – 74.10

School - BWW – \$35.00
Rocky Mtn. Power - \$195.02

Other

Leppanen let the public know there are three openings on our cemetery board, you must be a resident and voter.

Leppanen noted this is Volunteer Appreciation Week and thanked our many, many volunteers. Everyone from the Parks, Fort, Boards, Fire and EMS and many more. Bluff has benefited from their expertise and spirit.

Hook noted the passing of Melvin Gaines.

Sayers motioned to adjourn the meeting at 6:55 p.m., Hook seconded and Leppanen, Hook, Sosa, 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