

Bluff Town Council Regular Meeting Minutes

July 26, 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, on Town Council tab, 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, Linda Sosa, Brant Murray, Jim Sayers

Town Manager Erin Nelson

Approval of Bluff Town Council and Bluff Planning and Zoning Commission Joint Work Session on July 13, 2022

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

Approval of Bluff Town Council Regular Meeting Minutes on July 19, 2022

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

Public Comment:

Kerri Harris commented on her disappointment that the Council did not grant her request for a donation of Town funds to help maintain the ditch alongside Cadillac Ranch and others. She felt those funds would be beneficial in protecting the land from flood waters.

Leppanen explained the Council discussed the problem but ultimately public funds could not be used on private property. On a similar project a road was improved but the Town did not pay for private culverts along the road. Nelson will send Harris the audio of the discussion.

Old Business

1. Discussion of Use of Class C Funds for Matching Grant from San Juan

Transportation Board (Hook/Leppanen/Haviken)

Michael Haviken presented a map showing roads that the roads committee wanted to give priority for improvement: gap roads, the West 3rd school bus route and near the Post Office. Improvements were patching, shoulder work, chip/seal. He had a list of priorities and had worked with Sosa on available funds. The Council felt these were good ideas and it was moved to a work session to be able to go into more detail. A \$55,000 matching grant is available to Bluff. As invoices for projects come in the Town pays half and sends the invoice to the Transportation Board. Haviken was thanked for his work on the County Transportation Board for Bluff.

2. Discussion and Vote on Policy for Reporting of Incidents or Injuries on Bluff Town Property (As Presented by Nelson/All)

Sayers motioned to accept the policy and reporting form, Murray seconded and Leppanen, Sosa, Hook, Murray and Sayers voted in favor.

3. Discussion of International Dark Sky Application Committee (All); Discussion of Current Exterior Lighting Ordinance and Public Hearing (Leppanen)

Leppanen was not at the work session where this was discussed but listened to it and is aware there is a strong consensus to move forward. This is moved to a work session.

4. Update on Discussion with Father Joe and His Plan for AmeriCorps Application (Leppanen): Does the Town Fit into This? (All)

Father Joe has used the verbiage from last year's grant and changed the project to be construction of tiny houses on the Mission property. He added Reagan Wytsalucy and the Town in case the Town has interest having a project with the group. This will be on the agenda in August.

5. Permanent vs Temporary Signs for Remainder of Season (All)

This concerns the waving, banner signs on two businesses. Leppanen suggested letting them remain until the end of the season and working with the owners on the off season. One owner is working on a permanent sign. This has been a difficult food season and this will help them focus on food. Murray agreed there was no harm letting the season play out but there should be no new signs. Leppanen suggested the signs come down in November when businesses start closing.

6. Zoning Ordinance Posting Update (Nelson)

Nelson has posted the current amended ordinance on the website. She has made changes on the website to make it more user friendly.

7. Airport Report (Jim Hook)

Hook gave his manager's report that the airport use is up about 30% and several fly-in groups will be using it this Fall. He has mowed and changed the sign from County facility to Bluff facility. A UDOT company will be inspecting the surface using a drone that maps every inch of the surface. He asked the status of the BLM lease. Leppanen suggested we have not gotten the bill yet because the Bear's Ears and changes of personnel at the field office. Hook brought up the problem of Glen Gurney's abandoned hanger kit and the Council felt it was an eye sore that should be removed. Leppanen will ask Chris McAnany to send Gurney a letter to remove the kit in the next 60 days or it will be considered abandoned and will be sold.

New Business

8. Report on San Juan County Commission Meeting 7/19 (Nelson)

Nelson reported the County experienced a ransomware attack but because they had the necessary backup everything was okay. Another reason we need a server. There was a presentation on Natural Bridges Tours and their flight management plans. And Zak Podmore has been added to the County Library Board, which Leppanen declared a wonderful addition for the County.

9. Report on San Juan County P&Z 7/14 Public Hearing (Nelson)

Nelson reported the group put forward promoting grazing and wild life habitat over solar farms in a proposed amendment.

10. Discussion of San Juan County's Response Capabilities Analysis (Leppanen)

Added to the August 2nd agenda.

11. Discussion and Vote on Work Related Reimbursement Policy as Presented in the Work Session on July 13, 2022; Discussion of Application of the Policy to "Volunteers" on Boards (All)

Changes were discussed in the recent work session, included were set amounts for travel between Bluff and Moab, a higher cap for lodging and receipts for food. Travel must be approved in advance. Nelson made the suggested changes and Murray motioned to approve the policy and reporting form, Sayers seconded and Leppanen, Sayers, Murray, Hook, and Sosa voted in favor. Lodging can be prepaid.

12. Discussion of a Work Session to Discuss Strategic Long and Short-Term Planning; Utah Department of Transportation Grant; Any Changes to Exterior Lighting Ordinance; and TBD (All)

The Work Session will be Wednesday, August 3rd at 10:00 a.m.

13. Reminder of Utah League of Cities and Towns Annual Conference in October 2022 and Request for Attendance (Leppanen/Sosa)

Leppanen and Sosa have signed up for the conference.

Sayers motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:13 p.m., Murray seconded and Leppanen, Sosa, Hook, Murray and Sayers voted in favor. Linda Sosa, Recording Officer

This meeting followed the social distancing guidelines given by state and local authorities. This meeting was held virtually. The public could participate by telephone at 1 904-900-0507 (PIN: 364208783) or through meet.google.com/ytf-sjdx-csv. To view the livestream, or watch past recordings, please visit our YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCTqBxSP-Erhxq6muVMX6vdw> For requests to receive emails/meeting invitations email linda@townofbluff.org