

Bluff Town Council Regular Meeting Minutes

September 13, 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 will be held electronically.

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

Approval of Minutes of Bluff Town Council Meeting on September 6, 2022

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

Approval of Minutes of Bluff Town Council Work Session on September 7, 2022

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

The order was changed because of technology issues for participants

**3. Discussion of Recent Road Grading by San Juan County (Haviken/All)**

Michael Haviken explained that the County grader was available to do work in Bluff August 18<sup>th</sup>. Because the grader was near by and there had been moisture, which aids the grading process, Haviken okayed the job. Over all Haviken and the Council agreed the County did a good job. A piece near northwest 7<sup>th</sup> is unfinished and Haviken is working with the County to correct it. Sayers appreciated Haviken's attention to detail. Hook asked if it should have gone to the Roads committee first but Leppanen explained she received a call from Mack McDonald about the problem so it had gone beyond the scope of the Roads Committee.

**4. Update on Fundraiser with the Bluff Fort for the EMTs and Firefighters and Recognition of the Bluff Fort Volunteers and First Responders (All) and**

**5. Discussion and Vote on Scholarships for Kane County's EMS Class (Leppanen)**

Leppanen reported the second annual EMS fundraiser at the Fort was extremely successful, having raised over \$4000 and donations are still coming in. This amount can fund the training of three or more EMTs at \$700 each through a virtual Kane County training. On site portions will be in Blanding. Kathy Carson and Dawn Dilego are working on the scholarship form. Sayers motioned to approve the scholarships and leave the number open in case someone else is interested in applying, Murray seconded and Leppanen, Hook, Sosa, Murray and Sayers voted in favor. Leppanen thanked the Fort volunteers, Council, Firefighters, EMTs, and the public for their support.

**6. Update on Pathways Proposal and Strategic Planning Session on September 14, 2022 (Leppanen/Sayers)**

Sayers has been in contact with Liza Springmeyer and the Pathways planning group. Nelson will start the strategic planning process tomorrow leading the Council in looking at goals and ideas. This will help in looking at the proposal. Sayers said Pathways focuses on actionable strategies and goals. The CCC could do something similar in the future.

#### **7. Reminder of Planning and Zoning Vacancies and Deadlines (Nelson)**

There are two vacancies and the deadline for a letter of interest is September 16<sup>th</sup>. Applicants must be a voter and resident.

#### **1. Presentation and Discussion on the Active Transportation Plan, Grants, and Bike Utah (Molly Schmitt/All)**

Molly Schmitt explained the Active Transportation Committee has been working on ways to create and fund the plan and research grants. In conversations with Bike Utah she discovered their organization provides planning services to communities and will write a plan for Bluff with community engagement. It will take six months in 2023. There will need to be a designated point person. Leppanen pointed out Schmitt and Hook have worked really hard and came up with an option that has minimal cost for the town. Leppanen, Hook and Schmitt met with UDOT who gave their support for the plan through Bike Utah. The committee is Hook, Sayers, Schmitt, Joe Hubbard, Anthony Lott, and Debbie Westfall.

**Public Comment for this or other issues: None**

#### **2. Vote on the Active Transportation Plan, the "Safe Routes" Grant, and Bike Utah Opportunity (Molly Schmitt/All) and Resolution Appointing the Committee Members (All)**

Murray motioned to approve the committee members, grant, and Bike Utah plan, Sayers seconded and Leppanen, Sosa, Sayers, Murray and Hook voted in favor.

#### **8. Discussion and Vote on Process and Forms for Application to Vacate an Alley or Right-of-Way (All)**

Leppanen is sending the process and form for applications to Chris McAnany for his opinion and it will be on the next agenda. McAnany's first priority is the Bluff Bench disconnect and second is this issue. Leppanen noted we have received a request. There are no partial vacates, if more than one land owner is along the alley both must agree. Murray said it is a lengthy process.

#### **9. Update on Community Development Block Grant Bidding Process (Leppanen/Nelson)**

Leppanen and Nelson signed the contract and sent it in. Nelson explained the next step is the sealed bid process and bids and timelines are very specific. The RFB, request for proposal, will be posted in the San Juan Record September 21<sup>st</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>. Bids open October 5<sup>th</sup> and close October 28<sup>th</sup>. The bids will be read at the November 1<sup>st</sup> meeting. Leppanen noted this process is very complex and Nelson has spent a great deal of time following the extremely detailed process.

#### **10. Report on Bears Ears National Monument Meeting (Britt Hornsby)**

Hornsby attended this initial meeting and will represent Bluff at these meetings. He supplied a summary.

#### **11. Update on Utah Department of Cultural & Community Engagement Grant (Sayers)**

Sayers submitted this eight-page application on September 7<sup>th</sup>. It could grant the fire suppression system project for the CCC as much as \$79,000. Leppanen reminded that the CCC will need the joint checking account signed off for future funds.

### **New Business**

**12. Report on Pre-Disaster Mitigation Management Stakeholders Meeting of August 25, 2022 and Public Meeting with San Juan County's Consultant on October 18, 2022 (Leppanen)**

Leppanen reported that the County hired a consultant to interview each community and each is required to have a Pre-Disaster Plan that will tie into the County's for consistency. Bluff's meeting will be October 18<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 at the Community Center. Leppanen is on the County committee and explained this meeting is very important and encouraged the Council, Planning and Zoning and public attendance. Public opinion and ideas are very important and having a plan in place will set up protocols and aid in help from other agencies and disaster relief funding. Murray echoed this from his involvement hurricane mitigation in North Carolina.

**13. Update on Addressing and Vote on Application (Nelson)**

Nelson is continuing with the addressing project and presented a form for the public to use. The Council felt the form was well done. Sayers suggested making parcel number plural since some cover several lots. Murray motioned to approve, Sayers seconded and Leppanen, Murray, Hook, Sosa and Sayers voted in favor. Landowners requesting an address when the process is ready can be added to the list and will be addressed in the order of the list. They must have a building and a driveway.

**14. Review of Resolution Draft by Utah League of Cities and Towns Regarding Short Term Rentals (Leppanen)**

Murray motioned to support this resolution that allows local control instead of State, Sayers seconded and Leppanen, Sayers, Murray, Hook and Sosa voted in favor. A letter will be sent supporting the resolution.

**15. Discuss Moving the Regular Bluff Town Meeting from October 18 to October 25.**

This was tabled because the public hearing for the disconnect is moved to November.

Sayers motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:15 p.m., Murray seconded and Leppanen, Sosa, Hook, Murray and Sayers voted in favor.

Linda Sosa, Recording Officer

This meeting will follow the social distancing guidelines given by state and local authorities. This meeting will be held virtually. The public can participate by telephone at 1 904-900-0507 (PIN: 364208783) or through [meet.google.com/ytf-sjdx-csv](https://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](mailto:linda@townofbluff.org)**