

Bluff Town Council Regular Meeting Minutes

November 8, 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
Erin Nelson, Town Manager

Approval of Bluff Town Council Regular Meeting Minutes of November 1, 2022

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

Public Comment: None

Presentation of the 2022 Fiscal Year Audit by Larson & Company (Jon Haderlie)

Haderlie presented the audit report opinion letter on screen and explained the process and findings. The process included verifying financials, financial controls and operations, use of accounting principles, internal compliance and consistencies, etc. The final product contained no issues or concerns. Haderlie stated he is happy to continue working with us through the year to answer questions and give guidance as we grow.

Presentation by Pathways of Strategic Planning for the Town of Bluff (Judith Oki and Julie DeLong)

DeLong expressed pleasure working with the design team of Leppanen, Sayers, Nelson, and Dan Meyers. She has worked at Pathways in SLC for 22 years doing strategic planning, consulting, grant writing and more with organizations. Oki has done some of the same and worked internationally. DeLong described the process of taking the community through a management process to create vision for the town. This includes community input through a Town Hall Monday the 14th at 6:00 p.m. held virtually and in person at the Community Center, interviews with community members and a survey on the townofbluff.org website. Paper copies of the survey will be available at the Town office. These will help define town goals and the end product was described as a prioritized vision built by all of us in Bluff.

Unfinished Business

1. Update on Status of the Cultural Capital State Grant and the Design Review Team (Sayers); Update on United States Department of Agriculture Grant for Fire Suppression (Sayers/Leppanen)

Sayers reported on today's meeting: the joint bank account is moving forward and the CCC has been rekeyed because of security issues. The larger part of the group agreed the CCC should not be split until after the construction and remodel; it should be completed first. The State Grant Sayers applied for awarded the Town almost \$80,000 toward the fire suppression system. Leppanen noted that Pathways suggested this grant to the Council and Sayers will be working on another grant opportunity they suggested. Holly and Jed Rogers will be working on a USDA grant for materials for construction.

2. Update on CIRD (Hook/Molly Schmitt)

Hook gave the background on the Citizen's Institute of Rural Design and noted it has been good training. Molly Schmitt mentioned their monthly trainings, community workshops, and grant opportunities. The Active Transportation Committee is partnering with Bike Utah, who will write the Active Transportation Plan for the Town in 2023.

Review and Vote on Active Transportation Plan Bylaws

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

November 2, 2022 Planning and Zoning Report

Hook reported two Land Use Clearance applications, Steve Simpson's remodeling a part of the warehouse behind Twin Rocks passed. Patrick McDermott's request for another house on his property will be modified slightly and resubmitted at the next meeting. Nelson explained the Council will be making changes to online technology and P&Z will be included.

3. Update and Vote on Payment to Pave Rite from the Matching Grant from San Juan Transportation Board (Leppanen)

Murray motioned to pre-approve Sosa writing a check of not more than \$37,500 to pay Pave Rite when the matching funds are received from the San Juan Transportation Board, Sayers seconded and Leppanen, Sosa, Murray, Hook and Sayers voted in favor.

New Business

4. Report on Meeting with the Bureau of Land Management on November 3, 2022 (Leppanen/Nelson)

Leppanen met with Jay and Nicole, the new BLM managers, to familiarize them with ongoing projects Amber Johnson had been involved in with the Council. Included were awareness of issues and practicalities for preparedness for a very large influx of people when the October 14, 2023 eclipse occurs, Leppanen proposed a Town committee with a BLM staff member to prepare for issues like traffic, and camping and in Town boundaries. A turn lane is needed at the dangerous Sand Island turn off. UDOT feels this would be too expensive but has some options to make it safer. Britt Hornsby is our BLM representative for meetings and requests. It was a good meeting.

5. Discussion of Need for Additional Insurance by Renters of the Bluff Community Center or Fire Mesa Kitchen (Leppanen)

Leppanen explained a workshop at the Utah League of Cities and Towns conference discussed the First Amendment need to treat all the same in terms of things like requiring insurance to use facilities. Our insurance already covers others and this will be moved to a work session.

6. Discussion of Need for Privacy Notice When Collecting Data (Leppanen)

This will also be moved to a work session.

7. Other

November 9th at 7:30 p.m., Joint Work Session about Water Rights at the Library

This meeting is in person and the audio recording of the meeting will be posted on the Utah Public Notice Website.

November 9th starting at 8:00 a.m. SJ Economic Development Expo at the College November 21st, 12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Flu and Covid Booster Drive at the Community Center

Leppanen added the November 14th Town Hall for strategic planning 6:00 p.m. will be in person and virtual.

Hook noted a Fort Lewis student is doing a study of sources of arsenic in the area.

Leppanen explained the County ballot boxes were removed today and several people who came to vote had to go elsewhere. She asked anyone who had difficulty voting to let her know if they had concerns.

Sayers motioned to adjourn at 7:20 p.m., Murray seconded and Leppanen, Hook, Sayers, Murray and Sosa 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 was able to connect and participate electronically.

To view the livestream, or watch past recordings, please visit our YouTube channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCTqBxSP-Erhxg6muVMX6vdw>

For requests to receive emails/meeting invitations email linda@townofbluff.org