

Bluff Town Council Regular Meeting Minutes

February 14, 2023

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 and in person

The meeting started at 6:00 p.m.

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

Approval of Bluff Town Council Regular Meeting Minutes of February 7, 2023

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

Public Comment:

Jim Hook asked for clarity for the phrase, "work on public land," in item #2 on the agenda.

Presentation on Child Care Facilities Grant Possibilities

Korrin Olson and Peggy of USU stressed the need for childcare in the County and are wanting to find persons interested in this important service and help them with funding a child care business. Possibilities included home based, the CCC, partnering with a business, and on information on our website. This came up in strategic planning; Jared and Sarah Berrett expressed how important it is for local employees to have child care. Korrin is out of Price and her email is:

korrin.olson@usu.edu or eastern.usu.edu/childcare

Unfinished Business:

1. Update on Bluff Airport Maintenance by Jviation and opening of bids (Leppanen)

Leppanen checked with Chris McAnany for the procedure and reported it can be an administrative function; the Town Manager and one or two Council members would open the bids March 1st at 3:00 p.m. at the gym and the bids would be considered at a later time by the Council. Leppanen signed the contract Friday that included our part, \$12,500.

2. Update on Public Hearing for Requests to Vacate Alleys/Right-of-Ways and Work on Public Property (Leppanen)

Leppanen noted all the directions to vacate are on the Town website, there are no substitutions. She will address "work on public land" and other type of requests on the website and suggested those with questions can ask them in Public Comments at our next meeting.

3. Status Reports on Committees:

a. Bluff's Planning and Zoning Commission Meeting (no meeting)

b. Active Transportation Advisory Committee Meeting on February 8, 2023 and Revised Letter Update(Hook/Sayers)

Molly Schmidt added dates to the letter and a link to a map. Leppanen explained the procedure that the chair of committees sets agendas and gets information out. Sosa was concerned and reminded committees to send agenda items to the Town by the Thursday before a meeting.

c. Cooperative Culture Center's Design Review Committee's Meeting on February 14, 2023 (Sayers)

Sayers reported Dudley Beck asked the group about allowing several rescue dogs to stay in the area north of the modular. Dave Conine will bring the request to UDB but the office person was not in favor of it. The team talked about grants.

d. Bluff's Solar Eclipse Planning Committee (no meeting) (Nelson/Leppanen)

e. San Juan County's Solar Eclipse Committee (no meeting) (Nelson/Leppanen)

f. Bluff's Roads Committee Meeting on February 14, 2023 (Haviken)

Hook reported UDOT may need to supply street signs along the highway at Copper Cliffs, there are still matching funds from the County and road maintenance possibilities for the Fall.

g. Playground Committee: Update on Estimates for Equipment, Demolition (Leppanen)

Leppanen's meeting with Superintendent Nielson resulted in having the Bluff Elementary School's playground open after school hours. She reminded those using it to keep the gate closed to keep dogs out. Dave Bastian of Canyon Discovery has offered to write a grant for outside classroom equipment at the CCC and asked about demolition costs as it could be part of the grant. Helgeson Property Maintenance suggested around \$1,500. Tom Corrao, from the school district, stated playground equipment is anchored in concrete and that needed to be removed for safety and to properly install new equipment. This was echoed by several playground equipment suppliers Leppanen has talked to. Murray suggested after the equipment was removed it could be given away.

4. Update on Water Damage at the Bluff Community Center (Leppanen)

Leppanen and Nelson are continuing to meet with our insurance adjuster and ULGT rep. and did a virtual walkthrough. An in-person inspection will occur and the damaged part of the carpet will be removed. Insurance will cover the cost of the entire floor. The senior citizen center restroom floor needs replacement. Damage was caused by the failure of a part in the water fountain in the senior center.

New Business:

5. Discussion and Possible Vote on Action on the Trade of Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Parcels within the Town of Bluff with School Institutional Trust Land Administration (SITLA)

Tim Peterson of Grand Canyon Trust, who tracks land exchanges between entities, notified Leppanen Monday that Phil Lyman had introduced this in the State legislature. On Tuesday Leppanen, Nelson, Sayers, Peterson and Josh Ewing met to discuss this and felt this is early in the process. There are three parcels in Bluff and Nelson will put the map on the Town website. Murray stated he did not want to see SITLA's presence increased. Sayers stated it is a bad trade-off and SITLA is generally harder to work with. There has been no contact from Phil Lyman. Next week's agenda will include a letter to John Curtis stating Bluff prefers public land exchanges with BLM involvement. The public may send comments to Leppanen and Nelson.

6. Discussion of Request by Deborah Westfall and Tina Krutsky for a Trailhead and Parking at the Community Cultural Center (All)

Westfall was ready to answer questions but Leppanen suggested this be moved to a work session to have more time for the subject.

7. Report on Bluff Water Works Meeting on February 8, 2023 (Leppanen/Sosa)

The system is working well and there is less use in the winter and no burst pipes this winter. Marx Powell explained they do not post agendas or minutes on the Utah Public Notice Website because they are an enterprise fund using money from services and have a small budget. Sayers suggested they are a government entity and should post for transparency. Hook suggested a joint meeting this year and Leppanen will bring it up at a BWW meeting. Powell is involved in strategic planning and will attend meetings that cover water related issues.

8. Discussion of Written Policy for Preparation of Agendas and Supporting Documents (Leppanen)

Leppanen felt written policy will help get back on track following basic procedure and will bring it to the next meeting.

9. Report on Meeting on San Juan County Commission Meeting on February 7, 2023 (Leppanen)

Leppanen attended in person and reported Dr. Sunada announced Ginny Burns has been awarded another \$10,000 BRIC grant for the Food Pantry. The earlier work session had an excellent presentation covering land use training and she encouraged Council members to listen to it. She will work with Mack McDonald about outstanding election bills.

10. Report on Meeting with San Juan School District Superintendent and Building Manager on February 7, 2023 (Leppanen)

In addition to discussing opening the school playground Leppanen asked questions about the noncompete clause with the School District. Acceptable uses included day care, training for adults, and the outdoor classroom.

11. Discussion of the Bluff Fort's Request for Another Year's Easter Egg Hunt (Leppanen)

Murray motioned to approve, Sosa seconded and Leppanen, Hook, Murray, Sosa and Sayers voted in favor. Leppanen noted this was well attended last year.

12. Discussion and Vote on Spencer Wade's Attendance at the Outdoor Recreation Show (Leppanen)

Murray motioned to approve, Sosa seconded and Leppanen, Hook, Murray, Sosa and Sayers voted in favor. This is a two-day event in Provo September 6th and 7th.

13. Other

The Star Party is postponed.

Sayers motioned to close the meeting at 7:20 p.m., Hook seconded and Leppanen, Sayers, Murray, Sosa and Hook 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`](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCTqBxSP-Erhxq6muVMX6vdw)