

Bluff Town Council Work Session Minutes  
March 9, 2023  
Bluff Community Center at 8:30 a.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 on Town Council tab and audio, in addition, at the Utah Public Notice Website

This meeting was held electronically.

The meeting started at 8:31 a.m.

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

Erin Nelson, Town Manager

Some issues discussed at this work session will be on the March 14<sup>th</sup> meeting agenda

**1. Discussion of Class C Roads: Engineering Services for the Class C Roads;  
Discussion of Setting Speed Limits and Purchasing Signs for Speed Limits;  
Discussion of Road Blockages and Use of Speed Bumps; Changing Designation  
of 'Road Committee' to 'Road Department; Protecting Signs Within Town; Signage  
in General**

- Michael Haviken explained the benefit we would receive from hiring a road engineer to consult on our road projects, including an overall paving plan, design quality, industry standards, and license expertise. He has received several proposals and will look into others. There are several options, engineer could be hourly, as needed, by project or other options. The Council felt this is important and asked for more information.
- There were several ideas for speed limit signs for interior streets, two signs on the highway or signs on the feeder streets. Fifteen miles per hour was considered. Leppanen suggested researching restrictions, such as size, before ordering signs.
- Haviken has researched speed bumps and noted they slow traffic down and load capacity is important. He is looking at 40,000 lbs. load capacity. He recommended ordering one as a test to see if it works for the Town. A sign would be needed to alert the public. The public cannot block town roads or easements, it is dangerous to vehicles. Leppanen is working a resident to find a way to slow traffic and a speed bump is a possibility. She has requested he remove rocks,

cones and barriers from the road and easement and the Town will not be liable for damage caused.

- A Public Works Department could house Roads, Water, Mosquito Abatement, etc. and the Council will start work setting that up in April.
- The Council discussed the ongoing problem of protecting road signs, especially at the Fort. Murray suggested part of this problem is caused by vehicles “cutting off the corner” instead of staying on the road at the Fort and CCC. He will talk to the Shed about dumping rock at those corners if they have excess they have to move.
- Murray expressed ideas interior signs that included designs and colors that blend with the landscape.

## **2. Request by Bears Ears Partnership to use the BCC for a Dark Sky Party the Night before the Annular Eclipse (Outside and Bathrooms); Status of International Dark Sky Application**

- Leppanen deferred this request until we have more information especially what needs there could be for the CC area. Nelson noted Chief Lott is suggesting the CC and CCC as possible helicopter staging areas.
- There are several options to complete the Dark Skies application, Dr. Barentine could be hired to do the work or a town committee could work on it. Hook pointed out a committee would have to work with Dr. Barentine and supply data as needed. This will be further discussed at the March 14<sup>th</sup> meeting.

## **3. Review and Discussion of CDBG Bid Evaluation**

There was no viable bid and Leppanen is waiting for direction on the next step.

## **4. Discussion of Signage for the BCC and Phone System Upgrade**

Nelson is comparing price and options available between Frontier and Emery Telecom. Emery has voice mail that connects to email and multiple lines. Nelson is researching what is needed for an emergency phone in the gym. She presented sign examples giving directions to the Senior Center, offices and gym. No overnight parking or camping signs were discussed. Murray noted all of these signs will be helpful for the eclipse.

## **5. Review and Discussion of Policy for Use of AV Equipment, an Operator, and Streaming by Committees; Review and Discussion of Request by ATAC to Pay Presenters**

Hook inquired about the use of the AV equipment for the Active Transportation workshops. The Council considered the use of AV equipment by committees, availability of the operator, streaming and use of Google Suites for committee meetings and workshops. Leppanen reminded that all committees must be treated the same, all can use it or none. Presenters being paid fell into the same issue, all or none. Hook asked if funds were available for refreshments for the ATAC workshops.

## **6. Discussion of Handling Questions from the Public, i.e. When Is It and When is Not the Town's Responsibility**

The Council looked at the question of how to respond to problems that are important but not necessary the Town's responsibility. In emergency situations it may be important to step in to protect persons or property. Can the property owner deal with the problem? Murray suggested checking with other towns to see how they handle these kinds of problems, what requires intervention and who does it.

## **7. Other**

Murray motioned to adjourn at 10:31 a.m. Sosa seconded and Leppanen, Murray, Sosa and Hook 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-Erhxq6muVMX6vdw>

For requests to receive emails/meeting invitations email [linda@townofbluff.org](mailto:linda@townofbluff.org)