

## Bluff Town Council Regular Meeting Minutes

April 11, 2023

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 on Town Council tab and audio, in addition, at the Utah Public Notice Website

This meeting was held electronically.

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 Town of Bluff's Regular Meeting Minutes from April 4, 2023

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

Public Comment: None

### **Unfinished Business:**

#### **1. Status Reports on Committee Meetings**

##### **a. Bluff's Planning and Zoning Commission Meeting on April 5, 2023 (Hook)**

Hook reported that Brian Whitney was welcomed as the new member and Malysa Egge was thanked for her service. Sandy Maillard inquired about dividing the land at the Canyon Smokehouse but it can't be divided because it is too small. They are also working on the RV ordinance and the unpermitted signage in Cow Canyon.

##### **b. Cooperative Cultural Center's Design Review Committee Meeting on April 11, 2023 (Sayers)**

The meeting was cancelled.

##### **c. Update on Strategic Planning (Nelson)**

Nelson reported the three groups have been working since November and are finishing draft reports and presentations for the April 27<sup>th</sup> meeting. Leppanen said the groups are working hard on a final document that is a guide that the Town will use.

##### **d. Update on Solar Eclipse Committees**

Nelson updated that the Human Needs Committee is looking at parking, food and trash. Communication will use the Business Owners of Bluff website to communicate with tourists and locals. A BLM representative has been present at each meeting. BARC raised the question of people bringing pets and dealing with pets that are left here.

##### **e. Discuss Creation of Dark Skies Committee (All)**

Included in the discussion April is Dark Skies Month in Utah, Hook asked that a KSL article be sent to the public to generate interest in an advisory committee, and the role of a consultant. This will be on the first May agenda.

#### **2. Update on the Inflation Act Grant (Nelson)**

This environmental justice grant of one million dollars will be awarded to seven entities across the country. Nelson and Drew Cooper submitted the 18-page document today; notifications will come early summer and funds will be available in December which need to be utilized in two years. Leppanen and the Council again praised the huge amount of time and energy that Nelson and Cooper put into this project with some input from the DRC. If awarded it will be used to renovate the CCC.

### **3. Discussion and Vote on Sponsoring the Blanding Bears Ears Marathon (All)**

The Council wanted Bluff to be part of the name but it makes the name too long. If this continues next year this will be addressed again. The Council is requesting vans that shuttle runners are available in Bluff and Blanding so that those choosing to stay overnight in Bluff can be shuttled to the starting line. Hook motioned that Bluff sponsor this event if the shuttles are available at both towns, Sayers seconded and Leppanen, Hook, Sosa, Murray and Sayers voted in favor.

### **4. Update on Easter Egg Hunt on April 8, 2023 (Leppanen)**

Leppanen reported the event was successful and fun.

### **5. Financial Report: Helgerson Property Management Bill and Vote to Approve Payment (Leppanen)**

The requested hold on this bill was not because of the labor charge but the cost of the equipment rental. Leppanen suggested in the future we look at alternatives for equipment rental. Leppanen motioned to pay the bill, Murray seconded and Leppanen, Sosa, Murray, Sayers and Hook voted in favor. The cattle guard was cleaned and the area graded.

### **New Business:**

### **6. Gift of Generators to the Town of Bluff by Sandy Maillard (Leppanen)**

Leppanen reported Sandy Maillard has offered the Town a large and a small propane generator from the Canyon Smokehouse site. There is a strong recommendation from the State that towns and cities have backup generators for emergencies. Jim Hook was familiar with the large generator and suggested donating it to the Fire Department as an emergency location. He offered to look into it. The Council felt it was a wonderful gift,

### **7. Discussion of Land Use Changes and the Need for a Joint Work Session with Planning and Zoning (Leppanen)**

Leppanen noted many unfunded changes are coming from the State legislature and suggested a joint session that included Chris McAnany. She will check with Amanda Podmore about possible dates.

### **8. Other**

Hook joined Dave Bastian on a call interview for a giant cane grant.

The reception for Carol Shook, previous CC manager, was well attended.

Sayers motioned to close the meeting at 6:45 p.m., Murray 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](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)