

## Bluff Town Council Regular Meeting Minutes

May 9, 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, Linda Sosa, Brant Murray Jim Sayers  
Erin Nelson, Town Manager

Approval of Bluff Town Council Regular Meeting Minutes from May 2, 2023

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

At 6:03 p.m. Sayers motioned to close the open meeting and go into closed session to discuss Purchase, Exchange, Lease of Real Property or Pending or Possible Litigation, Murray seconded and Leppanen, Murray, Sayers, Hook, and Sosa voted in favor.

The Closed Session started at 6:06 p.m.

### **1. Executive Session to Discuss Purchase, Exchange, Lease of Real Property or Pending or Possible Litigation (All)**

Murray motioned to leave the closed session and return to the regular meeting at 6:55 p.m., Sayers seconded and Leppanen, Sosa, Hook, Sayers and Murray voted in favor. Leppanen noted all five Council members were present.

Public Comment:

Amer Tumehe reported he and Leppanen met for two hours to discuss concerns and do a site tour that included the Wash. He expressed the importance of direct information and encouraged anyone who had questions and/or wanted a tour to contact him.

Jim Hook reported that the County weed guys are currently in Bluff and are still interested in the removal of giant cane and replacing it with appropriate plants. Hook suggested contacting them through the County.

### **Unfinished Business**

#### **2. Update on Active Transportation Plan Advisory Committee (Hook)**

Hook reported the committee is talking about grants with Chris Wiltsie on May 16<sup>th</sup>. She noted a Safe Streets for All webinar that was very helpful and mentioned partnerships, possibly with the County and White Mesa.

### **3. Update on Cooperative Cultural Center Meetings on May 2, 2023 and May 9, 2023 and Request for Liaison for the Design Review Committee (Sayers)**

Leppanen reported at today's meeting of Leppanen, Sayers, Murray, Nelson, Dave Conine and Damian Bollerman it was suggested that the Council and UDB have a half-day meeting to walk through the property and discuss budget priorities. A date for the meeting will be set after the asbestos report is received. Funds for asbestos remediation and a fire suppression system need to be prioritized, noting the \$79,000+ grant that has been received is designated for fire suppression. Sayers asked the liaison position be considered for a notetaker and an agenda manager. Leppanen suggested that no action be taken on the request until there is a budget work session. She, Nelson and Sosa are working on the amended 2023 budget and the 2023 – 2024 budget. The State has projected up to 2% less revenue for 2024. While we are getting budget requests we also need to prioritize needs, especially public safety/ fire department.

### **4. Report on Conversation with Marc Stilson of Division of Water Rights (Leppanen/Nelson)**

Leppanen and Marx Powell had some concerns about how the work being done by Sunrise Engineering on our water rights could affect priority dating. Stilson met with Leppanen after reviewing their work and saw no problem so Leppanen will have them go forward and finalize their work.

### **5. Update on Distribution of Tax on Gravel Pits**

Leppanen will check with the Tax Commission about the number of gravel pits Bluff has. Sosa noted the tax money we receive will be B or C road funds and it goes to counties, cities and towns that have gravel pits.

### **6. Report on International Dark Sky Application Committee (Leppanen)**

The committee is Nelson, Hook, and Sarah Burak. Leppanen will be the backup.

## **New Business**

### **7. Request for Approval of Local Consent for Ann Leppanen**

Moved to next week.

### **8. Bluff Fort's Request for Permission to Clean Out a Culvert by the Fort in the Town's Right of Way and Refresh the Historic Loop Sign**

Murray motioned to give permission to clean the culvert and wait on the sign, Sayers seconded and Leppanen, Sosa, Hook, Murray and Sayers voted in favor. Murray noted the need to assess the drainage of town culverts before the monsoon season.

#### **Public Comment:**

Leppanen recognized with gratitude the one-year anniversary for Erin Nelson as Town Manager.

Sayers motioned to adjourn at 7:24 p.m., Murray seconded and Leppanen, Murray, Sayers, 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)