

## Erin Nelson

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**From:** Office

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**From:** [livearth@citlink.net](mailto:livearth@citlink.net) <[livearth@citlink.net](mailto:livearth@citlink.net)>

**Sent:** Saturday, April 29, 2023 12:33 PM

**Cc:** Office <[office@townofbluff.org](mailto:office@townofbluff.org)>

**Subject:** RE: May 22, 2023 Planning & Zoning Public Hearing - Aviation

Thanks for the update Linda.

I've cc'd the [office@townofbluff.org](mailto:office@townofbluff.org) on this email as you requested.

An intown heliport or tours and/or any type of airborne aircraft or powered devices that start here in town present even more challenges than I had considered. Previously I assumed they would be launching at the Bluff airport. Thanks for the correction.

Hopefully there are a number of towns and cities that already have ordinances for and about aviation issues that will apply to this situation, and that the Town Council and Planning and Zoning groups can work with those. What a difficult issue!

The Council and P&Z are free to express these ideas in their own words. No need to "quote" me as others have these same thoughts. Thanks.

Below is a shorter version of my previous email to you (#1) with few other concerns added (#2).

1. - Is there a definition of "aviation aircraft"?

a. - does it concern and include drones? We've had several uninvited ones over our property over the last years that we weren't happy about, at all.

b. - does it include the balloons? i.e Bluff Balloon Festival balloons? Whatever the definition of aviation aircraft, it seems it best define all possible airborne options and then either include or exclude them in the (new) ordinance. For example, the Bluff Balloon Festival only happens once a year. That is different than most other type of tours. People know ahead of time to secure their animals, etc. during the BBF. That really helps with the safety, health and privacy aspects.

2. New considerations: For all powered manmade aviation aircraft that fly/wander overhead:

A. Main concerns: Health and safety, noise and nuisance, privacy and security, both for people and animals

I've heard Bluff stories of horses running straight into fences (and getting stuck and caught in them) because of the balloons. Our own dog Millie was so frightened by them we had to keep her in the house. The first time she heard/saw the balloons she ran off totally freaked out and didn't reappear for at least 24 hours. It took her days to settle down. I can only guess how she would have been with helicopters flying over the house several times a day. Not the best scenario for animals and surprise very loud "alien" objects in the sky.

Privacy and Security risks: Breeches of Private Property rights along with Rights to Privacy, etc. There is a lot in this category for all manmade aerial/aviation aircraft. People in planes, helicopters and balloons take pictures and video. So do drones.

Emergency situations: All emergency aircraft such as Flight for Life and Security helicopters (as in the fugitive situation here years ago) would be exempt or excluded from (most) of the new ordinance restrictions I would guess.

Just some thoughts and concerns. My guess is that you all already have heard all of them.

Also, even if there are tours launched from the airport, I would hope that restrictions would be applied in that situation too, to avoid any of the situations happening here in Bluff, as described above.

Many thanks to all of the Town Council and P&Z board members. You all have so much to deal with! Good luck. theresa