

Bluff Town Council Regular Meeting **Draft Minutes**

July 18, 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. 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 and audio, in addition, at the Utah Public Notice Website.

To view the livestream, or watch past recordings, please visit our YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCTqBxSP-Erhxq6muVMX6vdw>.

This meeting was held electronically

The meeting started at 6:04 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 Work Session Minutes of July 11, 2023

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

Approval of Bluff Town Council Regular Meeting Minutes of July 11, 2023

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

Public Comment: None

Leppanen explained the new system being tried, a sign on the computer screen before the start of the meeting lets people wanting to make public comments know they can put their name in chat or raise the hand icon before the meeting starts and they will speak in random order. She also asked those on phones if they wanted to speak

Unfinished Business:

1. Introduction of Judith Oki and Julie DeLong for Presentation of Strategic Plan for the Town of Bluff by Pathway Associates

Leppanen introduced DeLong and Oki who have been working on the draft of the plan. They said they enjoyed their time in Bluff and working together with so many here on the plan, it was a great experience and looks toward the future. DeLong did a short Power Point reviewing plan development over the last seven months. Information was gathered from group meetings, 22 interviews, a town hall meeting and community surveys. Utah Dine Bikeyah was involved and gave input. Key themes are Mindful Growth, Sustainable Town Government and Livability. Included are goals, objectives, outcomes and a timeline. The Council thanked DeLong and Oki for their guidance, timing, finished product and engagement. Leppanen noted this is a plan we can really work with and the possible extension of a year could help us focus, especially if it starts

after we know who the new council members will be. The vote on the plan and possible extension will be at the August 1st meeting.

2. Discussion and Vote on Insect Spraying Contract for the Town Offices and Buildings (Nelson)

Nelson reported Malia Collins researched the options and Nelson and Collins recommend New Technology, it is the least expensive and already does the Senior Center. Murray motioned to hire New Technology, Hook seconded and Leppanen, Sosa, Hook, Murray and Sayers voted in favor.

3. Discussion and Vote on Resolution to Support Utah Dine Bikeyah's Bears' Ears Summer Gathering (All)

Leppanen has collected private donations from Council members and community members and noted the Council will donate in kind use of the folding chairs. Sam Reeves, UDB intern, picked up the donations and will be in charge of the chairs. Leppanen read the resolution, Murray motioned to pass as presented, Sayers seconded and Leppanen, Sosa, Hook, Murray and Sayers voted in favor. No tax dollars went into this.

4. Discussion and Vote on AmeriCorps Project for the Cooperative Cultural Center with Community Rebuilds (Leppanen)

Leppanen summarized her conversations Rikki Epperson of Community Rebuilds, AmeriCorps, and Adrienne Caesar of Yestermorrow. The last two years the group was housed at the Mission and that is not possible this year. An idea that could work is partner with Community Rebuilds, we would have them four weeks out of ten, and house them at Scorup House where they would work on remodeling rooms and Town projects. Housing for four weeks would cost \$4,000. Murray and Sayers agreed it would be a good investment toward housing and they do great work. Sayers motioned to continue moving forward with the possible project, Murray seconded and Leppanen, Sosa, Hook, Murray and Sayers voted in favor. Leppanen will continue working with Epperson.

5. Discussion and Vote on Termination of Contract with Net Force for Technology Services and Options for Providers (Nelson)

Murray motioned to let the contract run out and get a new provider, Sayers seconded and Leppanen, Sosa, Hook, Murray and Sayers voted in favor. Nelson said the contract runs out November 1st, giving us time to find a new provider and we own all the equipment. She met with Emery today about their services.

6. Discussion of Fire Restrictions (Leppanen)

After discussion Leppanen read the restrictions for Stage One and Stage Two and noted the County has not adopted fire restrictions yet, they are waiting on the State. It was agreed it is dangerous because of the heat, wind and dry weeds and Chief Lott supports what the Council decides. Hook motioned to accept Stage One, Murray seconded and Leppanen, Sosa, Hook, Murray and Sayers voted in favor. Stage One:

No open fires of any kind except within established public facilities or in permanently constructed fire pits at private homes where running water is present. No smoking, except within an enclosed vehicle, trailer or building, a developed recreation site or while stopped in an area that is paved or free from dry vegetation. No fireworks, tracer ammunition or other pyrotechnic devices including exploding targets. No cutting, welding or grinding metal in areas of dry vegetation. No operating a motorcycle,

chainsaw, ATV, or other small internal combustion engine without an approved and working spark arrestor.

New Business

7. Acknowledgement of Acquisition of Cottonwood Canyon by Wildlands Conservancy and Work by Josh Ewing and Jenepher Stowell

Leppanen announced that on Friday, July 15, 2023 Gary and Lawrence sold and signed over Cottonwood Canyon to the Wildlands Conservancy. Leppanen thanked Josh Ewing, Jenepher Stowell and others for their hard work protecting this important area. September 23rd will be a workday at the Canyon and a time to celebrate the Guymon's and the Wildlife Conservancy.

8. Status of Fiscal Year 2023 Audit (Sosa)

Sosa reported that she and Leppanen received emails right after July 1st to authorize the start of the audit and grant access of all our accounts to Larson and Co. Dave Sanderson, our accountant is working with Pelorus on the infrastructure and depreciation. Sosa and Leppanen will start work on all the details with the Larson auditor and accountant. It takes up to two weeks to complete and is currently planned for the week of August 7th.

9. Financial Report (Sosa)

Sosa explained she has been working with Sanderson to correctly date invoices for the end of the fiscal year. All services, utilities and employee paychecks for work done in or before June must be dated in June. Employees who usually have checks dated on the first of the next month must be dated June 30, 2023.

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

June 30, 2023

P&Z Stipends - \$150.00

Krieg Benally - \$125.00

Kathy Carson - \$118.20

DS Accounting - \$750.00

Malia Collins - \$554.10

Maxwell Asphalt - \$3,886.31

Patricia Bellison - \$34.17

Denny Bellison - \$51.94

San Juan Co Roads - \$11,901.81 (April 2022) Chip seal

San Juan Co Roads - \$2,535.96 (2022) Grading

June

San Juan Record - \$18.20

Diamond Propane - \$281.05

Pathway – \$1278.52

July

Erin Nelson - \$1820.72

Erin Nelson - \$1820.72

Helgerson - \$50.00
NetForce - \$646.25
Bankcard - \$86.04
XMission - \$15.00
Google Suites - \$84.54
Amazon - \$-54.95 Credit
San Juan Record - \$29.49
ULGT - \$2,385.94 airport insurance
ULGT - \$10,571.51
SJC Economic Development - \$3,000.00 BOB RIP maps
Dufford Waldeck - \$3892.44
US Treasury - \$3847.44
Rocky Mtn. Power - \$518.58 CC

School Project
BWW – \$35.00
ULGT – (4,985.70) CCC, included in \$10,571.51
Cynthia Whitehorse - \$236.25
Amazon - \$41.45 Cleaning supplies
Rocky Mtn. Power - \$200.51 CCC

10. Discussion of Need for Work Session for Election Process and Changes in the Election Law, First Steps in Strategic Planning, Noxious Weeds Ordinance

August 8th at 10:00 a.m.

11. Work by UDOT to Begin July 2023 and End December 2023

Leppanen has written to Jared Beard about issues dealing with the October 14th eclipse and other topics. Thirty miles of roadway will be resurfaced.

12. Other

None

Murray motioned to adjourn at 7:11 p.m., Hook seconded and Leppanen, Sayers, Sosa, Murray and Hook voted in favor.
Linda Sosa Recording Officer

For requests to receive emails/meeting invitations, email linda@townofbluff.org