

Bluff Town Council Regular Meeting Minutes

March 5, 2024

Bluff Community Center at 4:00 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 4:00 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 in person and virtually

The meeting started at 4:02 p.m.

Roll Call Mayor Ann K. Leppanen, Luanne Hook excused, Jennifer Davila, Linda Sosa, Britt Hornsby

Erin Nelson Town Manager

Approval of Bluff Town Council Meeting Minutes of February 20, 2024

Moved to March 12, 2024 meeting

Public Comment: None

Executive Session to Discuss Imminent or Pending Litigation Pursuant to Utah Code 52-4-204 (All)

Canceled

Unfinished Business:

1. Update on Active Transportation Advisory Committee's Work (Hook)

Moved to the March 12th Work Session

2. Discussion on Adopting a Policy for Eliciting Letters of Support and Committee By-Laws, in General (Leppanen)

Moved to the March 12th Work Session

3. Discussion and Vote on Resolutions Relating to Compliance Provisions for the Equal Justice Government to Government Environmental Protection Agency Grant (Nelson/Leppanen)

Nelson explained the need for a formal resolution that addresses access for all, including those with limited English and disabilities. The town attorney, Chris McAnany, drafted the policy. Davila motioned to accept the resolution as presented, Hornsby seconded and Leppanen, Sosa, Hornsby and Davila voted in favor. Nelson also presented the draft of the partnership agreement from McAnany that covers federal regulations the town and UDB must follow, including our procurement policy. She urged the Council members to consider the elements contained in it. Leppanen will send questions and thoughts from the Council to

McAnany and it will be covered in the joint meeting with UDB on March 12th. March 15th is the date the agreement and contract with the EPA must be delivered. Leppanen noted this does not amend or change the original agreement with UDB.

4. Discussion of Bureau of Land Management Canyon Country District Office and United States Department of Agriculture Forest Service Consulting Agencies Meeting on April 4, 2024 at the Hideout in Monticello, Utah (Leppanen)

There was some confusion about if this replaced a March meeting or if there are two meetings. Hornsby will clarify with the BLM and is available for both meetings.

5. Update on March 22, 2024 Active Shooter Drill at the Bluff Elementary School (Nelson/Leppanen)

Sosa will send out an alert informing the town of this event prior to March 22nd. Nelson and Leppanen have been attending the planning meetings. It is similar to last year's drill and will start at 1:00 p.m. after students have left. Gary Lichtenstein is coordinating entities. Nelson noted it is a great deal of work to plan and set up.

6. Update on Utah Dine Bikeyah and Town of Bluff Design Review Committee Meetings and Current Status of the Environmental Justice Government to Government Grant (Nelson/Leppanen)

Nelson noted a really positive meeting that included Leppanen, Davila, Janet Slowman-Chee and Melanie Daniels. The original joint meeting was to be March 7th but Dr. Chee asked for more time for the UDB Board to consider the agreement between entities and the contract with the EPA. The meeting will be March 12th from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Bound packets containing background material and all pertinent and grant information will be given to the Council and UDB Board members. Nelson and Daniels are working together on the packets. Timelines, grants, the partnership and a vision statement will be discussed. This is a critical meeting and the deadline for signing the EPA grant is approaching.

New Business

7. Inquiry from Moab to Monument Valley Film Commission Regarding Banners for 75 Years of Film (Nelson)

Nelson received this request as have Blanding and Monticello. The Council noted Bluff does not have infrastructure for this kind of vertical banners but could accept three or four and will reach out to the Arts Festival team.

8. Update on Bears Ears Marathon Hosted by Blanding - November 2, 2024 (Nelson)

Last year's race was successful but there are pieces that need to be improved. Discussion has started with Ben Muhlestein of Blanding including shuttles, a medical tent, water stations, signage, etc. Leppanen will help Muhlestein meet with Ben Hinkley of UDOT for support and safety, especially through Cow Canyon. She explained UDOT is willing to help with safety issues but needs to be involved months in advance. She thanked the Fort for covering the finish line last year.

9. Request from Women's Business Center of Utah to Waive Fees for BCC 3-Hour Rental on Wednesday, June 12, 2024 (Nelson)

Nelson noted this group has great resources and will also meet in Blanding and Monticello. It is moved to the work session.

10. Report on San Juan County Commission Meeting of March 5, 2024 (Nelson/Leppanen)

Nothing related to Bluff.

11. Report on Bluff's Planning and Zoning Commission Meeting (Hook)

Moved to the March 12th Work Session

12. Report on February 27, 2024 Opening of Community Center Emergency Food Pantry

Twelve families were served representing 27 people. Many locals have signed up to volunteer. Leppanen explained the year-long lease for both CC and CCC locations. The Food Pantry yard sale is at the CC pavilion March 16th.

13. Other

Reminder of Joint Meeting with UDB from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., Work Session from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. and Regular Meeting from 4 :00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. on March 12, 2024.

At 4:47 p.m. Davila motioned to close the meeting, Hornsby seconded and Leppanen, Sosa, Hornsby and Davila voted in favor.

Linda Sosa Recording Officer

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