

Bluff Town Council Work Session Minutes
June 4, 2024
Bluff Community Center at 10:30 a.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.
This meeting was held virtually

The meeting started at 10:31 a.m.

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

1. Review and Discussion of FY 2024 Amended Budget

Nelson explained several changes and will update the amended budget when the May financial report is final. The Road budget was discussed, Michael Haviken has made contact with several professional engineering services and will have numbers soon. The office clerk's computer needs to be replaced because of age and Leppanen would like to get a laptop for the CCC project manager so it is waiting for them when they are hired. Other computers will need replacement in FY 2026. Leppanen asked that the budgets be voted on June 11th before the start of the Work Session. The budgets are due with the State June 22nd.

2. Review and Discussion of FY 2025 Tentative Budget

Nelson noted the revenue has not changed. The EMS fundraiser at the Fort is the same but it is a pass through to the EMTs this year. CivicPlus was dropped.

3. Discussion of Business Owners of Bluff and Bluff Fire Department's Budget Requests

The Bluff Fire Department requested \$25,000, the same as last year. Consensus was \$15,000 with revisiting the amount mid-year and looking into grants. Business Owners of Bluff funding increased from \$3,000 to \$5,000 with a higher ask but Leppanen is concerned with the cost of litigation later in the year and how that would be a very large amount of money. Hook asked about adding playground equipment to the budget and it was decided it could be added to Capital Projects as a future project. Leppanen noted the elementary school equipment is available. Jocelyn Meyers will present playground

options to Utah Dine Bikeyah at the DRC meeting this afternoon. A specific location is needed in order to apply for grants and the two seem to be the Community Center and CCC, although construction will be going on at that site for several years. Hornsby noted it would not be in the budget but would be part of fiscal planning. New playgrounds can be as much as \$100,000.

The meeting paused at 11:09 a.m.

The meeting resumed at 11:16 a.m.

4. Discussion of Environmental Justice Government to Government Grant Project Manager, Note Taker, Bookkeeper Positions

Nelson explained the job of project manager was offered to an applicant but that person declined the job so it will be reposted to a wider area until it is filled. We do have access to EPA funds now and can send out RFPs. The application for bookkeeper/note taker will also be posted. Both positions will also be on the town website. Sosa noted a bookkeeper can be trained and sent to SLC to be trained on the accounting program. Sosa would help with training as she is transitioning out.

5. Discussion of Environmental Concerns at 6th West

Hook gave a brief description of the alley, road and trail at 6th West. Davila asked if the erosion is from natural elements or from the Trail cut. Leppanen will check with Haviken to see about the future road engineer addressing the problem and whether part of it is a town property.

6. Comments for Bears Ears National Monument Management (BENM) Plan

Hornsby wrote and sent a response to the plan to Council members. It supported alternate e and he based it on input and concerns from locals, also included guidance from the FAA about our airport, wood cutting permits and a way to speed up the Special Recreation Permit process. Consensus was it was straightforward well done. One sentence was removed.

At 11:54 a.m. Hornsby motioned to close the meeting, Hook seconded and Leppanen, Sosa, Davila, Hook and Hornsby voted in favor.

Linda Sosa Recording Officer

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