

Bluff Town Council Regular Meeting Minutes

July 2, 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.

This meeting was held virtually and in person.

The meeting started at 4:02 p.m.

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

Approval of Bluff Town Council Meeting Minutes of June 18, 2024

Davila motioned to accept the minutes as presented, Hornsby seconded and Leppanen, Sosa, Hook, Davila, and Hornsby voted in favor

Public Comment:

Hook announced that UDOT has been awarded a 9.6-million-dollar federal grant for designing and planning trails connecting Montezuma Creek, Bluff and Mexican Hat.

Leppanen thanked everyone who helped with storm caused issues.

Unfinished Business:

1. Introduction of Judith Oki and Julie DeLong from Pathways (Leppanen); Review and Discussion of the Town of Bluff's Strategic Plan (Oki/DeLong)

Leppanen introduced Oki and DeLong and explained they meet with the Council quarterly to support progress on the strategic plan. Oki went through the elements of the plan, sustainability, town government, livability, and mindful growth. From the last check-in in February Oki noted a vision statement and compliance enforcement were still pending. Discussions included progress updates, completions, action items and revisions along with a timeline and persons working on the issues. They noted it is helpful to look at the plan this way because it becomes apparent that a lot of work is being done. The Council thanked Oki and DeLong for their help.

5. (Moved) Update from Roads Committee (Hook/Haviken/Leppanen)(Haviken at 4:45 p.m.)

Haviken reported the County contacted him and they are now working to fill 40 potholes in town; they estimated 40 hours but it could end up being less. He met with an engineer from Jones and Demille and looked at problems at the Calf Canyon road, 7th West and other areas, they will send a proposal and timeline. Leppanen noted getting information from them for immediate needs and an overall report of drainage is needed and suggested an August work session. Hook added grading needs and cattleguards upkeep.

2. Status of Environmental Justice Government to Government Grant and Report on Design Review Committee (DRC) Meeting on June 25, 2024 (Nelson/Davila/Leppanen)

Nelson reported no new grant updates and the need for UDB's completion of a SAMs number to be able to move forward. She is working on a RFP (Request for Proposal) for architectural services for the CCC and is working with the DRC to get it out to bid. She is posting weekly minutes to the Council, Board and on the Town website.

3. Report on Status of Interviews for Environmental Justice Government to Government Project Manager, Bookkeeper for the Town of Bluff, and Notetaker for the Town of Bluff (Nelson/All)

Nelson reported that three bookkeeper/notetaker interviews took place earlier in the day and went well. There was one qualified applicant for project manager, Malia Collins, who was interviewed by Nelson, Davila, Janet Slowman-Chee, and Davis Filfred. Their recommendation is to extend the job offer to Collins but the next step is for the UDB board to vote on it which will happen on Monday. The Council will vote at the July 9th meeting.

4. Update on San Juan County's Proposed Ordinances and Public Hearing (Leppanen)

Melissa Riggs, our County Planning & Zoning representative, let the Town know the hearing will be rescheduled because the draft is not complete.

5. Update from Roads Committee (Hook/Haviken/Leppanen)(Haviken at 4:45 p.m.)

Covered earlier.

New Business:

6. Discussion of Emergency Services and Plan, Including Need for Sandbags (Nelson)

Nelson reported that Fire Chief Lott asked the County for sandbag and received push back; they said if the mayor was not available, the Town Manager needed to make the request. A flow chart was suggested and Leppanen explained that there is a strict hierarchy to follow. If the situation is more than Bluff can handle, it goes to the County, then the State, then FEMA. This must be strictly followed in order to get reimbursement. Nelson will write grants for a fixed generator and a portable generator.

Hook noted the retention pond and storm water system worked well. Several geographical hazards were discussed.

7. Status and Discussion of Solstice Flood; Plan for Engineering Services (Nelson/All)

Covered. Michael Haviken is waiting for an engineering proposal.

8. Discussion of Applying for AmeriCorps Team for This Year (All)

Leppanen was contacted by Justin Mazzola about a team for this year. Consensus was there will be construction and other things happening, so this is not a good year.

9. Other

Hook announced she would work with the team from Canyon Country Discovery Center to remove Giant Cane. This is State mandated and people can contact her to get on the list.

At 5:29 p.m. Davila motioned to close the meeting, Hornsby 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