

Bluff Town Council Special Meeting Minutes

September 16, 2024

Bluff Community Center at 8:30 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 Notic Website.

This meeting was held virtually and in person.

The meeting was called to order at 8:33 a.m.

Roll Call

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

Public Comment

There were no public comments made at this meeting.

Agenda

1. Discussion of 'Acquisition and Redevelopment Agreement' Between the Town of Bluff and Utah Diné Bikéyah and Current Status of Grants and Architectural Services

Mayor Leppanen began the meeting by reporting on the Friday September 13, 2024, joint meeting with Utah Diné Bikéyah. In that meeting the Utah Diné Bikéyah Board Chairman Davis Filfred informed the Town Council that Utah Diné Bikéyah will not be moving forward with the approval of the architectural services bid for the Cooperative Cultural Center until they had sought legal advice. Mayor Leppanen considered that action an impasse and announced to the Joint Meeting the Town would pursue mediation between the partners. Mayor Leppanen informed the Council her objective for this meeting is to determine at what point the Council would like to meet with the Towns' legal representative to pursue mediation, and to discuss the difference between the bidding process and the partnership mediation. Each of the Council members expressed their opinions on the joint meeting, informed each other of new information they learned since Friday, and discussed the timeline for pursuing mediation. The consensus was to wait until after the September 17, 2024, Town Council Regular Meeting to consult with the Town's Attorney. Mayor Leppanen then moved the discussion to how the Council distinguishes between the mediation process and the bidding process for Architectural services for the Cooperative Cultural Center. The Council considered the funding sources the Town had sought independently, the language of the Request for Proposals, and the possibility of continuing with the Architectural bidding process while the mediation process unfolds. The Council considered what moving forward with the architectural bids meant in general for the project and how that would impact the Town's financial interests. The Council expressed concern at possibly losing momentum on the Cooperative Cultural Center project and hoped to keep moving forward. The Design Review Committee has been cancelled while mediation is pursued, however, a CCC working group will remain active to manage the Town's interests in the building.

2. Other/Adjourn

Council Member Hornsby motioned to adjourn and Council Member Hook Seconded. There was no discussion on the motion and Council Members Hornsby, Hook, Sosa, Leppanen, and Davila voted in favor.

The motion passed unanimously, and the meeting adjourned at 9:08 a.m.