

POST Meeting Minutes

April 8, 2020

CALL TO ORDER

The POST Committee was called to order at 4:05 pm by Chair Cindy Bruce. Members present included Cindy Bruce, Jason Groves, Julie Kolar, and Paul Hilts. The meeting was held electronically via Zoom Conferencing. Glenn Drummond joined the meeting after it was started. Carol Hawk was absent.

Staff present included Susan Philp, Planning Director; James Lindt, Assistant Planning Director; Watkins Fulk-Gray, Staff Planner; and Brian Passenti, Basalt Parks and Recreation Director.

Guests included Toni Kronberg, citizen, and Jacob Baker, Roaring Fork Outdoor Volunteers (RFOV).

AGENDA ITEMS

Minutes of March 25, 2020

M/S Jason and Paul to approve minutes. Approved by a vote of 4 to 0.

Updates on POST Projects

Susan informed POST that all department heads have been told to prepare a list of potential budget cuts. POST funds are from sales tax. Susan advised that she was asked to prepare a Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) showing a 50% reduction in sales tax for POST. The Town cannot spend funds that have not been collected. Susan shared her screen to identify projects in a spreadsheet that are proposed to be deferred or reduced. The proposed CIP still reflects spending \$1.3 million this year to purchase the Basalt River Park property. The Town may start preparing an RFP for River Park construction, but the Town's consultants will not be engaged to do the final document preparation yet. Park improvements in the Basalt River Park may need to be phased.

Susan said that the Town is hopeful that it can do minor trail improvements near Aspen Junction.

Susan said that the Town is hoping to move ahead with improvements to the skate park.

The RFOV hopes to construct a small bridge to one of the braided islands on Town-owned Sopris Meadows Parcel 10 in May for the Town.

Susan said that the Town has had trouble trying to replace certain benches at Linear Park, as the specific models are not made anymore. They are still working on this.

Susan said she hopes that they can hang onto funding for Arbaney Park pool improvements for 2020.

- The heating/boiler question needs to be resolved.
- The pool plaster project is deferred to the spring of 2021.
- ADA improvements, including a new lift will be \$11k to be installed this year. Building the ADA ramp and pony wall will be a spring 2021 project.
- The hope is for the water line easement agreement with the School District to get approved by the school board soon, because the water line will partly go through School District property. The proposed easement on school district property includes language about noticing the District's intent for buildings with foundations where water line is. The new water line will be funded half by POST funds and half from water funds.
- The plan is to complete locker room improvements in 2020 after the pool closes for the year.

Paul asked where the water line to the pool will be, and Susan explained that it's through an access road on the east side of the Middle School. The Town does not think there will really be a new building on this site, as the school District recently spent approximately \$200k on the playground adjacent to the road. The District just wants to not be tied down. James said that the District has no plans at all right now to build over the water line.

The \$50,000 shown this year for the Shooting range was left alone. However, the \$500,000 of shooting range improvements shown for 2021 was pushed out to 2022. Paul asked what the \$50,000 is for that is programmed for 2020. Susan said that it is for feasibility studies, such as for moving the gun range (appraisals, enclosing it, etc.). The current Town Council wants to turn Lake Christine into a recreation area and restore the lake level. Susan will talk to Ryan about whether the Town still plans on using funds to do this. Julie said the gun range funding was part of a cooperative approach.

Susan said that the Town recently discovered that someone had put some gravel fill in the Roaring Fork River which is part of the Sopris Meadows Parcel 10 property.

Cindy asked if there a date for River Park purchase. Susan said that the hope was early October, but Tim Belinski wants to wait until the floodplain letter of map revision (LOMR) is finalized. He has 180 days from date of approval to close with Town unless that is extended.

James discussed Willits Lake. Town Staff has for years had an unwritten policy not allowing recreation on the lake. A few years ago, a child got in the lake and had trouble getting out, and a Public Works employee had to save the child. The lake is deep because it's an old gravel pit. Lakeside Townhome covenants don't allow recreation on the lake. Last year a Lakeside owner was interested in the Town enforcing the no recreation covenant, so Staff did research and found that the covenant language prohibited owners from recreating, but not other people.

Since it's Town property, Staff thinks there should be a formal policy not allowing recreation on the lake until it gets finished in the future. Susan noted that there aren't posted park rules anywhere except at the skate park.

Cindy asked if people will be able to recreate on it eventually? Susan responded that this is for discussion with POST, P&Z, and Town Council. The owner who got in touch with the Town is concerned about wildlife habitat and wants to prohibit recreation. The lake has been dedicated to the Town, but we haven't accepted the improvements yet. Cindy asked whether it is a problem, and whether there a lot of people that use it. Susan has never seen anyone out in the lake and Glenn added that he hasn't either. Glenn just wants clarity on whether people can use it or not. Julie said the area feels forgotten since it's not done but has been this way for a long time.

Susan discussed Light Hill. The Roaring Fork Outdoor Volunteers (RFOV) had trail work a scheduled project but can't do it now because of COVID-19. It has been pushed back to October. In the interim, Ron Rash and one of his workers will go out and slowly work on some trail realignment. Anyone who wants to help can let Ron Rash know. They are hoping to start as soon as COVID-19 restrictions are lifted. They also want to do footbridge on Parcel 10 for the Town.

James discussed parks in Stotts Mill. A north park and south park were included in the 2017 approval. The approval included a tennis court and multi-purpose court, but the tennis coach at the high school wants an amendment to have four tennis courts so they can have tennis tournaments there. She is working with the developer on this. This will be brought back to POST in the future. Julie asked the general timeline for Stotts Mill is. James said the timing of park improvements is when half of the units get certificates of occupancy. The North Park must be built first. Vested rights expire at the end of 2020. The women's tennis coach wants to apply for grants to build the courts. Brian added that she is looking for grants to cover design costs too.

Public comment

Toni Kronberg said great job and said to be safe.

Jacob Baker from RFOV introduced himself as its communications director. Although there will be changes in programming, they are still planning on having a summer season with groups not bigger than 10 at the end of May. He is excited about working with POST. Susan asked him to talk about the Light Hill project. He said Ron knows more about the plan for this project, but that RFOV will be putting a lot of effort into recruiting volunteers for this one.

M/S Glenn and Julie to adjourn at 5:15 pm. Motion carried by a vote of 5 to 0.

Next meeting: April 22, 2020