



DATE: September 18, 2020
TO: Mayor and Council
FROM: Ryan Mahoney, Town Manager
RE: Weekly Update
CC: Department Heads

Staff met with all department heads this week to review department budget and prepare for the draft budget presentation to Council, scheduled for October 13th. We continue to align expenses with the draft 2021 Work Plan, which was discussed by Council earlier this week. Fiscal year 2021 is shaping up to be very busy but many exciting projects are on the horizon.

Staff sent out the business survey to several local businesses that have been affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. We are seeking feedback from businesses as we near the winter. The results will be used to help inform staff and Council on the best use of the remaining CARES Act money, which includes approximately \$50,000 for business assistance.

The School District is reconsidering their previous push to bring K-3 back to school on September 28th. The new [Data Metrics System](#) from the state is being used (in addition to input from local health officials) as a gauge to help guide the District in their decision regarding when to return kids to school.

Please refer to the [Risk Meter](#) for Eagle County, which is still in the “Comfortable” stage and the Pitkin County [Coronameter](#), which is still in the “Cautious” stage. Add State Corona meter

Fire restriction in both Eagle and Pitkin Counties has been downgraded to Stage I as of today. The fuel moisture is still low, and the Sheriff’s offices and Fire Departments are urging extreme caution.

Mayor Kane and I visited the new TACAW building site today with Executive Director, Ryan Honey and Michael Lipkin. The project is coming along well and getting to see the project in this phase is very impressive. This is going to be an amazing addition to the Town.



Police

The Police Department has concluded our investigation into the assault that took place on Evans Court. Several officers have been subpoenaed to testify at a preliminary hearing next week in Eagle.

We assisted the elementary school with a fire drill and full-scale evacuation drill. Teachers and students did a great job following our emergency operations plan.

We have increased traffic enforcement and motorist education near the elementary and middle schools since additional students will be returning to school later this month.

We have begun advertising for two open positions at the police department. We hope to hold interviews in mid-October.

Planning

2020 Census – Staff continues to participate in the Aspen to Parachute Complete Count Committee (A2PCCC). The deadline to respond to the Census is September 30.

Early Childhood Coalition - The Coalition met on Friday and discussed next steps for proceeding with plans for the development of Parcel 2E and other capacity efforts, as well as what an abbreviated Needs Assessment might look like until a more regional approach can be completed.

Green Team – At Monday's meeting the Green Team discussed its proposed 2021 workplan, including large Capital projects. The Green Team was interested in pursuing transportation-related projects and had a significant discussion around electric buses and fleet vehicles. Staff had a meeting with CORE to discuss the SolSmart program progress and its relationship to the DOLA grant, as well as education and outreach opportunities that CORE could provide or act as a partner with the Green Team, Holy Cross, etc.

BACH – The Commission completed a recommendation to Town Council regarding the emergency rental assistance for discussion at the September 22nd Council meeting. BACH also discussed and voted on a recommendation to Council regarding Habitat for Humanity's application regarding an amendment to the R-4 MD Zone District.

POST – POST is scheduled for a worksession with the Council on September 22nd to discuss their 2021 work plan and budget, along with the 5-year Capital Improvements Plan for POST projects. They will also be discussing 2020 accomplishments. The bid documents for the Arbaney Park pool improvement project are available and a pre-bid meeting is scheduled for Monday. Additional work is being scheduled for Parcel 10 in Willits and in Ponderosa Park. Trail work is going on around Willits Lake and will be scheduled for next week in Arbaney Park.

BPAC – BPAC will meet with Town Council on September 22 to discuss its proposed 2021 work plan and budget. Staff and BPAC are continuing to try to find new homes for the five Motio pieces that will be decommissioned on September 25th.

Block 4, Willits Town Center – The foundation permit was issued for Steadman Clinic. A pre-construction meeting was held with representatives from the Town, Mid-Valley Metro District, and the contractor present.

Development Review/Applications – At the September 15th P&Z meeting, the P&Z reviewed and recommended approval of an amendment to the R-4 MD Zone District to increase the house size for two-level, two-bedroom units in fully deed-restricted projects. This amendment was requested by Habitat for Humanity for the Basalt Vista Project. The P&Z also recommended approval of a proposed solar array on the Tree Farm property in Eagle County on September 15th. Lot J in the Basalt Commercial Park is also in for review involving a PUD amendment, ESA review, and sketch site specific development plan review to construct a building consisting of twelve (12) residential units at the end of Emma Road near Basalt River Lofts.

Recreation

This week we have finished up T-ball with Maurine Fitzpatrick. We had 8 participants and did not fill up the offering. The same can be said for the Outdoor Skills and Trail Building offering from RFOV that was cancelled with just one participant. Riverscapes, an art offering through Roaring Fork Conservancy, did have 4 participants this week. Junior Golf is both at its max participation for this week and next week's offerings. We are starting to see some private lessons request for tennis instruction with Diana Eliot. Staff have reached out to the valley wide recreation departments to get a feel for what later fall, and winter may look like for sports and recreation. It is still too early to say but we are planning as though we will be able to play.

The pool will be winterized this next week. It has been completely drained and prepped for this work. We will hold off on the winter cover until after the Arbaney Park Pool remodel bid walk throughs are complete.