



DATE: April 29, 2022
TO: Mayor and Council
FROM: Ryan Mahoney, Town Manager
RE: Weekly Update
CC: Department Heads

Pitkin County Telecommunications Manager, Jeff Krueger, indicated this week that they now have a contractor to build out fiber in east Basalt. The plan is to start that work in mid-June. Holy Cross Energy has resumed their build which will interconnect with the grant funded cooperative build that Pitkin County and the Town of Basalt are undertaking.

Our new Planning Director, Michelle Thibeault started this week and is getting settled into her new position. We have been getting her up to speed on several ongoing projects and tasks. We are happy to have her on board. Welcome Michelle!

Police

This week we continued our efforts to educate Basalt High School students on the dangers of impaired driving. We set up an obstacle course to have students drive golf carts through, while wearing “drunk goggles”. These goggles simulate varying levels of intoxication. Thank you to school staff for assisting and to the Roaring Fork Club for donating the use of golf carts.



With the school year coming to an end, the Police Department will be assisting at the following school events:

April 29th – Bon Fire at Basalt High School

April 29th – Middle School Dance

April 29th – High School Prom which will be held in Carbondale. Our School Resource Officer will be in attendance.

Town Manager Ryan Mahoney and Chief Greg Knott met with Eagle County representatives and the general contractor for the Tree Farm construction project. This was our second meeting to discuss possible construction impacts on the Town and how to potentially decrease the impacts.

Next week, Chief Knott and other chiefs from across the United States will be attending the Federal Bureau of Investigations National Command Course. Chief Knott was nominated by the Colorado FBI Agent in Charge. This is only the second time this training has been offered. The weeklong training will be held in Quantico, Virginia. All costs for the training are being paid for by the FBI.

Public Works

Public Works worked with the Building and Administrative staff to start on the remodel of the town hall kitchen. Demolition, wiring, construction, and paint is ongoing and will soon be complete. The goal is to have the kitchen finished by next week.

The new water main in the River Park was put into service this week. The main had to be highly chlorinated and allowed to make contact with the pipe and water. Then the highly chlorinated water is removed, and a water sample is taken to a lab to check for any biological residuals. Once the water sample has cleared, staff performs a pressure test and if that passes then the new line is connected to the existing main.

The contractor that was doing crack seal work on the Town's streets is finished. The crack seal process is part of our annual maintenance program. Hot tar poured into cracks by the contractor is done to help keep water out and prevent the freeze/thaw cycle from doing damage.

The Town Engineer and Public Works performed a wal-through with the contractor this week on the 1A initial phase of the new Public Works property. Everything checked out with minor adjustments suggested. The second phase of the work 1B will begin shortly after the Engineer and Public Works supply more information to the contractor.

Planning

Basalt Center Circle Application – The Applicant has submitted a final plan application and Staff has referred it out to the Town's referral agencies for review.

Basalt River Park Improvements – Walters Inc. has wrapped up their work on Phase I of Basalt River Park. The architects on the bandshell and bus station/restroom continue to work on the designs for those elements of the park. POST reviewed the draft designs for the bandshell, misting feature, and bus shelter/restroom and provided feedback at their meeting on March 23rd. Staff put out an RFP for the Phase II installation and Town Council approved a contract with Rocky Mountain Custom Landscapes at the April 12th meeting. Staff went to Council this week for the approval of ID Sculptures contract for the misting feature. Work on Phase II of the Basalt River Park should begin in the next week or two.

Midland Avenue Streetscape Project – Staff is meeting weekly with the Connect One Design Team and Stutsman-Gerbaz. The design team met with BPAC on April 7th to gain comments on the project. There was a pop-up booth seeking public input located on Codger's Corner the first week in April. The design team held a three-day charrette on April 18-20th and met with a variety of stakeholders in conducting the charrette. The design team and Planning Staff once again met with Police Department and Roaring Fork Fire and Rescue Authority representatives to discuss their parameters on the project, as well as Eagle and Pitkin County's Road and Bridge Departments. A community survey was also posted on the website to gain further input from the community on the project, but it has ended and the data has been collected. The Design Team is currently working on the development of 3 conceptual plans which will be presented

to P&Z and Council in a work session on May 10th. An open house for the project will be held in conjunction with Motors on Midland on Saturday, May 14th.

Green Initiatives and the Town of Basalt Photovoltaic and Energy Storage Project –McKinstry conducted site visits of the potential sites on March 16th. Staff and McKinstry continue to work with Holy Cross Energy, the school district, CORE and members of the Green Team on the project. McKinstry has provided a cost/benefit analysis on a handful of sites for Town Staff’s review. Staff is scheduled to meet with the School District representatives next week to discuss the feasibility of the some of the PV concepts on the School District’s properties.

The first of two new EV chargers have been installed. This level 2 charger has been installed along Two Rivers Road, across from Free Range. A second, level 3 charger, will be installed on Midland Spur next to the exiting level 3 charger later this spring.



Other Basalt Forward 2030 Support – Town Planning Staff also provided support to the Manager for the Basalt Forward 2030 projects.

Mid-Valley Center Lot 4 – Phase 1A of the Project has been completed, and the landscaping has been installed. Town Staff and Gould are moving forward with final design of the foundation and building. The building construction will occur later this summer.

Basalt River Park Development LLC – A full building permit was issued on the Gallery Building which includes commercial, apartments, and the affordable housing units.

BACH – The BACH Commission had a continued discussion with Michael Lipkin and the development team for Sopris Meadows Parcel 5. BACH made a recommendation on the layout and mix of the units but continued their discussion to their next meeting on the Applicant’s request for adjustments to the income and asset caps on their proposed second affordable housing building.

Development Review/Applications – Staff also spent time on responding to administrative reviews, complaints and working on land use applications and building permits.

144 Midland Building Color Change – As noted previously, Town Staff received notice from the owner of the Kelly Building at 144 Midland Avenue that they plan to change the color of the building to a gray color. Town Staff notes that the Town does not regulate color of buildings in the Town Code.