



DATE: May 6, 2022
TO: Mayor and Council
FROM: Ryan Mahoney, Town Manager
RE: Weekly Update
CC: Department Heads

Staff attended a stakeholder meeting for the Roaring Fork Wildfire Collaborative this week where the mission statement and vision statement were refined. This group includes stakeholders from throughout the Roaring Fork Valley with an aim to identify projects that create resilient landscapes. The Town Manager has been participating on a sub-committee aimed at addressing environmental justice, equity and inclusion into the overall framework of the Collaborative.

Police

This week, Chief Knott is in Fredricksburg, VA, attending the FBI National Command Course.

Last week, Officer Lilly completed a course to become a certified driving instructor. By doing so, he can officially assist our Officers in driver training, as well as adding to the cadre of other instructors we train with other upper valley agencies.

Last Friday, we held an Oral Board Interview for applicants for our two open positions. We are happy to report two applicants received a 'thumbs up' from the panel and will be continuing in the hiring process.

On Saturday, we held another Community Academy class. Officer Clayton and Sgt. Santiago presented at the class, on the topic of Fit for Duty and Defensive Tactics.



This coming Friday and Saturday, Officer Hegberg and Lt. Munch will be presenting a class to our BHS Senior girls in self-defense. The class is offered to seniors to prepare them for potential dangers when going off to new areas for college or careers.

Public Works

Public Works is getting the parks and pool ready for the summer season. We will be cleaning and placing tables in Pocket Park (Whole Foods) in Willits for people to use. The large pool at Arbaney Park is looking good and staff is preparing the robot pool for the use. Public Works repaired a reported irrigation leak across from the skate park and continued to help with the Townhall remodel.

Public Works Forestry Department worked with a contractor this week to do fire mitigation around the Water Filter Plant. There were quite a few trees that did not recover from the Lake Christine Fire and some dead fall that had to be removed from the spring box access road. The trees are cut down and ground up into mulch on site.

Two Public Works employees attended the Colorado Rural Water Conference this week. It is a great opportunity to receive continuing education to maintain the licenses needed to be a Certified Water Operator in the State of Colorado. The course work involves classroom education from 8 am. to 5 pm. and an opportunity to receive training from vendors in the industry.

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. Work on Phase II of the Basalt River Park by RMCL should begin in the next week.

Midland Avenue Streetscape Project – the Design Team, CM/GC, Phil Vaughan, acting as the owner’s representative for the Town, and Town staff, have been moving the Midland Avenue Streetscape Project forward. As part of the public outreach for the Project a pop-up booth seeking public input was manned on Midland, the Let’s Talk Basalt website was updated to provide information on the project, and a first community survey was released. The Design Team has also been meeting with various stakeholder groups, and the owners/managers of the properties along Midland to gain their input. The Design Team has formulated 3 conceptual plans which will be presented to P&Z and Council in a work session on May 10th. Additionally, the concepts will be presented to POST on May 11th. 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 –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 met with the School District representatives this week to discuss the feasibility of the some of the PV concepts on the School District’s properties.

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.

Parcel 5, Sopris Meadows Application- The Planning and Zoning Commission reviewed the Parcel 5, Sopris Meadows Preliminary Plan Application this week and made a recommendation. The Council is scheduled to review the Application at the May 24th Town Council meeting.

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.