



DATE: July 8, 2022
TO: Mayor and Council
FROM: Ryan Mahoney, Town Manager
RE: Weekly Update
CC: Department Heads

The Eagle County Commissioners are scheduled to start review of The Fields development which proposes 135 residences located off Valley Road just across from Blue Lake Subdivision. The meeting starts at 2:30 PM at the Eagle County Annex near Crown Mountain Park.

Crown Mountain Park staff and board of directors are gathering input from the public for a new master plan for the facility. This will be held on July 13th from 6 to 7:15 pm at the Eagle County Annex.

I attended a regional wildfire meeting this week. We are looking at bringing a memorandum of understanding (MOU) to our elected bodies for review. The group is a collaboration of local, state and federal governments, nonprofits and other stakeholders. The focus of the group is to identify, at a "landscape level", various mitigation projects and would benefit the region. Having this group assembled will also allow for competitive grant applications to assist with project costs.

Police

Our School Resource Officer, Jason Hegberg, is attending a weeklong National School Resource Officer conference in Denver. 1,500 School Resource Officers from across the United States are attending to receive advanced training in school safety, law enforcement operations, student and facility threat assessments, mental health response and emergency response. SRO Hegberg also serves on the board of directors for the Colorado Association of School Resource Officers.

Officer Justin Clayton is the recipient of our First Half 2022 Standing Six Award. Officer Clayton was nominated by fellow staff members for his dedication to the Town and his efforts to thoroughly investigate every call for service he receives. Officer Clayton has also taken a lead role for our Community Police Academy and is becoming an excellent instructor. Congratulations Justin!



Chief Greg Knott participated in a multidisciplinary meeting with The Colorado News Collaborative. This organization represents local news and media outlets in the Roaring Fork Valley. The goal of this initial meeting was to explore opportunities to improve media coverage and outreach to our Spanish speaking community. The group also discussed ideas to increase engagement by the Latino community. More meetings and community outreach sessions will be held over the summer.

Next Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday Chief Knott will be attending the annual conference for the Colorado Association of Chiefs of Police. Over the last year he has served as president for the Association. His tenure will end on Tuesday evening as the chief of police for Louisville Police Department will take over the role of president.

Planning

Basalt Center Circle (BCC) Application – The Applicant has submitted a final plan application and Staff referred it out to the Town’s referral agencies for review. The Planning and Zoning Commission completed their review of the BCC Final Plan Application. The BCC Final Plan Application is scheduled for initial review by the Council in July.

Basalt River Park Improvements – The architects on the bandshell and bus station/restroom continue to work on the designs for those elements of the park. The bandshell and bus station/restroom designs are being finalized. Work on Phase II of the Basalt River Park by RMCL has begun, topsoil is being delivered to bring the site to final grade, irrigation is being installed, and the second shipment of trees was delivered on July 8th.

Midland Avenue Streetscape Project – the Design Team and Town staff, have been moving the Midland Avenue Streetscape Project forward. The Design Team has been meeting with various stakeholder groups, and the owners/managers of the properties along Midland to gain their input. The Design Team has formulated conceptual plans which were presented to POST, P&Z and Council. The Town posted an RFP for Owners Representative Services for the Project and received three (3) proposals. Staff interviewed the proposers this week and is bringing the contract with the preferred proposer to Council on the 12th.

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 review. McKinstry made a presentation to staff and representatives of the School District to discuss preferred options, the preferred options are now being developed to a 30% design level in preparation for seeking grant funding for the project.

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 –Town Staff and Gould are moving forward with permitting of the building. The building has been ordered, potholing and utility connections will begin next week.

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

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

Willits PUD Amendment Application- The Planning and Zoning Commission reviewed an application for a PUD Amendment to permit a retail marijuana store in the Willits General Store Building and made a recommendation to the Town Council. The Willits PUD Amendment application is scheduled for initial review by the Council in late July.

BPAC – The Commission held interviews with four applicants of BPAC’s yearly grant, including TACAW, The Art Base, Challenge America and Aspen Strong. BPAC will be bringing a recommendation to Council for consideration at the end of the month. BPAC also discussed the Call to Artists for a sculpture at the Basalt River Park, which will have some minor modifications before it is released to various local, then regional, and finally state-wide arts organizations.

NWCCOG – The group provided an update on the COG’s financials and reported out on 2022 loans. Topics of conversation included tiny home codes, solar and short-term rentals. Membership dues are proposed for the upcoming year at a minor increase, and Staff will provide that information to the Director for consideration of the upcoming budget planning.

Special Events – The annual National Night Out is scheduled this year for Tuesday, August 2nd at Triangle Park in Willits. The Community Recycling Event has just been finalized for Saturday, July 30th at the high school. Staff is working with Eagle County on advertising the event.

Public Works

Public Works in coordination with the Recreation Department received the last load of material to apply to the baseball fields. Public Works staff met the transport truck at the middle and elementary schools to help unload and spread the material. We are also working with Recreation to assess and make repairs to the Skate Park.

Basalt Sanitation District hired a contractor to remove a stuck jetter head from a citizen’s private service. Public Works issued a street cut permit and offered support. The contractor had to dig down 17ft. to remove the jetter head from below 380 Meadow Ln. Black Hills Entergy had to improve a natural gas main on Southside St. leading up to the high school. The work is now complete. The Stotts Mill development is starting to add curb and gutter and lay asphalt for the street infrastructure. Striping of the Town’s streets should be complete this week. Public Works is working with H R Green to coordinate traffic control on a large fiber conduit project.

Public Works has hired a contractor to do several fencing improvement projects and he is starting this week. We are adding a sound control fence at the pool to help lower the condenser noise. We are adding a fence at the water Filter Plant for additional security and improving some of the fence at Fairview Cemetery.

Recreation

Basalt Recreation was awarded a \$5,000 grant from the Pools Special Initiative grant funding administered by the Colorado Department of Local Affairs. The grants are aimed at keeping municipal pools open all summer amidst a shortage of lifeguards statewide. We will use this money to bolster lifeguard pay and incentivize lifeguards to work through whole pool season if they can. Also, a congratulations to the Basalt 7-8 year old baseball team, who won their first game this week! They topped Carbondale A 15-9 and have their first away game next week down in Glenwood.