



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

Police

We continue our background investigation for two police officer applicants. One applicant has passed all stages of our hiring process. We are waiting on the medical and psychological examination results for the other. We anticipate extending full job offers to both applicants next week. Once offers are accepted they will attend the Colorado Mountain College police academy which starts on August 22nd and ends on December 9th.

Lieutenant Aaron Munch attended a speaking engagement by 9th Judicial District Attorney Jeff Cheney. DA Cheney spoke at Tempranillo restaurant where he discussed challenges facing law enforcement in Colorado and the Roaring Fork Valley.

We are seeing more bears come into the Hillside District and Willits residential areas. Please do not leave non approved trash containers outside garages or enclosed and secured structures. As a reminder, any trash receptacle that is stored outside a garage or secured structure must be a certified container through the Interagency Grizzly Bear Committee. A list of certified containers can be found at: https://grizzlybear.wpengine.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/210723_Certified_Products_List.pdf

Our annual National Night Out community gathering, and BBQ will take place next Tuesday evening, August 2nd, 5:00 p.m., at Triangle Park in Willits. We will have a kid's bounce house, dunk tank, live entertainment, raffle with many prizes donated from Basalt businesses and staff from public and human services agencies in our area. We look forward to seeing you there!

On August 2nd and August 4th area law enforcement agencies along with fire and emergency medical services personnel will conduct active harmer training at Basalt High School. Basalt officers along with officers from Aspen PD, Snowmass Village PD and the Pitkin County Sheriff's Office will train together. There will be many police and emergency service vehicles at the high school on these two days.

Planning

Basalt Center Circle (BCC) Application – The Applicant 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. Town Council provided their initial review and continued the public hearing to July 26th. The Application received first reading approval on July 26th. A second is to be scheduled.

Basalt River Park Improvements – The architects on the bandshell continue to work on the designs for those elements of the park. The bandshell design is being finalized, and we are working with a contractor on final pricing. The bus shelter/restroom facility is out for bid and bids for construction are due in mid-

August. Work on Phase II of the Basalt River Park by RMCL is well underway. RMCL has installed the irrigation and planted a good portion of the trees that have been delivered in the plaza area. RMCL is working on preparing the great lawn for sod by scarifying the ground and placing topsoil.

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. Staff and the Design Team held meetings at Town Hall on July 22nd and July 27th to obtain more input from owners/managers of properties along Midland Avenue. A joint meeting with the P&Z/Town Council will be held on August 9th to discuss a preferred plan.

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.

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 medical and retail marijuana store in the Willits General Store Building and made a recommendation to the Town Council. The Application was approved on first reading at the July 26th Council meeting.

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 are underway.



Special Events – The annual National Night Out is scheduled this year for Tuesday, August 2nd at Triangle Park in Willits. The Community Recycling Event will take place *tomorrow*, July 30th at the high school from 9am – 1pm, and is intended for Basalt area residents, free of charge.

Water Utility Master Plan – Town staff issued an RFP for the development of a Basalt Water Utility Master Plan which will serve to inform the planning of capital improvements, operations and maintenance, and rate increases that may be necessary to help fund the water enterprise. Proposals are due August 10th.

Linear Park Irrigation – Town staff held a pre-bid meeting for the rebuilding of the Linear Park irrigation system, from an existing supply point of connection, including all pipe, valves, sprinkler components, wires and control clock. Bids for this project are due on July 29th.

Green Team – Staff attended a Finance Committee meeting of CC4CA where we reviewed the financials to date, discussed potential investment strategies and federal level lobbying, as well as the potential to support individual initiatives of member communities (such as Code amendments). Staff is reviewing a succession plan that was created by the Executive Director and will provide feedback, as requested, by next Friday.

Recreation

The Rec Baseball season wrapped up this week, with the T-Ballers having their final practices this Thursday and the 7-8 year old team finishing up with playoffs this week. T Ball continued to have really strong participation all year, which bodes well for the future for our rec teams! We are SO proud of our 7-8 year old team, who showed incredible improvement over the year. The team lost 15-14 to undefeated, 1st place, Aspen in the semi-finals; we were just 1 run away from the Championship game! We can't wait for another fun baseball season next summer!



Public Works

Public Works Forestry Department had the help of the Roaring Fork Outdoor Volunteers (RFOV) to help remove willows from around Old Pond. The group, which consisted of mainly middle school aged kids, helped remove two truckloads of overgrown vegetation. The willows will be combined with the other wood debris Public Works has collected from around town and taken to the Pitkin County Landfill and made into mulch.

Public Works has been working with the Recreation Department to do some repairs on the Skateboard Park. Every year we must do maintenance to keep the decking from rolling up on the edges. We have done so many repairs over the years that there is very little wood left to reattach to. This year we had some holes appear in the decking that we were able to fill with a commercial epoxy.

The Parks Department had to clean out and make a repair on an irrigation main at River Park behind Rocky Mountain Institute (RMI) this week with the water truck. Some repairs were made this week on the Town's affordable housing units and a repair was made to the furnace at Arbaney Park.