



DATE: October 13, 2022
TO: Mayor and Council
FROM: Ryan Mahoney, Town Manager
RE: Weekly Update
CC: Department Heads

Police

Bears continue to be in all areas of town and are looking for easy meals to prepare for hibernation. As a reminder, only use approved bear resistant trash containers if your container is stored outside an enclosed and secured structure. Officers are patrolling town and enforcing our Wildlife Protection Ordinance.

Officer Isabel Leach-Herrera is attending a five-day Field Training Officer certification course. Once completed she will be certified to perform new officer training duties for our department. With our two new recruits expected to complete police academy training, in December, Isabel will assist our other trainers during their three-month field training program.

Chief Greg Knott will be traveling to Dallas at the end of this week to attend the International Association of Chiefs of Police conference. 16,000 public safety officials, from around the world, attend the annual conference. Greg will also be presenting to the Psychological Services Division regarding the Colorado Chiefs of Police Peer Support Program that was implemented during his presidency with the Colorado Association of Chiefs of Police. This peer support program is unique to Colorado and we hope to spread the successful model.

Chief Knott met with staff from the Roaring Fork Conservancy to explore the feasibility of installing a stream gauge on the Fryingpan River at the Pueblo Bridge. Initial cost estimates have been obtained and our conversations continue to identify partners to complete this project.

This week we began our fourth quarter in-service training. All officers are participating in driver training and low light firearms training.

Planning

Basalt Center Circle (BCC) Application – The Application received second reading approval on August 23rd. Town Staff and the Applicant reviewed the “lightning bolt” sanitary sewer line concept and cost sharing proposal with the Basalt Sanitation District Board -- deal points were established for the Council’s review. Town Council reviewed and approved the presented deal points on the cost sharing proposal at the September 27th Council meeting. The Town approved deal points have been sent to the Sanitation District’s attorney for further discussion with the Sanitation District Board and potential formulation of an agreement. The Sanitation District Board reviewed a draft agreement this week and were accepting of the agreement. The agreement will be scheduled for review by the Council on October 25th.

Basalt River Park Improvements – Work on Phase II of the Basalt River Park by RMCL is well underway. RMCL has installed the irrigation, planted a significant portion of the trees and perennials, and installed

sod. RMCL is now working on the western extent of the park near the river. Fabrication on the park signage has also begun.

Staff readvertised the bus shelter/restroom facility project for Construction Management/General Contractor (CM/GC) services to refine the design and construction schedule to build the project within budget. One bid was received from FCI and Staff is working with the architects and FCI to meet the Town's budgetary requirements.

Staff has been working with the bandshell design team to create a design within budget. The goal is to create a space that can host events, as well as provide an integrated climbing structure.

Midland Avenue Streetscape Project – The Design Team and Town Staff have been moving the Midland Avenue Streetscape Project forward. On August 9th P&Z and Council provided direction to move into design of the preferred conceptual plan. This week the Planning Staff met with the Public Works Staff to evaluate the current design drawings related to the water system, snow storage, and landscaping. A 3rd party fire protection engineer is reviewing the current design as it relates to the effective life safety and fire protection aspects of the design. The CM/GC Team is working on developing a proposed construction phasing plan. The Design Team and staff will return to P&Z and Council with the 30% level in October/November.

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 made a presentation to staff and representatives of the school district to discuss preferred options. The final report summarizing the site analysis and preferred options is being finalized, and the selected sites are now being developed to a 30% design level. Staff and McKinstry submitted a DOLA grant application for the project. The project was presented to Council in early September.

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 four 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.

Mid-Valley Center Lot 4/Public Works Facility – Town Staff and Gould are moving forward with the construction of the building. The building has been ordered, utility connections have been made, and the foundation was poured. The pre-engineered steel building has arrived onsite and erection will start next week.

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. Staff received two proposals for this work from well qualified teams. The Council approved a contract with JVA, Inc. Staff has also been working on a Colorado River District grant application to help fund some of this work. A kick-off meeting for this project is being scheduled for next week.

Linear Park Irrigation – Town staff received two bids for the rebuilding of the Linear Park irrigation system. The project was awarded to RMCL by Council and work is well underway.

Whitewater Park Construction - Pitkin County started construction on improvements to Fisherman's Park and the area around the Whitewater Park. The improvements being made include improving the condition of the Fisherman's Park Boat Ramp, constructing a boardwalk between the Whitewater Park and the boat ramp, and improving the shoulder of Two Rivers Road by the boat ramp for better access to the boat ramp. Additionally, Pitkin County will be clearing sediment from the Whitewater Park structures and making slight adjustment to the in-river wave structures.

Community Events – The Annual Leaf Drop Event is set to begin the weekend of October 15th and 16th and will run for five consecutive weeks through November 12th and 13th. As in previous years, the event will have venues between Arbaney Park, Willits Rugby Field, and Southside Park. More information on the event can be found on the main page of the Town's website. Flyers are being hung at locations around town, and information has been posted on the Town's facebook page and the Basalt Community page. EverGreen Zero Waste is also hanging banners in locations around town to inform Basalt residents of the event.

BPAC – The Commission reviewed updates to a BPAC grant request, discussed ideas for the ice sculptures, and performed an initial review of a River Park sculpture submission. The closing date for the Call to Artists for the River Park sculpture is November 15th. Staff has heard from three artists expressing interest in submitting. BPAC will do another push out of the information to try and produce additional submissions.

Public Works

Public Works has been busy this week dismantling and rebuilding two skatepark ramps. The skatepark ramps are older and require constant maintenance. The people that utilize the skatepark like it because it is unique, not concrete or steel, and still has wooden decking. Staff are doing the repair correctly by going all the way to the frame and building the decking up so they can inspect and fix what areas need to be repaired and supported.

Basalt Planning, Engineering and Public Works Department did a two-year warranty inspection on Basalt Vista and the Arbaney Park Waterline this week. There was some settling and cracking of sidewalk, curb and gutter in Basalt Vista that the contractor will have to repair. The Arbaney Park water line had some slight grade issues that will need to be leveled. Overall, the inspections went well.

Public Works continues to prepare for winter. We met with Sno-Away, a snow removal company, to provide an update on what streets and areas have recently come out of the developer's warranty and what the additional work on his bid would be. Sanding material has been delivered and repairs to plow equipment has been made. Sweeping, limb trimmings and hauling continues. Willitis Lane trail patching will start soon.

Recreation

This week, we wrapped up a fun program for Kinder – 2nd graders to learn the basics of soccer. It happened to be an all-girls group and they had tons of fun learning and playing soccer together. More clinics and camps for soccer will take place in the spring. Also, this Thursday we had a great showing at a one-day basketball clinic that took place on the first day of RFSD fall break in order to give kids an opportunity to get active on their day off. Coach Kevin Washington came and ran the clinic, with almost 40 Kinder through 8th graders participating to make it a really fun day. Coach Washington will be running a longer camp here the week of January 2nd, during RFSD winter break. We hope to see you out there!