



**BASALT TOWN COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES - TUESDAY, AUGUST 25, 2020**

Basalt is an inclusive, sustainable, mountain community that boasts both historic charm and progressive vision. It is an engaging place to live, work and play while offering an abundance of creative, professional, educational and recreational outlets.

This meeting was held electronically.

5:30 PM - WORKSESSION: Discussion with the Basalt Affordable Housing Commission (BACH) (Sara Nadolny/James Lindt)

Present for the Worksession were Mayor Bill Kane, Council members Bill Infante, Gary Tennenbaum, Glenn Drummond, David Knight, Elyse Hottel and Ryan Slack. Also present were BACH members Cathy Click, Anne Baker and Doug MacDonald.

Sara Nadolny, staff representative for BACH, gave an overview of the BACH Committee and introduced members. BACH Chair Cathy Click offered an update on the recent focus of BACH including livability standards, rental assistance and mortgage assistance for those facing relocation or eviction due to COVID lockdowns.

Sarah discussed items that would have budget implications including support for the Regional Housing Authority, and rental assistance. Rental assistance is no longer available through the counties, and the moratorium on evictions is no longer in effect. BACH would like to leverage local resources with those of the State and other nonprofits to assist those who are facing relocation or imminent eviction due to the

Doug MacDonald discussed the Colorado Department of Housing programs aimed at giving landlords some relief with back rent for their tenants and to cover late fees, etc., back to March of this year. There is also an Emergency Housing Assistance Program focused on tenants. Ryan Mahoney discussed the funds the Town received from the CARES Act.

Council asked how the funds would be distributed. Staff noted an application process could be developed, or the use of an existing organization such as the Aspen Community Foundation might be a distribution resource. Staff was told by BACH that they would need assistance from multiple sources and should be cautious that one funding source wouldn't cut one funding source over another.

The desire for additional purchase units was noted; and it was suggested that Dave Myler could be a good resource for that discussion.

Mayor Kane suggested we outreach to get BACH up to full membership.

Council asked for a better understanding of what the real need was in terms of potential evictions so perhaps bigger partners could be sought.

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Mayor Kane called the regular meeting of the Basalt Town Council to order at 6:03 PM. Council members answering roll call were Glenn Drummond, David Knight, Elyse Hottel, Ryan Slack, Bill Kane, Gary Tennenbaum. Bill Infante was also still present at the electronic meeting.

2. CONSENT AGENDA:

2A. Minutes: August 11, 2020

Town Clerk Schilling noted that there were several anomalies in the August 11 minutes and requested they be corrected and submitted at the next meeting for Council review and approval. Council had no objection to the delay.

3. CALL TO THE PUBLIC:

There were no citizen comments made this evening.

5. MANAGER'S REPORT

Ryan reported on a TABOR limitation that Christy had reported on at the last council meeting related to the ballot question of November 2019 concerning property tax. With the additional sales tax and building permit fees we've been receiving, staff wanted to be sure we weren't going to exceed our TABOR revenue limits. In an abundance of caution, we just want to keep close tabs on that.

Work is underway for the water tank warranty. The Water Department Staff has been actively working to dry the tank and get it ready for the warranty work to be completed.

Brian Passenti has been working on the recreation schedule for this fall and trying to determine what the Town's role might be for school kids. Several offerings are posted on the recreation webpage: soccer and t-ball, a fly fishing course and river discovery course with the Roaring Fork Conservancy, tennis, golf at the Roaring Fork Club, and Lacrosse with the clubs in Aspen and the mid-valley. Other programs are being investigated such as fitness, art and other non-sport offerings. The search for additional lifeguards on Facebook, in the newspaper, and with Brian reaching out to others, have not borne fruit; Brian is serving as a full-time lifeguard with one other licensed lifeguard. The Basalt swimming pool is slated to close the day after Labor Day.

Brian Passenti added that he is working on some half-day offerings for those middle-schoolers who have Wednesday afternoons off from school. Brian said there may be programs such as kickball or flying kites. Brian said he is always looking for something new.

4. MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS/COMMENTS

David Knight thanked Brian for his efforts on Facebook and for the recreational programs; they are important to a lot of people.

Elyse Hottel wondered if, in the name of better communications, Council would be interested in having a one-hour coffee time to get together meet with other Councilors and the public; meetings would be noticed.

Elyse said she was interested in creating a Council video to post on Facebook and sought some suggested talking points.

Bill Kane liked the idea of a coffee klatsch and suggested the idea that it could move around to various locations.

Bill Kane said he had been using the Busker night as community communication tool and found it gratifying.

Bill Kane said the river pig painting projects were well received.

Bill Kane said he had heard parents would like to extend the pool time further, but finding certified lifeguards would be key to that.

Mayor Kane reported on the quarterly Mayors and Managers meeting sponsored by Eagle County which he and Ryan had recently attended virtually. A couple of the topics covered were transportation and school openings with most everyone trying to transition to in-person classes by September 21.

Bill Kane reported on the RFTA Board meeting. RFTA was successful in obtaining a \$12 million grant to renovate the bus barn in Glenwood Springs. Maroon Bells revenues exceeded expectations. Distancing and reduced ridership will continue for the foreseeable future.

Ryan Mahoney added that one additional Buskers evening had been added; August 26 would be the final night of Buskers in Basalt.

6. COUNCIL ACTIONS: 6A. Public Hearing and First Reading of Ordinance No. 17, Series of 2020: An Ordinance of the Town Council of the Town of Basalt, Colorado, Granting Rezoning to the P (Public) Zone District, Site Plan Review Approval, A Community Housing Mitigation Waiver, and Establishment of Dimensional Requirements in the P (Public) Zone District, Including an Off-Street Parking Reduction for an Expansion to St. Vincent's Church Located at 240 Midland Avenue, Basalt, Colorado (James Lindt)

David Knight recused himself as he is a parishioner at St. Vincent's.

Assistant Planning director James Lindt introduced Pat McMahon and Father Rick, representing the applicant, who were present for this evening's discussion.

James Lindt led Council through the application to demolish the rectory house and construct an addition of 2400 square feet to the church. The new space would allow for the religious education classes to be moved from the basement to the street level while providing for adequate emergency access, expand space for fellowship, improve handicap access, and add 4 parking spaces and a loading area to the rear of the building.

P&Z has set for a recommendation after their review, and staff created a list of discussion items which were reviewed with Council this evening.

Applicant comments were made just prior to the public hearing.

Mayor Kane opened the Public Hearing at 6:43 PM.

Staff noted three letters had been received from neighbors Stephanie Scavullo, Polly Pollard and Gerry Terwilliger concerning parking, privacy fencing, preservation of the façade of the existing rectory house, affordable housing (use of the rectory house). A response from the applicant was received as well. These letters were submitted for the record.

There were no additional public comments and the hearing was closed at 6:56 PM.

M/S COUNCILORS SLACK AND DRUMMOND THAT THE TOWN COUNCIL APPROVE ORDINANCE NO. 17, SERIES OF 2020 ON FIRST READING, AND CONTINUE AND SET THE PUBLIC HEARING AND SECOND READING FOR SEPTEMBER 8, 2020. THE MOTION CARRIED 6-0.

David Knight rejoined the meeting

6B. Public Hearing and Second Reading of Ordinance No. 16, Series of 2020: An Ordinance of the Town Council of the Town of Basalt, Colorado, Amending the Basalt Municipal Code Chapter 16 – Zoning, Chapter 17 – Subdivisions, Chapter 18 – Building Regulations, and Chapter 7 – Health, Sanitation and Animals, and Chapter 13 Municipal Utilities, Related to Wildfire Protection (John Mele/Jeff Conklin/Susan Philp/Rick Fout)

Planning Director Susan Philp introduced ordinance proponents Deputy Fire Chief/Fire Marshal John Mele, Assistant Fire Marshal Brooke Stott, Chief Building Official Rick Fout and Town Attorney Jeff Conklin.

Susan Philp outlined the history of the Ordinance and noted staff was seeking final approval and adoption this evening. Patterned after the Ordinance adopted by Snowmass Village, Susan reviewed the Ordinance as it was customized for the Town of Basalt, outlined the proposed amendments and updates from the Council's July 28 Worksession and August 11 first reading, and P&Z's recommended approval.

Mayor Kane opened the public hearing at 7:17 PM. There were no public comments and the hearing was closed at 7:19 PM.

M/S COUNCILORS HOTTEL AND KNIGHT THAT THE TOWN COUNCIL ADOPT ORDINANCE NO. 16, SERIES OF 2020 WITH THE AMENDMENTS PRESENTED AT SECOND READING. THE MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

6C. Resolution No. 32, Series of 2020: A Resolution of the Town Council of the Town of Basalt, Colorado, Adopting a Fund Balance/Reserve Policy (Christy Chicoine)

Finance Director Christy Chicoine discussed this item with Council explaining the need for the Policy, how the Finance Advisory Board developed the Fund Balance/Reserve Policy and how it was customized for the Town of Basalt.

Christy explained the purpose of the fund balance was a way to help the Town mitigate financial risk, maintain infrastructure and for one-time cash needs.

Christy introduced Cheryl Ruppel of the Finance Advisory Board (FAB) to discuss this item with Council. Cheryl explained how the FAB developed the Fund Balance/Reserve Policy and how it

was customized for the Town of Basalt. She spoke about the repayment plan amended to be less restrictive and noted the Policy covered a lot but was still very flexible.

Cheryl Ruppert said Christy had done a great job of incorporating comments from the past and current councils. She said it was a policy that provided a good amount of flexibility was a lot more conservative than it had been. The repayment plan wording suggested by Doug MacDonald was a great addition. The policy covers a lot, but is still flexible. Forty percent seemed a happy medium between being conservative and allowing council and town management to be able to utilize the funds.

Bill Kane suggested that the Fund Balance/Reserve Policy be made a regular part of the quarterly financial reports so Council would know where they stand with the fund balance, and also to give Council an early warning if we are starting to approach the limit.

M/S COUNCILORS TENNENBAUM AND HOTTEL THAT THE TOWN COUNCIL ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 32, SERIES OF 2020. THE MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

7. INFORMATION AND CORRESPONDENCE:

- 7A. Accounts Payable
- 7B. Advanced Agendas
- 7C. Correspondence to the Town

8. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Kane adjourned the meeting at 7:38 PM.

BASALT TOWN COUNCIL:

By *William G. Kane*
William G. Kane, Mayor

ATTEST:

Pamela K Schilling
Pamela Schilling, Town Clerk



This meeting can be viewed in its entirety at GrassrootsTV.org:
<https://townofbasalt.ompnetwork.org/sessions/152357?embedInPoint=1&embedOutPoint=8685&shareMethod=link>