



**BASALT TOWN COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES – JULY 27, 2021**

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.

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Mayor Bill Kane called the meeting to order at 6:02 PM. Also present were David Knight, Elyse Hottel, Glenn Drummond, Bill Infante, Gary Tennenbaum and Ryan Slack.

2. CONSENT AGENDA AND MOTION:

2A. Minutes: July 13, 2021

2B. Resolution No. 33, Series of 2021: A Resolution of the Town Council of Basalt, Colorado, Supporting the 2021-2022 Update to the Colorado Communities for Climate Action (CC4CA) Policy Statement (Sara Nadolny)

M/S COUNCILORS SLACK AND DRUMMOND THAT THE TOWN COUNCIL APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS AS PRESENTED. THE MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

3. CALL TO THE PUBLIC: At this time members of the public are invited to address the Town Council on any issue, except for items scheduled for a Public Hearing at this meeting.

Neil Glaser, 550 Sopris Drive, spoke to the redevelopment of the old Clark's Market site at Basalt Center Circle expressing concern with the size and affordability of the proposed project. Neil felt the size of the development was too large for the town, and that there would only be 15% deed restricted units. Neil felt the development should be more friendly to people working in the valley in terms of affordable housing.

Mayor Kane noted the application had not yet come before the Town Council. Susan Philp explained the next opportunity for additional public comment would be next Tuesday, here at town hall. The agenda would be posted on the Town's website.

Virginia Loffler, said that she wanted to reiterate what Neil Glaser had just said; she felt that a lot of the residents living on east Sopris were also concerned about the size and scope and

were hoping that Council would try to keep in mind the character of this town and keep it tasteful and beautiful, and keeping in common with what we have now.

4. MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS/COMMENTS

Glenn Drummond updated the Council on the Eagle County Vista Project which held it's first in-person meeting yesterday. Glenn showed everyone a small red box that people may see popping up at different events around town accompanied by a comment card – a simple survey. The underlying goal of this project is to get a much input from Eagle County residents and businesses as possible. They will also take input via social media: on Facebook , search for Vista Eagle Co; #visateagleco on Twitter, and their website at www.VistaEagleCo.com. They hope to get 1000 responses by the end of August. Glenn encouraged everyone to hop online and fill out the survey.

Elyse Hottel said the questions on the Eagle County survey mirrored those that the Town of Basalt asked when updating their master plan. She wondered if anyone had reached out to Eagle County to look at Basalt's responses for additional feedback.

Bill Kane reported that Police Chief Greg Knott and he participated in a very enlightening process for the hiring of a new assistant fire chief for Roaring Fork Fire Rescue. Bill said all the candidates were really great; he enjoyed participating on behalf of the Town.

Bill Kane spoke about the possibility of a Basalt connector and circulator bus, and teaming with RFTA for that service. There is an initial outline from Downtowner, a private transportation service, to assist connector and high-hour bus service between Basalt and Willits. Bill said RFTA would refining that before we bring it to Council.

Town Manager Ryan Mahoney reported that Pitkin County would be rescinding all of their current fire restrictions beginning Friday morning. There was no word as yet on any Eagle County action.

5. COUNCIL ACTIONS

5A. Resolution No. 34, Series of 2021: A Resolution of the Town Council of Basalt, Colorado, Approving Change Orders with FCI Constructors for the Two Rivers Road Improvement Project (James Lindt/Catherine Christoff/Christy Chicoine)

Assistant Planning Director James Lindt, Town Engineer Catherine Christoff, Project Manager Stephanie Helfenbein of Sopris Engineering were present in person with Project Superintendent from FCI Constructors, Will Kiser, joining via Zoom.

James Lindt explained that this item, if approved, would approve change orders to the Two Rivers Road improvements contract for construction of a water line in Two Rivers Road. James presented background on the authorization of the Town Manager to approve a contract for Two Rivers Road improvements back in May, and reviewed the improvements that would be made in conjunction with the Basalt River Park construction, and the Basalt River Park development application. James outlined the improvements - reconfiguration of parking along Two Rivers Road, curb and gutter, chicanes and crosswalks - similar to those by RMI and the Roaring Fork Conservancy's River Center. The bid received from FCI in May for the road improvements \$1,064,049 was to include a total project cost of about \$1.3 million. The bid was based on improvement drawings completed by Sopris Engineering who used standard utility locating

procedures in preparing their drawings for the bid. After approving the contract, the Town and Sopris Engineering ordered 'potholing' as an additional due-diligence step before construction commenced. The potholing indicated a water main on the south side of Two Rivers Road wasn't where it was shown based on the utility locates. The water line actually sits under a bank of utilities, as well as under curb and gutter and where the new storm sewer would be constructed. Sopris Engineering and SGM, along with Catherine Christoff, met to discuss solutions and have ultimately recommended construction of a new water line in Two Rivers Road. The current water line is over 20 years in age, beyond half its life expectancy. Staff believes it would serve the Town well to construct the new water line to save costs of removing infrastructure in the future. The cost of the water line, contingency and soft costs total \$183,000. Staff felt it was good to catch this now before construction which could have made it an emergency, and would have cost quite a bit more.

Catherine Christoff added that, in the end, the Town would have a better water line product. A new line shouldn't break, but if it were to break, it would be a matter of cutting into asphalt rather than the new, more expensive infrastructure of curbs, gutters, sidewalks, etc. Catherine added that staff worked with a contractor to get the costs down as much as possible. The two businesses served by this line will be without water for a period of time, though staff will work with the contractor and businesses to minimize the downtime of 4 days over the course of a weekend.

Council questions and discussion followed concerning when Council would see the supplemental budget on this as well as the funding sources, and what might be done in the future to mitigate the risk of cost overruns.

Town Manager Ryan Mahoney said the supplemental budget would be brought to council at the next meeting on August 10. Staff was looking at a few potential sources for that funding out of the water fund, Federal funds we are in receipt of, and the general fund. Also, to address concerns about mitigating this in the future, doing the potholing up front would be a way to address this; it would add costs up front to the project, but could save costs overall. Additionally, we will get as-builts on future projects that will typically be a better indicator of where something exists, rather than just a locate.

M/S COUNCILORS KNIGHT AND SLACK THAT THE TOWN COUNCIL APPROVE RESOLUTION NO. 34, SERIES OF 2021 AS PRESENTED. THE MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

5B. First Reading Ord No. 11, Series of 2021: An Ordinance of the Town Council of the Town of Basalt, Colorado, Repealing and Replacing Chapter 8, Article 1 of the Municipal Code to Adopt the 2020 Model Traffic Code with Amendments (Greg Knott/Jeff Conklin)

Police Chief Greg Knott explained that periodically, the State of Colorado amends the Model Traffic Code with the last amendment being in 2010 which Basalt has been working under. The next revision is the 2020 Model Traffic Code. Some of the improvements the State made to the MTC 2020 is improvements to parking and electrical vehicle stations, by way of example. Additionally, staff seeks to add a few charges to the Model Traffic Code that they have not been able to charge in municipal court; these are charges that would have to be sent to County Court. Greg explained the charges to be amended to municipal court would include such things as permitting an unauthorized person to drive, driving with expired license plates, improper title or registration, driving without a current driver's license, and open alcoholic beverages and containers in vehicles. Staff is also seeking to codify the current practice of the Basalt Municipal Court that if a person pays a 4 points or less ticket within 20 days the points are reduced to zero

(except in some specific circumstances), and they are not reported to the State of Colorado. This practice reduces the number of visitors to the court and seems to be a very good practice.

Town Attorney Jeff Conklin commented that based on Statutory requirements for noticing the adoption of State codes, the second reading would be held August 24, 2021. There will also be an updated fines and fees schedule brought before council which will sync up at the August 24 meeting.

M/S COUNCILORS SLACK AND HOTTEL THAT THE TOWN COUNCIL APPROVE ORDINANCE NO. 11, SERIES OF 2021 ON FIRST READING AND SET THE PUBLIC HEARING AND SECOND READING FOR AUGUST 24, 2021. THE MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

Chief Knott was also congratulated on his recent appointment as President to the Colorado Association of Chief's of Police.

6. PRESENTATIONS: As Council was ahead of schedule, items 6A through 6C were shuffled according to the presence of the presenter and/or recipients.

6C. Update: Basalt Forward 2030 (Christy Chicoine)

As Town Manager Ryan Mahoney was present (he had been expected to be on vacation), he led this discussion. Ryan updated Council on the upcoming important dates:

- **August 2** – the Capital Needs Committee was scheduled to talk about their final recommendation on projects;
- **August 4** - from 5 to 7 PM, there will be an Open House at the Basalt Library for the public to learn more about the projects, more about Basalt Forward 2030 and an opportunity for the public to vote on their top 3 projects. This will be an open house format; drop in anytime between 5 and 7 pm. Pizza and beverages will be available.
- **August 10** – the Capital Needs Committee will present their final recommendations to the Council.
- **August 16** – Council special worksession to give Council an opportunity to talk amongst themselves about the recommendations.
- **August 24** – Council would pass a Resolution if they decide to move forward with a question on the November ballot.
- **September 3** – last day to certify the ballot content to the counties in order to participate in a coordinated election.

Elyse Hottel said that Council recognized that National Night Out was being held on August 3, but encouraged the public to attend this very important event on August 4 as well.

Elyse Hottel also asked if Spanish interpretation would be available. Ryan Mahoney said that was not contemplated for that meeting.

6A. Proclamation: Honoring John (JD) Black for his work with the Art Base (Mayor Kane/ Councilor Infante)

John Black had arrived to the meeting. Bill Infante read the Proclamation honoring John (JD) Black for his dedication, vision and commitment to the development of the Art Base in Basalt.

6B. Worksession with The Basalt Public Arts Commission (BPAC): Council Check-in with BPAC (Watkins Fulk-Gray)

Watkins Fulk-Gray introduced the Public Arts Commission noting it was established in 2015 and serves as an advisory board to the Town Council. BPAC also serves as a sounding board and makes recommendations to the Council on matters of arts, aesthetics and public art in Basalt. The member of BPAC are members of the arts community and have a variety of experiences among them. Watkins then introduced those present: Liz Bell, Jeanette Bullock, Karyn Andrade, Abby Gierke, Summers More. (BPAC member Anna Lohr was unable to attend this evening.) Watkins noted the group would be discussing what they have been up to and also generally speak to what they would like to do in 2022.

Liz Bell discussed the various art sculptures installed around town including the four ice sculptures installed in February in collaboration with the Basalt Library; part of the art was watching the sculptures be constructed – performance art. They hope to do the project again this coming year.

Abby Gierke, member of BPAC and also an Art Base employee, discussed the funding being requested toward an artists' grant program. Grants have been awarded in the past to projects by individual artists, but historically, the people who apply for the grants are organizations within the Basalt community that help provide other opportunities for the arts in Basalt – TACAW applied for funds for Pumpkin Jazz, the Art Base used funds for Art in the Park and for free public arts programs for adults and children, and the Hudson Reed Ensemble has used it for their music programming.

Karen Andrade discussed the seven murals around Basalt. Different artists applied to create the murals, BPAC decided on the artist and where their murals would be located; most were put in the Willits area. Some of the murals are not permanent, but BPAC is looking to make some more permanent murals in the future.

Jeanette Bullock spoke to BPAC's social media and social outreach. BPAC has added these aspects to get people motivated to go out and engage with the art, to take pictures of it and post it social media and spread the word about the art. It is a good way to gather feedback from the community on what they are interested in and it is also a good way to get the younger generation, who are social-media heavy, more interested in the arts.

Mayor Kane asked about the concrete retaining wall behind Mod's Thai House and wondered if it was in the works for a future mural. Planning Director Susan Philp indicated it was on the list for the future.

Planning Director Susan Philp added that for the 2022 BPAC budget, they would be requesting more funding than in prior years. The majority of that would be for, perhaps, larger structures, on the Basalt River Park, another at Willits Town Center; or multiple structures – it is not set in stone, and may not even be finished in 2022. It is visioned to be more signature pieces that would remain in place for a longer period of time.

Elyse Hottel asked about the Arts Master Plan. Watkins Fulk-Gray said BPAC had some consultants help them out this year toward research and compiling of other art and culture master plans from other communities. One thing that came out of that was the idea of an artist roster which they are building on and hope to continue in 2022.

Elyse Hottel asked if BPAC had thought about a rotating art approach, similar to that in Carbondale. Watkins said that Carbondale has more space in the town’s right of way and the Town donated the pedestals the art stands on. It is a possibility, and could certainly be discussed more. Liz Bell, also a member of the Capital Needs Committee and speaking for the BPAC, was hopeful about being included in the Midland Streetscape Project, whatever it turns out to be – should it move forward.

7. INFORMATION AND CORRESPONDENCE:

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

8. ADJOURNMENT


The meeting adjourned at 6:51 PM.

The minutes of the July 27, 2021 meeting were read and approved this 10th day of August, 2021.

BASALT TOWN COUNCIL:

By: 
William G. Kane, Mayor

ATTEST:


Pamela Schilling, Town Clerk



This meeting may be viewed in its entirety on the Town of Basalt YouTube channel, or at www.GrassrootsTV.org, by visiting this link: <https://townofbasalt.ompnetwork.org/sessions/226123?embedInPoint=1&embedOutPoint=3746&shareMethod=link>