



**BASALT TOWN COUNCIL  
MEETING MINUTES – APRIL 11, 2023**

**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.**

**1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

Mayor Bill Kane called the regular meeting of the Basalt Town Council to order at 6:06 PM on Tuesday, April 11, 2023. Also present at the meeting were Angela Anderson, Ryan Slack, Elyse Hottel, David Knight and Glenn Drummond. Council member Dieter Schindler was absent.

**2. CONSENT AGENDA AND MOTION:** **2A. Minutes:** March 28, 2023; **2B. Special Event Activity Permit:** Application to hold Motors at Willits May 20, 2023 submitted by the Basalt Education Foundation. (Alec Sloan); **2C. Resolution No. 14, Series of 2023:** Resolution of the Town Council of Basalt, Colorado, Approving an Agreement with Summit Sweeping and Asphalt Maintenance, LLC (Matt Wagner); **2D. 2023 Arbor Day Proclamation and Earth Day Events** (Chris Beiser); **2E. Continue to April 25, 2023:** Public Hearing on Modification of Premises – Jimbo’s Liquors (Pam Schilling); **2F. Continue to May 9, 2023:** Public Hearing and First Reading Ordinance No. 2, Series of 2023: Ordinance of the Town Council of the Town of Basalt, Colorado, Amending Section 16-23 of the Basalt Municipal Code related to the Sustainable Building Regulations. (Michelle Thibeault)

**M/S COUNCILORS SLACK AND HOTTLE THAT THE TOWN COUNCIL APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS AS PRESENTED. THE MOTION CARRIED 6-0.**

**3. CALL TO THE PUBLIC**

Sandy Kucharczyk , 100 Midland Avenue, thanked the Mayor and Council for supporting the Basalt beautification project. She believed this would put Basalt on the map as a blueprint for many other small towns in Colorado. Sandy urged Council to not bend to a few negative opinions from a very vocal minority about the parallel parking on Midland Avenue. The principal idea is to make old town Basalt a place where people can sit and eat outside, walk easily, safely in town and enjoy a tranquil visit while shopping on Midland. Please do not alter the designed parking because of a few business complaints. Sandy said she lives on Midland Spur and there will be ample parking down their street. Sandy said it took her 30 seconds to walk to Butch’s, Heirloom’s and Tempranillo restaurant. She had also heard that some businesses want to be compensated for any loss of revenue because of construction on Midland. As a taxpayer, she voted for this project and was happy to pay for it. Sandy said she

did not want to subsidize businesses because they may lose a little profit while the work is being done. This project would increase their bottom line in the long run and was designed so these restaurants and businesses would be more accessible. This is a pro-business project and a win-win for everyone on Midland Avenue.

Warwick Mowbray, Aspenalt and Frying Pan River Lodge, wanted to bring up a couple of points. He said he has businesses in four jurisdictions in Colorado and three of the jurisdictions use a software program for sales tax collections called Muni-Revs, but Basalt sales tax is done by hand. Warwick said that the Town should look at that software. Warwick also said he understood the sewer line project was actually complete, which meant there were only two real issues – one being a water line with a 100 year life span that is only 60 to 80 years old, so it doesn't seem to be urgent to be completed in the next 3 or 4 months. Warwick thought it should be postponed to allow businesses to get the benefit of the coming season. The second issue Warwick made was that last week the Federal Reserve issued a paper called H8 that indicates the number of loans that are issued by banks, especially regional banks. Last Friday's report indicated the biggest collapse in the granting of loans and loan standards in the last two weeks of March since they've kept records in 1973. This applies to all the local banks in this area. To the extent that this woman (referring to Sandy Kucharczyk) commented earlier about losing a few profits, Warwick thought there may be a far bigger issue involved because there will be a reputational issue people just will not come if they are aware that there are road works going on. For the record, Warwick said, he wanted to reference that Federal Reserve report and it's only had two weeks, and it's only the start and we don't know how tight credit will get. Mr. Mowbray said he didn't know how these businesses organized themselves but if they got negatively hurt and they couldn't get support from their bankers or whomever, they would be out of business and he wanted to state that for the record.

Town Manager Ryan Mahoney addressed the comment about using Muni-Revs sales tax software, noting it was a great program, but it was for communities that self-collect their sales tax. Basalt is state-collected; so it may be the other three jurisdictions collect (sales tax) themselves. Ryan said staff would be happy to look into it, we've been implementing some other software this year and anything that can make it more efficient we're happy to look at.

Bill Kane noted that the comments about regional banking were well taken; our CFO is all over it and well aware of the condition of area banks, so it bears watching, along with, unfortunately, about eight other things.

Ted Guy, Swinging Bridge Lane, here since '78, thanked Ryan and Chris the forrester. Ted lives on Swinging Bridge Lane, and said the town was tearing up the pedestrian path, adding trees and irrigation. He said no one ever talked to us. Ted said he was told Monday morning that all the trees were being cut down. Ted said he called Ryan who was in a meeting, but he got Chris out there right away. It was misinformation and the town was not cutting down trees, so Ted wanted to say 'thank you'. Also, he wanted to talk about what he does support for the Midland Avenue streetscape: the storm drainage in the center of Midland Avenue, a new water line and consolidation of the shallow utilities. Ted said he also supports replacing and consolidating existing sidewalks especially the sidewalks by Sotheby's and the pot shop. Ted didn't think the sidewalks should be 12 feet wide feeling that four to five feet is more than adequate. Ted supported raised pedestrian crossings that serve as speed bumps saying he thought they were essential because this is a thru-street, not a dead end. Ted also supported keeping the diagonal parking and converting what head-in parking there is to diagonal parking, feeling that diagonal parking was safer than head-in parking. Ted said he disagreed with Sandy (Kucharczyk); losing 22 parking spaces will harm downtown not just this summer, but forever.

That's all the parking from Alpine Bank to Skip's on the south side. Ted supported fall, winter, spring utility and sidewalk replacement. He does not support adding islands and trees in the center of the street and the shading and icing of the streets in the winter due to the trees. Ted supported keeping the loading zone in the middle. Ted questioned why the new water line has to be on the south side. Ted thought the new water line could be placed on the north of the existing water line. Last, Ted questioned the spending of \$28,000 for a fountain with a dog watering bowl.

#### **4. MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS/COMMENTS**

Bill Kane said he, Elyse and Ryan Mahoney had attended the senior's capstone project presentations at the high school. He said it was really fun to see what the kids were thinking about and where they were going in life. Elyse Hottel added it was nice to see a wide array of ideas and future plans; there were some really excited students.

#### **5. MANAGER'S REPORT**

Town Manager Ryan Mahoney reported that as of today, an FAQ (Frequently Asked Questions) page had been loaded to LetsTalk.Basalt.net. This FAQ is a collection of questions the Town has been getting along the way concerning the Midland Avenue Streetscape infrastructure, parking, project timing, among others. A nice document had been put out by Planning and Mitzi Rapkin. Along those same lines, Ryan noted a public open house had been scheduled tomorrow evening at the Library from 5 to 7 PM for the public to meet with staff and contractors to have questions answered and obtain more clarity on the project.

Last week, the Logo Steering Committee reviewed nine options for the Town's new logo which they whittled down to five. Those five logos are being re-tooled based on comments from the Committee. The next meeting will take the logos down to three which will be posted on the LetsTalk.Basalt.net page for community input.

The existing construction project at Midland and Two Rivers Road was scheduled for paving today and tomorrow. They will be pulling off of that project on-time and within-budget.

The project on the Midland Spur is going on and is focused on the new retaining wall that will add parking in that area.

#### **6. PRESENTATIONS:**

##### **6A. Miles Johnson: Capstone Project Presentation**

Town Manager Ryan Mahoney introduced Miles Johnson who was present to discuss his capstone project with the Council. Miles had approached the Town about his project and had asked for some donations. The condition for the Town's contribution was that Miles was to come and let the Town know how the money was used. Miles is a senior at Basalt High School.

Miles Johnson thanked the mayor and council for the opportunity to present his capstone project. Miles explained what a capstone project is. It is a requirement by the Roaring Fork School District that seniors must complete a self-guided project that explores an interest or a

curiosity, and must benefit the community. The student is to work closely with a community expert who helps guide you through your project.

Miles explained the project he developed was to fundraise for the installation of a bike pump to be located at the Basalt Regional Library. He chose this project to make biking more accessible and encourage others to ride their bike more.

Miles identified Gary Tennenbaum as his community expert who helped him pick out locations for the bike pump and assisted him with a library connection that was Cathy Click. Miles researched the different types of pumps. His goal was to find something durable, easy to use and came in different colors. Miles explained his fundraising that included local Basalt Bike and Ski, Chris Severson of Reese Henry Accounting and the Town of Basalt; each agreed to cover 1/3 of the \$900 project costs. After working with Cathy Click at the Library to determine a good location for the pump, Miles worked with his dad to install the pump.

Miles thanked those who had helped him complete his capstone project and hoped that Basalt would continue to be a bike friendly town. He hoped that this pump would serve the town well.

## **7. COUNCIL ACTIONS:**

**7A. Public Hearing and First Reading Ordinance No. 05, Series of 2023:** Ordinance of the Town Council of the Town of Basalt, Colorado, Granting River Setback Waivers at 40 River Cove (James Lindt)

Assistant Planning Director James Lindt explained this application to request waivers from the 50 foot setback to 40 feet to allow the construction of a porch roof over an existing grade deck at 40 River Cove, and allow for the construction of a second floor deck that would also help mitigate a drainage issue. The home was built in 1991. At that time, the setback was 30 feet which is the setback the house built to at the time the house was built. James reviewed the waiver criteria as set forth in the Town Code, and explained the mitigations sought by this application.

Applicant representative Kevin Michaelson was present to address questions from the council.

Mayor Kane opened the public hearing at 6:40 PM. There were no comments and the hearing was closed.

James noted this approval would require at least 5 affirmative votes from Council.

**M/S COUNCILORS DRUMMOND AND ANDERSON THAT THE TOWN COUNCIL APPROVE ORDINANCE NO. 05, SERIES OF 2023 ON FIRST READING AND CONTINUE AND SET THE PUBLIC HEARING AND SECOND READING FOR MAY 9, 2023. A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS HELD. THE MOTION CARRIED 6-0.**

**7B. Public Hearing and First Reading Ordinance No. 06, Series of 2023:** Ordinance of the Town Council of the Town of Basalt, Colorado, Approving an Amendment to the Basalt River Park Development Final Plan Application on Lot 1 of the Basalt Community Campus Subdivision (Sara Nadolny, James Lindt)

Senior Planner Sara Nadolny led discussion of this item seeking an amendment to the CSC Zone District's final plan approval for the Basalt River Park Subdivision located at 22680 Two Rivers Road. Applicant's representative Tom Newland was present with Applicants Scott Thompson of Roaring Fork Fire Rescue and Mary Boyd of Colorado Mountain College. This proposal would give the applicants' first priority for occupancy of these units as well as remove the income and asset requirements associated with the Category 2 designation for these employees. If granted, this request would aid with employee retention and recruitment for the respective organizations. The Applicants are currently under contract to purchase the four Category 2 units. If no employees of these Applicant's occupies the units within a period of 21 days, the units would progress through the occupancy priorities as designated in the final approval. The goals of the Master Plan related to this application were outlined.

P&Z made a formal recommendation in support of this application; BACH supported the application but was unable to make a formal recommendation. Staff also recommended approval of the amendments.

A short discussion with each Applicant was followed by questions from Council. Discussion was held on the methods that would be used to decide who gets a unit; RFFR based their decisions on tenure, certifications, highest rating, etc., and CMC would use a lottery drawing. CMC is set to receive two 3-bedroom units, and RFFR is set to receive two 2-bedroom units. If a unit were to sell, it would revert back to the original Category 2 requirements.

Mayor Bill Kane opened the public hearing at 7:02 PM. There were no comments and the hearing was closed.

**M/S COUNCILORS DRUMMOND AND KNIGHT THAT THE TOWN COUNCIL APPROVE ORDINANCE NO 06, SERIES OF 2023 ON FIRST READING AND CONTINUE AND SET THE PUBLIC HEARING AND SECOND READING FOR APRIL 25, 2023. A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS HELD. THE MOTION CARRIED 6-0.**

**7C. Resolution No. 15, Series of 2023:** A Resolution of the Town Council of Basalt, Colorado, authorizing a grant application by the Town to State of Colorado Department of Local Affairs Energy and Mineral Impact Assistance Funds for Broadband Infrastructure. (Catherine Christoff, Ryan Mahoney)

Catherine Christoff explained that if approved, this Resolution would demonstrate Town Council support of a grant application to DOLA's Emergency and Mineral Impact Assistance Fund. The Town has received some funding through this fund, both for the public works building and a solar project. As part of the Midland Avenue Streetscape project, the design team has included infrastructure for Broadband both conduit and bolts that would be available to the Town, Pitkin County and other Internet Service Providers. This would help insure that the Basalt downtown core would have access to reliable internet and broadband high speed internet from multiple users. It also piggybacks on Pitkin County's work with Holy Cross Energy creating broadband infrastructure up and down the valley. There is a gap in their system between the intersection of Midland Avenue and Two Rivers Road and the Frying Pan River Valley where largely those users have little to no access to broadband infrastructure. Staff is seeking 50% of the broadband piece of the Midland Avenue project costs through this grant. Pitkin County has committed \$50,000 to this portion of the project as well.

General discussion followed.

**M/S COUNCILORS SLACK AND KNIGHT THAT THE TOWN COUNCIL ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 15, SERIES OF 2023. THE MOTION CARRIED 5-0-1 WITH COUNCIL MEMBER HOTTEL ABSTAINING.**

**7D. Resolution No. 16, Series of 2023: A Resolution of the Town Council of Basalt, Colorado, Adopting the 2023 Pitkin County Hazard Mitigation Plan**

Basalt’s Chief of Police Greg Knott presented background on this item for Council. He explained that communities are required to have an emergency management plan in place. This 2023 Hazard Mitigation Plan is a revision and update of the existing emergency mitigation plan. It identifies hazards within the community and mitigation efforts that could be worked towards and implemented. It is a non-binding document. Communities that do not have a plan are not eligible for pre- or post-hazard mitigation funds.

This plan incorporates a couple of newly identified hazards including ice dams and mitigation via stream gauge on the Frying Pan River.

Chief Knott also explained that though Basalt sits in both Eagle and Pitkin counties, we can participate in one county or the other. Because we are so close and work closely with Pitkin County, we are utilizing their plan, though Basalt is included in both.

**M/S COUNCILORS SLACK AND KNIGHT THAT THE TOWN COUNCIL ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 6, SERIES OF 2023.**

**8. INFORMATION AND CORRESPONDENCE: 8A. Accounts Payable; 8B. Advanced Agendas; 8C. Correspondence to the Town**

**9. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 7:17 pm.


The minutes of the April 11, 2023 meeting were read and approved this 25<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2023.

**BASALT TOWN COUNCIL:**

By:   
William G. Kane, Mayor



**ATTEST:**

  
Pamela Schilling, Town Clerk

This meeting can be viewed in its entirety on the Town of Basalt YouTube channel, or at [www.GrassrootsTV.org](http://www.GrassrootsTV.org), or by using this link: <https://townofbasalt.ompnetwork.org/sessions/266368?embedInPoint=1&embedOutPoint=5610&shareMethod=link>