



**BASALT TOWN COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES – APRIL 25, 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 Council to order at 6:03 PM on Tuesday, April 25, 2023. Also present were Council members Glenn Drummond, Angela Anderson, Ryan Slack, Elyse Hottel, David Knight and Dieter Schindler.

2. CONSENT AGENDA AND MOTION: 2A. Minutes: April 11, 2023; **2B. Resolution No. 17, Series of 2023:** Resolution of the Town Council of Basalt, Colorado, Approving an Agreement for Professional Services with the Phaffmann Group, LLC for Summer Youth Day Camps (Matt Koenigsknecht); **2C. Continue to May 9, 2023:** Public Hearing for a Temporary Modification of Premises: Bri's Booze, LLC dba Jimbo's (Pam Schilling)

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

Shelley Lundh Freeman, running for the Crown Mountain Parks and Recreation Board, District 4, introduced herself to Council. Shelley discussed her reasons for running for the Crown Mountain Board, her desire to serve and goals for the Park as well as her qualifications to serve. She encouraged residents of the district to vote.

Laura Maine, Owner of Tempranillo, asked Council, to reconsider removing the head-in parking from Midland Avenue. She hears the comment over and over again from her clientele that they can't find a place to park. Laura thought if the Town would add the parking spaces on the Spur and keep Midland Avenue head-in parking, that would be a step in the right direction. Laura said she walked around Aspen on Sunday and found an incredible number of empty spaces on the pedestrian malls – empty business spaces, but where there was parking, all the business spaces were full. Laura said many of her clients are elderly, and they will not be able to ride their bikes into town, or use the we-bike, or take the shuttle from the school – so just another parking issue. She asked Council to also please consider enforcing parking in the two

hour parking in downtown. Every day, she sees the same cars parked outside all day, so getting people to not park in front of their business all day was not really working. Larua said she understood the Town was bidding out the Midland Avenue construction and appreciated the effort that was put in there. The summer is literally the only time of year when she makes money and Laura said she uses that money to pay her bills all year 'round. Laura hoped the Town could understand how important it is, and how strongly she feels about it. Laura thanked Council for their time and their work.

Kathleen Cole read into the record a letter received from Ted Guy dated 04/25/2023: Ted's letter said the biggest problem in the old town Basalt was parking. The addition of 30 new spaces was fantastic, but the loss of 22 or more in the core would be a disaster, and the plan needed to be revised to maintain the existing diagonal parking. In his letter, Ted said the entire community was waiting patiently for the bid opening in mid May to see what the costs would be without a summer construction shutdown on Midland; Ted congratulated the Town for taking that step. Ted felt that some of the current sidewalk layouts needed improvement and design modifications, but no one Ted knew thought the parking should be lost to increased sidewalks widths. Ted wrote that Midland Avenue would also be torn up for part of the summer of '24 to do the sidewalk work which was not being highlighted by the public outreach. Ted said the community had never been asked to approve or deny the plan being implemented; the November 2021 vote authorized the continuation of an existing mil levy only - none of the three plans used in advertising were on the ballot and they were not considered or approved. Ted said Mitzi's (Rapkin) statement last week during the evening public outreach said it all, that we are listening, but we are not going to make any changes. Ted suggested the design team was not listening at all. Diagonal parking is not illegal as described by one Connect One employee; Two Rivers Road uses head-in parking for over half the new spaces created by the Basalt River Park Development. Most of the parking at Willits is diagonal on-street parking. Ted asked the Town to please maintain the current diagonal parking in the core of Old Town Midland from the Midland Mall to Sotheby's.

Ted closed with a postscript: The improvements to the Swinging Bridge pedestrian lane have been completed in a timely manner with little disruption to the path. Thank you to the Town and its subcontractors.

4. MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS/COMMENTS

David Knight reported that the lights on the Swinging Bridge looked great. Also, Colorado Parks and Wildlife has a draft document circulating that is changing the date of opening of State Wildlife Areas the Lake Christine and perhaps other areas from April 15 to July 15 each year. David thought everyone should be aware of the incredible amount of time that the areas are to be closed from December 1 to July 1 (or from 4.5 months to 7.5 months). David said he wanted to find out more about the data driving this proposal. He asked everyone to go to www.engagecpw.org and complete the survey. He also asked Council to sign a letter on this dramatic shift in closure dates as well.

Elyse Hottel thanked the Basalt PD for posting to Facebook the off-leash dog run areas in Basalt. Elyse asked dog owners to be responsible and pick up after their dogs so the privilege of off leash areas is not lost.

Elyse reported that the West Mountain Regional Housing Coalition has a consultant working for them. The consultant is working on a number of efforts, but is currently conducting a survey to get a better understanding of renter-households current situation and housing needs throughout the valley. It is available in English and Spanish and contains basic questions concerning an individual's current rental situation to help fill the gaps in knowledge from the 2019 survey. The survey can be found here: <HTTPS://TINYURL.COM/YNJCD2KR>

Switching gears, Elyse said, she has not been able to participate in any of the Midland Avenue Streetscape discussions as an employee of Connect One Design, however as a board member for the Eagle County Climate Action Collaborative, the Community Office for Resource Efficiency and an alternate for the Colorado Communities for Climate Action, she felt she would be remiss not to mention that the conflict over parking is contrary to Basalt's stated desire to reduce greenhouse gas emission in the city, and in the valley, Eagle County specifically. The Town signed on to the Eagle County Climate Action Plan and declared a climate emergency. Elyse said she didn't believe we needed any additional parking spaces. If we are to make a dent in this goal of reducing greenhouse gasses by 50% by 2030, we have to start looking at alternatives. Elyse noted we have a great bus system that comes through town, the Basalt Connect shuttle, we-cycle stations; it is less than a quarter of a mile to walk from the elementary school across swinging bridge to downtown. For those that need ADA access, there will always be parking available to them.

5. MANAGER'S REPORT

Town Manager Ryan Mahoney offered a shout-out to Police Chief Greg Knott for the stream gauge he recently obtained through a grant. The extra gauge will help inform public safety in the future and will be helping us to look at stream flows in the Frying Pan river valley.

The Swinging Bridge trail work has been completed by our arborist, Chris Beiser. Chris coordinated the permanent lighting and tree plantings for that trail leading to the downtown area.

6. PRESENTATIONS:

6A. 4th Quarter 2022 Finance Update (Doug Pattison)

Finance Director Doug Pattison presented the 4th Quarter 2022 Finance Update. Doug presented good news that although the Town budgeted for a loss of \$2 million for the end of 2022, revenues actually exceeded \$4 million and the Town ended up with \$2 million over in the General Fund. Sales taxes, building permits brought in additional revenue and account interest also brought in more than anticipated. Expense wise, all expenses were under budget by the aggregate of about \$1.5 million, and the Town spent \$500,000 less in capital than was budgeted.

Doug detailed the restricted funds budget which also had favorable revenues over expenditures at about \$1.4 million for a swing of about \$4.8 million. All these numbers resulted in about a \$9 million aggregate favorable results to the budget.

Council questions related to capital items and projects that were not realized in 2022 and instead pushed to 2023. Also savings in staffing and ARPA funds, as well as some vehicles that were ordered but had not arrived which contributed to the Town's General Fund balance.

Questions and discussion was also held concerning the property appraisal values that are anticipated to go up quite a lot this year and how that might affect local citizens.

7. COUNCIL ACTIONS:

7A. Resolution No. 18, Series of 2023: Resolution of the Town Council of Basalt, Colorado adopting a new Town of Basalt Logo

Town Manager Ryan Mahoney introduced Ryan Burke and Kristen Knoll of Slate Communications who were present to discuss this item with Council. Also present this evening were members of the Logo Committee - Bill Maron and Owen Lambert and Holden Lahey, members of the Basalt High School Student Council, who would speak to the logo and process. Also present from the Logo Committee, but not presenting this evening, were Josh Mueller and Eileen Fagan who participated in this process and who serve on town committees as well. Katie Erickson and Julie Kolar also participated as part of the ad-hoc committee, but were not present at tonight's meeting.

Kristen Knoll of Slate Communications noted this meeting was the culmination of a process had begun back in November. Slate Communications, a marketing and public relations firm that works exclusively with local governments, was hired to assist the Town through this process. Kristen reviewed the process of a logo and rebranding process for a community from inception through to final design. Kristen explained this was a simplified visual of a mountain community nestled by the confluence of the rivers. The trees look similar to the trees in Lions Park. It is something that is easily reproduced in color or black and white, and is a logo that should have longevity and not become outdated quickly. There were 247 individuals who participated by voting on the design online including Basalt staff members. There was a difference of 2 votes between this design and the second choice. The next phase would be template creation and implementation of the final logo design.

Holden Lahey and Owen Lambert each spoke to their interest in being a part of making a new logo for the Town, wanting to be more connected to a mature part of the community, contributing to the community, and being a part of the re-branding process.

Bill Maron talked about the committee's perspective and the work they did noting it was a great process much like the master plan process, and involved interaction with a lot of people. He said it was in keeping with the spirit of Basalt as it represented how we think about the town and ourselves. Bill felt the final design speaks to the view of Basalt being from the mountains to the confluence.

Ryan Mahoney added that having a logo that is easily reproducible and flexible is important. It has to look good on paper, fabric, signs, vehicles, etc. It would also come through looking great as a relief cut out of metal on signs and such. This logo also allows for each committee's or department's identity to be added.

M/S COUNCILORS DRUMMOND AND KNIGHT THAT THE TOWN COUNCIL ADOPT RESOLUTION NO 18, SERIES OF 2023. THE MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

7B. Interview and Appointment – Prospective BACH Members (Michelle Thibeault)

Planning Director Michelle Thibeault noted there was one opening on the commission; appointment of Sara Garcia would complete the BACH Board. Michelle introduced Sara as a Basalt area resident who works as an economic specialist for Eagle County in the El Jebel office. Sara grew up in the Roaring Fork Valley and has seen the change in demand for human services over the years. Sara interacts with Basalt area community members daily concerning food security, childcare and housing assistance. She brings a professional understanding of the issues and needs of our community and elevates the importance of a Latino perspective on the BACH Commission.

Council interviewed Sara asking her about her interest in serving on BACH, and her take on the local housing predicament.

M/S COUNCILORS SLACK AND HOTTEL THAT THE TOWN COUNCIL APPOINT SARTO APPOINT SARA GARCIA TO THE BASALT AFFORDABLE COMMUNITY HOUSING BOARD FOR A THREE YEAR TERM ENDING APRIL 25, 2026. THE MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

Ryan Slack thanked Michelle Thibeault for her continued pursuit of individuals to fill the vacancies on the various boards and committees noting this was the first time in 6 years all positions were filled.

7C. Continued Public Hearing and Second 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 introduced applicant representatives Kevin Issel of the Roaring Fork Fire Authority (RFFR), and Matt Gianneschi of Colorado Mountain College (CMC). The request was to amend the final plan approval to change the occupancy priority of four Category 2 affordable housing units located in the mixed use Gallery building, as well as a waiver from the Category 2 income and asset levels when occupied by the employees of the Roaring Fork Fire Rescue Authority or the Colorado Mountain College.

Sara offered some background on the review and approval of this Basalt River Park Development to date. P&Z has recommended approval of this Ordinance.

Mayor Bill Kane opened the public hearing at 7:16 PM. There were no public comments and the hearing was closed.

Council asked questions of the applicants related to the office space that will ultimately be utilized by CMC to establish a presence in Basalt, and the units that each organization would be taking. CMC would take the two 3-bedroom units, and RFFR would take the two 2-bedroom units.

M/S COUNCILORS KNIGHT AND DRUMMOND THAT THE TOWN COUNCIL ADOPT ORDINANCE NO. 06, SERIES OF 2023 ON SECOND READING. THE MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

7D. Ordinance No. 07, Series of 2023: Ordinance of the Town Council of the Town of Basalt, Colorado, Approving Easement Agreement with Twin Rivers Condominium Association, Inc for Location of Soil Nails (Catherine Christoff, Jeff Conklin)

Town Attorney Jeff Conklin reported that the installation of a retaining wall to help increase parking capacity along the Midland Spur would require the installation of soil nails that would extend into the neighboring property. The Town needed to acquire an easement for the soil nails to hold up this retaining wall. It will be a basic easement agreement, the Town can provide insurance. There will be more easements coming before Council as the project unfolds.

This is a first reading; no public hearing required on this ordinance at first reading.

M/S COUNCILORS DRUMMOND AND ANDERSON THAT THE TOWN COUNCIL APPROVE ORDINANCE NO. 07, SERIES OF 2023 ON FIRST READING, AND SET THE PUBLIC HEARING AND SECOND READING FOR MAY 9, 2023. THE MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

8. INFORMATION AND CORRESPONDENCE: 8A. Accounts Payable; 8B. Advanced Agendas; 8C. March 2023 Sales Tax Update; 8D. Correspondence to the Town

No comments/questions.

9. ADJOURNMENT

The minutes of the April 25, 2023 meeting were read and approved this 9th day of May, 2023.

BASALT TOWN COUNCIL:

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



ATTEST:

Pamela Schilling
Pamela Schilling, Town Clerk

This meeting can be viewed in its entirety on the Town of Basalt YouTube channel, or at www.GrassrootsTV.org, or by using this link: <https://townofbasalt.ompnetwork.org/sessions/267750?embedInPoint=1&embedOutPoint=5406&shareMethod=link>