



DATE: April 2, 2021
TO: Mayor and Council
FROM: Ryan Mahoney, Town Manager
RE: Weekly Update
CC: Department Heads

Town staff have been fielding questions regarding the Tobacco Tax grants. It seems like we have generated solid interest by the Basalt serving non-profits who have indicated interest in applying for this grant. The Town's VALE Board will begin review of applications after they are returned in mid-April. The link to the Town's website can be found here, <https://www.basalt.net/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=456>.

Town staff have been hearing from restaurants requesting outdoor dining options for the summer season. We will follow up with our contractor to get an idea on timing for getting the barriers set out again. We are aiming for the middle of April which should coincide with the last of our plowing operations.

Town staff is looking at the timing for returning to in-person Council meetings and re-opening Town Hall. We believe that we can be back in person for our first June meeting. We will have some work to do to maintain a hybrid model so the public would have an opportunity to join meetings remotely. The Council room may still have some mandated occupancy limitations that we would want to accommodate and the remote technology would allow for the public to attend virtually if that is the case.

Police

The police department attempted underage nicotine and vape purchases at our licensed businesses. Our 20-year-old undercover operative was not able to purchase age restricted products at any of the businesses. Thank you to our businesses and their staff for verifying the age of customers and not selling these products to individuals under the age of 21.

Lieutenant Aaron Munch, Corporal Nino Santiago, Officer Justin Clayton and Officer Cortnay Young attended the memorial service for Boulder Police Department Officer Eric Talley.

Officer Jason Hegberg attended the 40 hour National Association of School Resource Officers certification training. This certification is mandated by the State of Colorado for all police departments and school resource officers. We look forward to having Jason in the schools for the 2021/22 school year.

Chief Greg Knott and Lieutenant Aaron Munch spent an afternoon at the Pitkin County Regional Emergency Dispatch Center to observe their operation and staff. Greg serves on the Dispatch Center and Emergency 911 Board. The board has authorized an independent organizational assessment to be completed at the center. The focus of this assessment is to identify future capital, staffing, and long term cost estimates. The board, through this assessment, is also exploring opportunities to improve customer service and efficiencies in dispatch.

Public Works

A small crew from Public Works and a contractor repaired a main break on Saturday. The break occurred at the intersection of Cottonwood Drive and Two Rivers Road. The break was on the Swinging Bridge Lane watermain. This watermain is identified as one of the oldest lines in Basalt and is scheduled to be replaced this year. The planning and engineering are finished, and the replacement project will be going to bid this spring.

The line is a four-inch steel line that is no longer used in the water industry. The size alone is not used for watermains because the American Water Works Association (AWWA) has deemed that a water main must be at least six inches in diameter to support fire flow at a fire hydrant. We have been allowed to use the existing four inch main but going forward we must comply with modern standards.

Public Works discovered a problem with a water valve in Southside neighborhood. The valve is needed to isolate a section of waterline that is part of the Stotts Mill Development. The valves and watermains in Southside are buried extra deep so extensions are used on the valves to control the flow. The extension was not operable, so the valve had to be excavated and repaired.

We have started the spring cleanup and repair process of from our winter plowing operations. The streets crew is cleaning the edges of the roads and the ditches. The parks crew is starting to prepare the irrigation system for the summer and the turf and garden contractor is starting to clean out the gardens and get them ready for the season.

Planning

Arboney Pool- The Planning Staff has been coordinating construction items and details with Rudd, SGM, and Connect One Design and POST on the pool renovation project.

Basalt River Park Development – Staff continued to work with the Developer and consultants on addressing technical issues.

POST – POST met on Wednesday, March 24th. The major agenda item was the Committee's review and approval of the Basalt River Park plans. The Committee made a couple recommendations and unanimously voted to recommend approval of the park plans. The Council will review the plans for approval of going out to bid for Phase I at its meeting on April 13th.

Basalt River Park Improvements – Staff worked with the park, engineering and architecture consultants on details related to the park improvements, bus stop and restrooms.

Early Childhood Coalition – The Coalition and Staff are working on a proforma that will be used to better understand the costs associated with the development of an early childhood development center on Parcel 2E in Willits Town Center. Staff has been working with Bruce Kimmel from Ehlers Public Finance on the proforma.

Green Team – Staff and Councilor Elyse Hottel attended a Board of Directors meeting for CC4CA on Friday morning. Items of discussion included the 2021 annual retreat for June, leadership appointments, and advocacy group updates. The Clean Air, Clean Power and Transportation campaign groups provided updates on bills CC4CA will supporting or are in the process of developing a position. A call to action was requested for member participation in regional stakeholder meetings regarding the Air Quality Control Commission on proposed policies regarding greenhouse gas emission budgets and employee trip

reduction with written comments due April/May. There was a discussion regarding the CDOT's ten-year plan and issues with equity. CC4CA is also supporting HB 1162 geared toward phasing out single use plastics and polystyrene.

Special Events – The Roaring Fork Conservancy's Cleanup Day will be spread out over April 19-23. The High School is working on its Homecoming Parade and pep rally next Friday April 9th. Staff is waiting on other special applications for spring and summer events.

Basalt Forward 2030 – Staff provided support to Cushing Terrell, Finance Director and Town Manager for the Project. Staff from Cushing Terrell were in Town from Wednesday to Friday to meet with Staff, CORE and Holy Cross and toured Town facilities.

NWCCOG – Staff and Councilor Bill Infante attended the NWCCOG meeting on 3/25. The board heard updates from the region's congressional delegation and discussed NWCCOG's Mountain Migration project.

BPAC – The Commission met Thursday night and discussed murals, virtual studio tours, the Basalt Forward 2030 initiative, and other topics. BPAC agreed to provide financial support to the Basalt Regional Library for a youth art camp that involves a collaboration among the Library, Art Base and BPAC. Staff is working on managing the mural project slated for this spring at various locations throughout Basalt with seven different artists. Staff is also overseeing a "virtual studio tour" project with filmmakers to showcase Basalt area artists.

Ponderosa Trail- Staff walked the Ponderosa Trail with Staff from Roaring Fork Outdoor Volunteers (RFOV) to identify projects for the upcoming RFOV workday on Ponderosa Trail, which is scheduled for early June.

Recreation

Staff have been finishing up with the youth basketball season. Tonight will wrap up 6 weeks of basketball for 3rd through 6th graders. We had a total of 74 participants.

Staff have been working on a proposal for Gisella Fiou Skate Park. We are seeking to gain approval for the purchase of replacement features. The current features are rotted through and not able to secure the riding surface with hardware any longer. American Ramp Company is the vendor we have been working with.

Staff have been busy planning for summer activities. We are currently offering tennis, youth soccer, youth summer camps, and are working on T-ball and baseball offerings. Staff have been accepting applications for employment at the Arbaney Park Pool.

Finance

Colorado State Sales Tax Lookup Tool is Live – This website will make sales and use tax compliance much easier through an interactive and accurate sales tax lookup tool. You can check out this tool at: <https://colorado.ttr.services/>

Basalt Forward 2030 Update – Cushing Terrell walked through all of the Town facilities with Holy Cross and CORE this Wednesday through Friday. They visited all Town facilities except for water facilities, which will be reviewed separately. Cushing Terrell also provided their plan to the Town this week. Ryan

and I are visiting each Town department separately to inform Town staff of this project and answer questions.

Equitable transition – Equitable will be meeting with Town staff and former employees on April 8 – 9 to review retirement plan options and answer questions. We are planning to provide Equitable information to Town staff no later than Tuesday morning.