



DATE: May 7, 2021
TO: Mayor and Council
FROM: Ryan Mahoney, Town Manager
RE: Weekly Update
CC: Department Heads

Town staff learned this week that our grant application through the Department of Local Affairs (DOLA) for our regional broadband effort has been awarded. The award will pay 50% of the cost of the project, or \$800,000. We will begin construction of those assets later in 2021.

Town staff is working with regional partners, from Aspen to Glenwood, on another DOLA project known as Regional Resiliency and Recovery Roadmaps to COVID 19 Recovery. This is the beginning of a process that will include 16 different regions throughout the state. This first phase will offer technical assistance based on identified regional needs. The process does not currently identify that grants will be available for the identified needs; however, it seems to be the beginning of a process that may lead to the potential for state funding.

The Town's Facility Needs Study is tracking well, and we expect to see a draft of that by the end of the month. We are looking forward to our kick-off meeting with the Capital Needs Committee on May 17th. Staff is already preparing for that meeting which will orient the Committee members to the Basalt Forward 2030 project, outline the schedule and duties, and discuss the ground rules as described in the recently adopted committee bylaws. The real work for the committee will begin the following week when they review the draft community survey which will be mailed to the community in June. Council will also get an opportunity to see that survey before being sent to the community.

The Public Works Department hung door hangers in the old town neighborhood this week informing residents of the upcoming fire mitigation program. We are offering to pick up cut material and are encouraging residents to work with the Fire Department to come up with a mitigation plan. We will pick up cuttings by appointment during the week of May 24th.

Police

The police department applied for and received a \$7,635 grant from the State of Colorado. This grant was awarded by the Department of Public Safety, Peace Officer Standards and Training Board, to reimburse agency training costs. The grant will pay for our Roaring Fork Regional Training program costs along with daily training bulletins provide by Lexipol.

Chief Greg Knott and Lieutenant Aaron Munch attended a three hour virtual seminar provided by the Colorado Fallen Hero's Foundation. This non-profit foundation provides services and resource to law enforcement agencies, their staff and families when a line of duty injury or death occurs.

The police department is working with Basalt Regional Library staff to address their safety and security concerns. This week we tested their emergency alarm system. Next week we will provide training to staff. The "Run Hide Fight" active harm curriculum will be taught.

Recreation

We are excited to welcome Hannah Saunders as the Pool Manager to the team. Hanna comes to us with aquatics experience as a Lifeguard and swim instructor. She is also familiar with our current recreation registration software having trained on it at her last facility. Hanna will start the full-time seasonal position on May 18th.

We are conducting interviews for summer seasonal positions within the pool for concessions, front desk, lifeguard, and swim instructor. We have received a few applications and are hopeful for more. After reaching out to our condensed (due to covid) prior season employees, we are anticipating 5 out of the 10 to return.

Youth baseball/softball continues to see registrations trickle in. A call for volunteer coaches has gone out again today.

Roaring Fork Pickleball has resumed play in the Basalt Middle School gym. They play Friday afternoons from 5:30-8pm and Saturday mornings 9am till noon.

Public Works

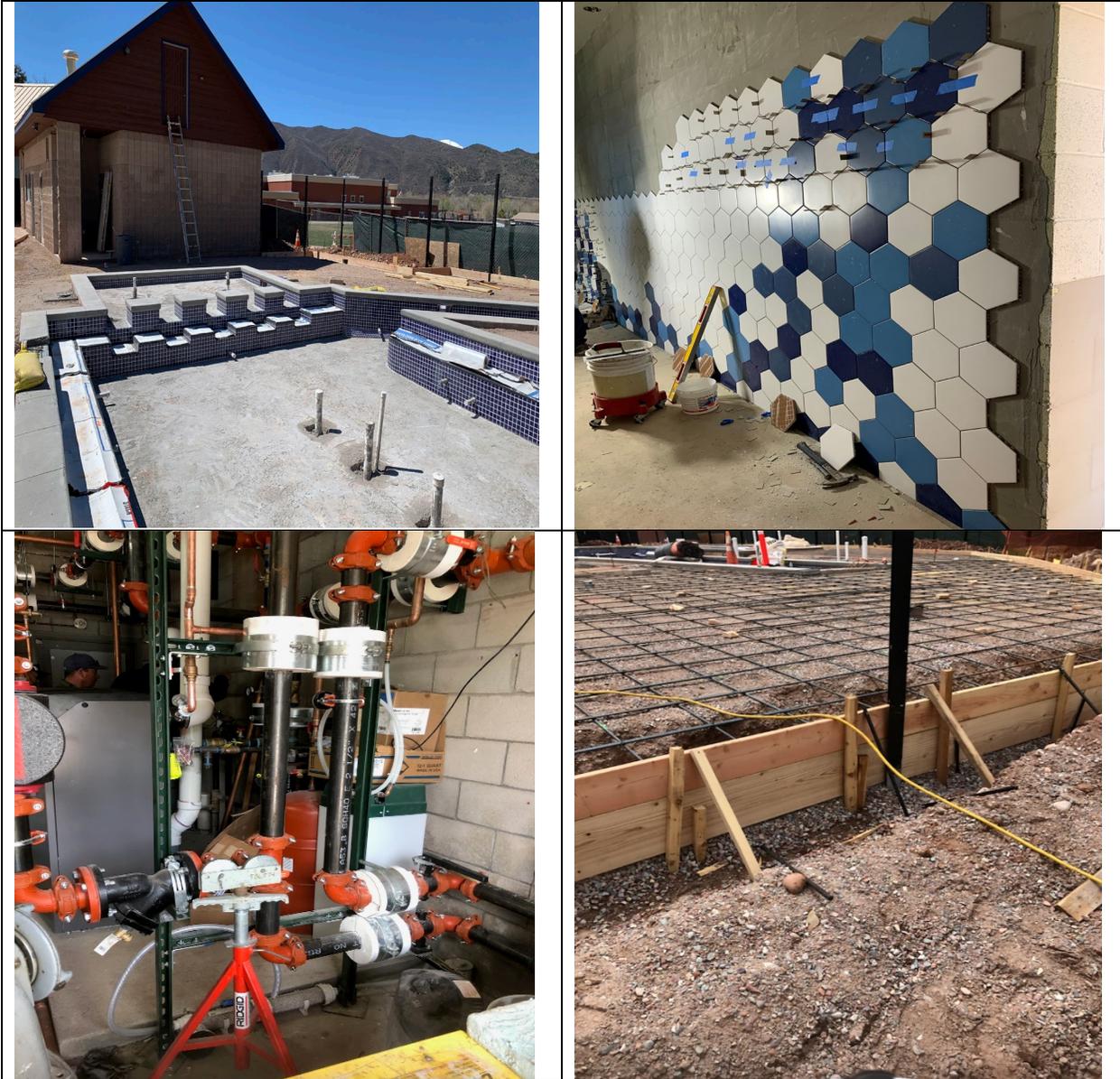
Public Works had a meeting with Johnson Construction, the company that received the bid on Swinging Bridge Lane, per council approval. We discussed the construction schedule, the timeline and mobilization for the project. They would like to start as soon as school is out after Memorial Day. The project would start on Two Rivers Road and work toward Cottonwood Drive and then down Swinging Bridge Lane. The main goal is to stay out of school traffic as much as possible. Holy Cross Energy will be partnering with the Town to get some underground conduit installed for electric and maybe fiber for future projects.

Public Works is working with the Chamber to get some Spring /Summer banners up on poles in the Town. These are the Banners that were designed by several organizations involved within the community. Public Works utilizes its bucket truck to mount the brackets and install banners to the poles around Basalt.

Public Works is busy doing maintenance in the parks. Outdoor furniture is being sanded, stained, painted, and repaired around Town. The shelters, pavilions, stairs, and bathrooms are being inspected and repaired. The underpasses are also being inspected for any work that needs to be done.

Planning

Arbaney 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. Installation of an upgraded electrical service from Park Circle to the Arbaney Pool is well underway and requires a closure of the pedestrian walkway between Park Circle and Arbaney Park for several weeks.



Basalt River Park Development –Staff has been reviewing entitlement documents for the River Park Development in preparation for filing them with the County Clerk and Recorder’s Office.

Basalt River Park Improvements – Staff continued to work with the Developer and consultants on addressing technical issues and preparing the plans for bidding Phase I of the project for construction. Staff worked with RFTA and the Developer’s contractor to work through construction phasing with RFTA’s service to the downtown area and working through those issues is continuing. Staff met with the owner of Free Range to discuss the construction and park phasing.

Fiber Project – Staff continued to have discussion with Holy Cross and HR Green regarding the installation of fiber infrastructure in conjunction with several construction projects.

Mid-Valley Center Lot 4 – Staff have been coordinating with Holy Cross and neighboring properties on the extension of fiber to the proposed future Public Works site. Staff has also been preparing for their meeting with the P&Z on May 18th on the Public Works development proposal.

Basalt Sunday Market – Staff is reviewing the 40 plus applications that have been received. The 2021 Basalt Sunday Market is set to begin on Father’s Day, Sunday, June 20th and will run every Sunday from 10:00 am – 2:00 pm through September 26th.

BPAC – Staff continues working to implement BPAC’s 2021 projects, including murals around town, painted barriers around expanded outdoor seating, and virtual studio tours. This month of May should see the completion of most of the planned murals. BPAC approved collaboration and funding for TACAW for its Pumpkin Jazz event in the fall and collaboration/funding for the Hudson Reed Ensemble’s current film project.

Chamber Sign Committee – The Committee is moving forward with plans for an East Entrance sign at Two Rivers Road and Highway 82. The project is currently out to bid, with bids due on May 21. The Committee met this week to discuss future site plans, including landscaping and incorporating public art.

Development Review/Applications - Staff spent considerable time working on items associated with the construction activities. Additionally, Staff has been working on numerous administrative development review applications that take Staff time but that do not require review by the P&Z or Town Council. Staff also spent time on responding to complaints, working on land use applications and questions on development potential.

Events – Mountain Family Health Centers will continue doing vaccination drives at Basalt Middle School on select days. The Basalt Half Marathon and Relay is scheduled for June 6. The Town is reviewing the special event activity permits submitted by the Basalt Regional Library for their summer activities. The Roaring Fork Charity Classic Golf tournament is scheduled for October 12, 2021. Response is the beneficiary of the 2021 tournament and is very excited to be able to conduct the tournament this year. Due to COVID they were not able to have the tournament last year.