



DATE: July 16, 2021
TO: Mayor and Council
FROM: Ryan Mahoney, Town Manager
RE: Weekly Update
CC: Department Heads

Town staff are busy working on cost estimates and conceptual design for several of the Basalt Forward 2030 projects. This is part of the exercise we are going through to help the Capital Needs Committee with their recommendations to Council.

Staff will meet with Holy Cross Energy and the School District to discuss a potential partnership to install solar and battery back-up on District property. This is a very preliminary discussion that may be part of the Basalt Forward 2030 projects. The battery is a way to store energy for use by Holy Cross and the school, both to offset peak energy purchase of power for Holy Cross and to serve as an energy back up in the event of a power outage at the school. The solar component could benefit the Town as the energy credits can be attributed to an offsite location, such as Town facilities. The goal would be to move the Town's facilities toward net zero energy consumption.

Staff has been working on the program for the August 4th open house to discuss the Basalt Forward 2030 projects. This will be held at the library from 5 – 7 pm. We will have free pizza and drinks. The effort will be to provide more education to the public and an opportunity to receive public feedback. We are asking all Council members to attend the event and hope to have a great attendance from the community.

Police

Isabel Leach was sworn in this week as our newest police officer. Isabel grew up in the area and previously worked for Carbondale Police Department. She has begun our field training program with the hopes of completion in three months. When you see Isabel around town, please welcome her.



Our newest "Tip of the Week" has been posted to the police departments Facebook page. In this Tip, Lieutenant Aaron Munch discussed bicycle safety. The video can be seen at:
<https://www.facebook.com/BasaltPolice>

We continue planning for our August 3rd National Night Out event. Currently we have commitments from Roaring Fork Fire Rescue, Eagle County Sheriff's Office, Pitkin County Sheriff's Office, Pitkin and

Eagle County Health and Human Services, Colorado State Patrol, Youth Zone, Colorado Parks and Wildlife, Response, Pitkin County Road and Bridge, Pitkin County Open Space and Trails and The River Bridge Center as cooperating agencies who will be at the event.

Public Works

The new waterline on the Swinging Bridge water line project has been installed from the dentist's office to the southeast corner of Two Rivers and Cottonwood Drive. They will be cleaning that section of Two Rivers Road today and mobilizing down towards the 7-11 gas station this afternoon. The plan is to try and saw cut the asphalt on Monday and then start crossing Two Rivers Road heading north towards Swinging Bridge Lane. Traffic control with one lane of alternating traffic is going to be necessary at the 4-way stop as they cross this section of roadway. We are estimating that work to take about 4-5 days to complete and open both lanes to traffic again.

Our crew has been working with the Town Engineer and the contractor to come up with a plan on how to shift the water line at the new River Park into Two Rivers Road after some changes to the design were necessary.

We have also been preparing for the final disinfection and tie-in of new water main for the Stotts Mill project. That is scheduled to take place and be tested on Monday of next week. On the treatment side we wrapped up our quarterly reporting for the State.

Parks has been busy working with the contractors at the River Park site and pool where they are installing the topsoil and sod today. The remaining section of fence that separates the Arbaney property from the public trail has been finalized and ordered. The crew is raising sprinkler heads where vegetation has grown up limiting their coverage in between breaks and routine repairs.

Facilities has been staying busy with the trash, cleaning, and doggy stations. We will have an employee come in on Sunday morning to check on and service the cans and facilities due to the increased weekend volume. New locks are being installed on the Arbaney restroom facility similar to what we have at Town hall's exterior facility.

The streets crew was out sweeping the roads of both east and west Basalt this week, the frequency needed has increased this summer from all of the construction projects taking place. We changed out approximately 25 older street signs this week to meet the MUTCD reflectivity requirements for nighttime visibility.

Planning

Arbaney Pool- The Pool opened on Saturday and the improvements were well received. There are a number of items that we are still working through to complete the project.



Basalt Center Circle Application – The next substantive discussion will be on Tuesday, July 20th.

Sopris Meadows Parcel 5 – The Sopris Meadows Parcel 5 Application is scheduled for its first introductory meeting and public hearing also on Tuesday, July 20th. The application is for 155 multi-family units south of Park Modern.

BPAC – The Commission intends to have an update with Town Council on July 27 to discuss its 2022 work plan and budget.

BACH – The Commission has a meeting scheduled for next Thursday where they will pick up their discussion on the Sopris Meadows Parcel 5 application.

Basalt River Park Development – Staff has been working on issuance of the full building permit for the restaurant. Additionally, Staff and the Town Attorney have been working on finalizing the remainder of the entitlement documents. Building permit applications have been submitted and are under review for some of the townhome units on the west side of the development.

Basalt River Park Improvements – The Council approved the contract with Walters Inc. for Phase 1 of the Park Project. Work is expected to start in August.

Two Rivers Road Improvements – Staff has been working on details of this project. Construction is now expected to start on the north side of the street in the near future.

Mid-Valley Center Lot 4 – There is a pre-bid meeting scheduled for July 22nd and the bids are expected on August 3rd.

Building Permit Coordination – Until a new Building Official is hired and on board, we have increased the role of consultants and Staff to get the work done. As noted in last week's report, a foundation permit was issued for the first building in Stott's Mill, a 12-unit apartment building and reviews continued on several other buildings.

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 and working on land use applications.

Special Events – Staff is busy permitting numerous special events in the coming weeks.

Recreation

Sub-contractors through Rudd Construction finished up work in the pool mechanical room at 8:45p Thursday evening. New shiny chemical controllers, a replacement pump for the main pool, and some smaller punch list items were completed. We are opened up for business from this planned one-day closure.

Staffing for our Learn to Swim programs has been a challenge. We were set to finalize the training this week. Three candidates showed strong interest in teaching lessons only to back out this week. Staffing levels for these part time specialty positions are a challenge across the valley and we are no exception. We will not be able to offer swim lesson programming this season.

Youth baseball and softball leagues are going into their final week of regular season. Round robin styled tournaments are starting July 24th for softball, and the week of July 26th for baseball.

Natures Cool Summer Camp with Garry Phaffmann is still going strong. Campers have been having weeks of fun in outdoor adventures, organized games, and cooling off at the river holes in the afternoons. This offering will run to August 13th. Roaring Fork School District returns to class Aug 16th.