



DATE: February 18, 2022
TO: Mayor and Council
FROM: Ryan Mahoney, Town Manager
RE: Weekly Update
CC: Department Heads

Town staff has continued to work on the Basalt Connect marketing. We have advertised in both the Aspen Times and Aspen Daily News. In addition, new banners were put up this week in a few areas of town. I personally took my first ride this week and it was so easy!

2022 SERVICE HOURS

MON												
TUES												
WED												
THURS												
FRI												
SAT												
SUN												
	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC

LEGEND

- 6am - 9am + 3pm - 10pm, Daily
- 6am - 10pm, Saturdays and Sundays
- No Service (Jan, May, Oct, Nov)

Town staff met with our recruiter yesterday to review the process and applications for the Planning Director position. We have several applications and have begun an initial review of those. The plan moving forward will include an interview with the recruiter followed by background checks and reference checks. Once completed, finalists will be invited to Basalt for an open house where Council,

Town committee members, Planning Commission and members of the public will be invited to get to know the candidates. This will be followed by interviews with Town staff and a community panel consisting of members from the Planning Commission, Town committees and possibly members of the development community. We expect that this will take place in late March.

Police

Corporal Thomas Wright attended an informative training on domestic violence. The training covered ways to investigate past/present relationships, strangulation cases, and other informative topics. Corporal Wright will pass on this knowledge to other Officers.

A lock down drill was completed at the Middle School. There were no issues that came up and it went well.

Corporal Santiago and Officer Hegberg attended the Krav Maga Instructor Certification Course. This is a 5–7-day intensive course where they learned many different tactics to keep our officers safe. Not only will the training be helpful for our officers, but others who train with us through Roaring Fork Regional training group, consisting of Officers/Deputies from Aspen PD, Snowmass Village PD, and Pitkin County SO.

Public Works

This past week the streets crew worked on removing ice dams and snow removal for the snow squall that was mainly concentrated towards the east end of town. It was an unusual snow event where the Elk Run neighborhood saw upwards of 3” or more that stuck to the pavement and other parts of town had very little accumulation. With the snow being so wet and the cold temperatures forecasted for that following evening we needed to clear travel lanes and pedestrian paths to keep that small amount of snow from packing down to the point where it can’t be removed afterwards. Routine maintenance like chain link replacements on the sanders and new cutting edges were installed on the plows. Up at the cemetery we are removing snow and prepping a plot for a burial.

The water department had a backup alarm system installed for an added safety measure to ensure operators are receiving a notification call via cell phone 24/7 when an alarm setpoint is triggered. Matt and Robi prepared for a CoWarn exercise with a consulting firm for an exercise that will be taking place at the end of March. The all-day exercise will have us making phone calls and sending emails to our local Emergency Management resources and the State to request assistance with problems that will come up as we simulate a snowstorm event that causes the Town of Basalt to lose power to our water infrastructure.

Chris Beiser has signed up and is preparing for the Master Arborist exam. The Town applied for and was selected as one of the cities for the Select Tree Evaluation Program. It is a program that is trying to diversify different tree species throughout the State. Glenwood Springs was the other Western Slope applicant that was selected. We are working as a team with Glenwood on the project and have been putting a plan together this week. The tree that was selected for our area was the Manzano Maple tree and those will be provided to us by the program.

Planning

Basalt Center Circle Application – The Applicant is working on the Final Plan application.

Lot J, Basalt Commercial Park – The necessary LOMR-F was approved by FEMA. The Council approved the final plan approval ordinance. Staff has been working with the Applicants on their entitlement documents.

Basalt River Park Improvements – Walters Inc. has continued work on Phase I of Basalt River Park. They have completed final grading, constructed the wall elements, and finalized the winterization of the site. The Town will be finalizing a contract with the selected plant supplier soon. Additionally, the POST Committee conducted a meeting on Wednesday to discuss some of the details on the Phase II improvements. There was also a kick-off meeting held with Connect One Design, architects for the bandshell and misting features, and Staff on Friday to discuss logistics for designing the band shell and misting features.

Midland Avenue Streetscape Project – Two RFPs, one for design and one for CM/GC services, were advertised in late January. Pre-proposal meetings were held for both RFPs this week, and questions from proposers were due this week. The Town will issue responses to all received questions on Tuesday next week. Proposals on the CM/GC RFP are due on Thursday next week, and proposals design RFP are due on Friday next week.

Town of Basalt Photovoltaic and Energy Storage Project – The Resolution approving the contract with McKinstry was approved by the Council. A project kick-off meeting between the McKinstry team and Town Staff was held on Tuesday. McKinstry will be conducting site visits of the potential sites in mid-March. Staff will continue to work with Holy Cross Energy, the school district, CORE and members of the Green Team.

Other Basalt Forward 2030 Support – Town Planning Staff also provided support to the Manager for the Basalt Forward 2030 projects. The Team has had several meetings since the last Manager's report to further the implementation of affordable housing.

Mid-Valley Center Lot 4 – Phase 1A of the Project has been completed except for the landscaping. Resolution approving the contract with Gould Construction was approved by Council. Town Staff and Gould are moving forward with final design of the foundation and building.

Basalt River Park Development LLC – A full building permit was issued on the Gallery Building which includes commercial, apartments, and the affordable housing units.

Development Review/Applications – Staff also spent time on responding to administrative reviews, complaints and working on land use applications and building permits.

BACH – BACH reviewed and discussed a Letter of Intent for the Greater Roaring Fork Valley Housing Coalition (the coalition that created the 2019 regional housing study) and voted to recommend approval of the document to Council.

Basalt Early Childhood Coalition – The Coalition congratulated Michelle Oger and Blue Lake Preschool for being approved as the Provider for the future facility at Parcel 2E. Michelle will be meeting with Staff and the design team today to kick off the project and create a timeline. The Coalition also met virtually with the developer of Stott's Mill to discuss the core and shell of the childcare center and how they may support the project.

Green Team – The Green Team finalized its rebate program for retrofits, the purpose of which is to leverage available rebates offered by partners CORE and Holy Cross Energy in the categories of Insulation/Air Sealing, Energy Efficiency, and Electrification.

Finance

Year-end Financials – We are working diligently to close the books for 2021. We have asked that all bills for 2021 are to Accounting this week. We are still receiving a few receipts and invoices from 2021, which is usual for this time of year. We miss Susan’s coding and reconciling expertise, but the rest of the Planning team has been wonderful. We hope to have pre-audit results available by the end of March.

Basalt Forward 2030 – Phil Vaughan and Christy are working on a quarterly financial reporting format for Basalt Forward 2030 that will be included with the quarterly financial information throughout the Basalt Forward 2030 work. We will be reviewing a report format with the Finance Advisory Board in March that will be shared with Council shortly thereafter. This reporting is a critical component of Basalt Forward 2030, so Council and Town constituents know how the monies are being spent. The Town is grateful to its voters for the passage of the Basalt Forward 2030 projects, which include Midland Avenue Streetscape, Affordable Housing, and Green Projects.

Finance Advisory Board – The Finance Advisory Board met on February 16 and reviewed the 2022 Supplemental Budget that will be presented to Council February 22. The Supplemental Budget includes carryovers for projects that were originally budgeted in 2021 but will be completed in 2022. Additionally, the Supplemental Budget includes \$465,000 funding for the Midland Avenue Streetscape project from the Town’s General Fund. The Town also applied for \$1 million CDOT Revitalization of Main Street grant. If that grant is received, then the \$11.5 million Midland Avenue Streetscape project will be fully funded.