



**DATE:** April 8, 2022  
**TO:** Mayor and Council  
**FROM:** Ryan Mahoney, Town Manager  
**RE:** Weekly Update  
**CC:** Department Heads

The Town Manager extended an offer late last week to Michelle Bonfils Thibeault for the Planning Director position. She has accepted and will take over her new responsibilities on April 25.

The US Women's Fly Fishing Team will be coming to Basalt to compete during the last weekend in April. They will be fishing on the Fyngpan and Roaring Fork Rivers. The winners of this competition will move on to compete in the World Fly Fishing Championship.

Town Staff will interview candidates for the Recreation Director position early next week. Brian Passenti has decided to move on from the Town of Basalt after next week. We still plan to have our regular recreation offerings this summer, including the Arbaney Park Pool.

The tobacco tax grants for non-profits have been up on the Town's website for about a week. The applications are due on April 22<sup>nd</sup>. The VALE Board will review application in mid-May and forward a recommendation to Council for final approval at our second May meeting.

## Police

Lieutenant Aaron Munch and School Resource Officer Jason Hegberg refereed the annual teachers versus 8<sup>th</sup> grade student basketball game. It was a close game with the teachers winning by two points.





This week has been busy planning for hazard mitigation and response. Chief Greg Knott met with the Pitkin County Public Safety Council to discuss the upcoming flood and fire season. He also participated in the kickoff meeting for the Pitkin County Hazard Mitigation Plan development. This plan is renewed every five years and is required by FEMA to receive pre and post disaster grant awards. Lieutenant Aaron Munch is also working with the Emergency Managers of Pitkin and Eagle Counties, along with staff from Roaring Fork Fire Rescue, to review and update our Lake Christine Burn Scar Emergency Response Plan.

The VALE Board met and awarded an applicant \$400 for the theft of his bicycle. Town Manager Ryan Mahoney also attended the meeting and gave an update regarding the Town of Basalt Tobacco Tax Grant Program. Grant applications are due on April 22<sup>nd</sup>. The VALE Board will meet on May 9th to review and make recommendations to Town Council.

Officers attended the first quarter of our multiagency Roaring Fork Regional Range program. Officers qualified with handguns and patrol rifles. We also spent considerable time practicing decisional shooting drills. At defensive tactics we practiced arrest control skills and defensive ground fighting.

### **Public Works**

Public Works participated in the Pitkin County led Emergency Management Update meeting. The purpose is to keep our organizations emergency plan up to date thus qualifying for emergency response money when needed. The meeting was attended by many groups in the valley including law enforcement and fire departments.

Public Works is assisting We-Cycle with establishing an asphalt pad to place one of their larger bike stations on. We moved some sprinkler heads and installed an asphalt pad made of left-over asphalt, "roto-mill". The pad is spread out then rolled and wetted to help it set up. It works great and can always be easily taken apart and reused.

Part of the Midland Project is doing core drilling to check to soil conditions and ground water levels. Public Works has been working with the drilling company to help locate and avoid utilities.

We have been sweeping up sanding material from the winter and picking up limbs from the wind this week. Public Works has been trimming trees, taking the pool covers off and replaced a dishwasher in one of the town's affordable housing units this week. The sprinkler systems around town are being tested to get them ready for the warmer weather growing season.

## **Planning**

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

**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 architects on the bandshell, misting feature, and bus station/restroom continue to work on the designs for those elements of the park. POST reviewed the draft designs for the bandshell, misting feature, and bus shelter/restroom and provided feedback at their meeting on March 23<sup>rd</sup>. Staff also put out an RFP for the Phase II installation and bids were due on March 30<sup>st</sup>. Four (4) bids were received. Town Staff is bringing a contract to Council for consideration on April 12<sup>th</sup>.

**Midland Avenue Streetscape Project** – Staff is meeting weekly with Connect One Design and Stutsman-Gerbaz to prepare for a design charette between Town Staff and the design team that is to occur in April. The design team met with BPAC on April 7<sup>th</sup> to gain comments on the project. There will be a pop-up booth seeking public input located on Codger's Corner Friday afternoon/evening and all-day Saturday. The design team is planning a three-day charrette April 18-20. A community survey will be posted on the website soon to gain further input from the community on the project.

**Town of Basalt Photovoltaic and Energy Storage Project** – McKinstry conducted site visits of the potential sites on March 16th. Staff and McKinstry continue to work with Holy Cross Energy, the school district, CORE and members of the Green Team on the project.

**Other Basalt Forward 2030 Support** – Town Planning Staff also provided support to the Manager for the Basalt Forward 2030 projects.

**Mid-Valley Center Lot 4** – Phase 1A of the Project has been completed except for the landscaping. 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.

**BPAC** – The Commission met with Connect One regarding the Midland Avenue Streetscape Improvement project with a focus on ways to improve the downtown district through public art. BPAC members were enthusiastic about the opportunity to begin brainstorming ways public art could be added to downtown and provide a sense of placemaking.

**Regional** – Staff attended a public hearing for The Fields Subdivision Preliminary Sketch Plan application with the Roaring Fork Regional Planning Commission. The hearing has been continued to April 21<sup>st</sup>.