



To: Mayor and Town Council
From: Clint Kinney, Town Manager
Date: December 13, 2024
Re: Info Update

DRAW SITE OWNERS REVIEW

Following the direction from Monday’s Council meeting, we are continuing to make progress on the Draw Site owner’s review. We are preparing for open houses in January and a survey to continue to receive community feedback on the 79 unit, 2 building, design. If you have ideas of survey questions you would like to have asked, please let me know. The design team is preparing an additional rendering for this option from the Base Village/ Juice perspective. I have briefly talked with Britta and she is going to provide some ideas on who should serve on the Peer/Expert committee to provide feedback. We did have one change from Monday’s Council direction. Rather than have the Design Team review and provide a cost estimate of a one building option with at-grade parking, they will be reviewing and cost estimating on a 58 unit, two building option with at-grade parking, that was developed by Tom (option 4). As we continue to develop additional information, please let me know if you would like a one-on-one meeting with the Design Team. I want to make sure the Council is fully up to speed and has all of the information you need. Over these last 2 years we have explored a lot of different ideas, so I want to ensure that all the information we already have is available to you. I am happy to pull individual meetings together whenever works best for each Council member.

SALES TAX NUMBERS

Sales tax revenues were up in October by 14%. Of course the “October base” is a small number, but year to date, we are up over 8% and tracking ahead of budget. Marijuana and tobacco taxes were down 3% in October and remain down about 9% from last year. Lodging tax remains strong and ahead of budget. It is up almost 16% for October and over 10% for the year. RETT and Excise are tracking ahead of budget.

TID BITS:

- In order to remain eligible for (State) Prop 123 housing grant funding, local governments must demonstrate they have implemented an expedited review process for affordable housing by the end of 2026. To this end, we are working on some draft land use code language that would require/allow workforce housing projects to go through the “Special Review” process. This is the same land use process that Little Red School House is going through. It will give ample time for upfront “owners review” and then hearings before the Planning Commission and Town Council. We hope to have some draft language for the Council to review in early 2025.

- We are still trying to hire a few good drivers for the Village Shuttle.
- Of the 2,555 registered voters in the Village 1,820 of them voted in the last election.
- We are in the middle of doing annual lease renewals for our rental units. Each year we undertake a compliance check on each unit. We did upgrade our process this year, so everything is done electronically.
- Hey sports fans..... The Recreation Center ice rink opened this week.
- We had a successful Black Friday Rec Center pass sale event. We welcomed 104 new members, 14 of which were family passes.
- Everyone already knows that cops love to shop. This past week, our TOSV PD participated in the valley wide Shop with a Cop event at which officers take well deserving kids shopping for the holidays.
- As the Council is aware, we are a member of the Regional Dispatch system (created by an IGA serving from Carbondale to Aspen). We have a long history of combining our dispatch services with our partner public safety agencies, both law and fire (and ambulance). The Dispatch Center has been “temporarily” located at the Aspen Fire House in the North 40 for about 10 years and our lease is coming to an end. Roaring Fork Fire Authority is stepping up to the plate to allow us to build a facility that will be part of their Blue Lake Station 42. We are anticipating this Station 42 location to be a long-term solution. There are lots of details to come, but we are confident we have a good path forward that will maintain our strong regional partnerships. This facility could be completed as soon as 2026.
- After a number of years of effort, the Town is about to become the proud owner of 8 workforce housing units at the Faraway Apartment. We are scheduled to close with the School District today. As the Council will recall, these workforce units were at risk of going “free market” due to a lawsuit and other issues. The School District ended up purchasing all 18 units with voter approved bond funds. But due to restriction on their bond funds, the District needed to sell the 8 units that had a more firm deed restriction (giving priority to the Timbers). The Town then partnered with the School District to purchase these 8 units. In order to actually close on the deal, we needed to go through a somewhat complex land use process to create the lot that could be then sold to us. All that is to say, after a lot of work and partnership, we get to maintain these 18 units as workforce housing. As we take over the leases for these 8 units, I am sure we will have a bump or two in the road, but it will be worth it.
- As a direct result of input from our Employee Committee, we created a new high deductible health insurance plan for our employees to take advantage of this upcoming year. This HDHP will provide savings to employees by having a lower premium cost. We had more than a dozen staff members take advantage of this new option.
- Winterskull (I have no idea how to properly spell that) is underway. Checkout all the activities here in the Village. All we have to do now is bring back the pool jump.
- We received a proposal from CORE for \$300,000 of services to be provided in 2025. We are asking the EAB to review the proposal and make a recommendation to the Council.
- The POSTR Board was lightly attended this week, but they started preparing for the Council discussion regarding e-bikes and the rodeo grandstands. One idea that came up for the grandstands was an “artistic” type solution. The idea was to potentially partner

with SAAB to find an artist that could use the grandstands as a 3-D canvas. Who knows, the grandstands could become a pretty cool public art piece.

- SEH will be contacting Charles Cunniffe Architects to see if they would be willing to partner with them and act as the architect for the proposed 2 level Mall Transit Center. We will wait to see how CCA responds. In the meantime, SEH will start developing the plans to deck over lot 5 to replace the Lot 6 parking. We are also working with the FTA on maintaining the existing \$13.5 million grant. In the meantime, we are running a day to day operation that is moving hundreds of thousands of riders around the Village.

CC: Department Directors