




**TRAVIS ELLIOTT  
TOWN MANAGER**

*Integrity • Respect • Teamwork • Pride • Innovation • Diversity*

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TO: Mayor and Town Council  
FROM: Travis Elliott, Town Manager   
CC: Town Staff  
DATE: January 21, 2022  
RE: Info Update

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#### ALL YOU NEED IS LOVE'S

The Love's Travel Center has received the Town's official approval of several waivers from the PMC. Examples include allowing them to build larger contiguous parking areas than what is traditionally allowed, allowing a smaller sidewalk (6' wide instead of 8'), and allowing parking between the building and the street. We have sent them a draft development agreement, and we are now awaiting their official construction timeline and cost estimates for the public improvements before it can be finalized and executed.

#### COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR

We are close to executing an agreement with Ben Levenger and Downtown Redevelopment Services (DRS) to serve as our contract Economic and Community Development Director. DRS is the same firm that has been working on the Economic Development section of the Town's Comprehensive Plan, and they have been working with us on various economic development initiatives. Needless to say, Ben and DRS has done a good job and we look forward to working with them on an ongoing basis. In addition to traditional economic development services, we are also going to utilize them to provide vision and direction in our ongoing tourist and recreation marketing strategy. This contract will take the place of the vacant Community Development Director position.

#### PRACTICING DEMOCRACY

The deadline for qualified electors to submit nominating petitions to be a Mayor or Town Council candidate in the spring election is Monday, January 24<sup>th</sup>. The Mayor and five Town Council seats are up for election. Details and election packets can be found on the Town website. If you have any questions, please contact Town Clerk Lucy Spalenka.

#### TID BITS:

- Public Works was called in today (Friday) to jet a sewer line to help remedy a house that was experiencing backups. Bud and Jim were on scene in no time, and the new(ish) jet truck worked smoothly. Prior to the Town owning our own jet truck, we would have been forced to call in an outside service and our crews and the resident would have likely had a significant delay.

- Brandon and our contract CBO Dan Reardon recently had the tough job of enforcing our building code. Unfortunately, a local resident built a large patio addition to their house without getting a permit or talking to any Town staff. As a result, the patio does not meet code, is far from sufficient structurally, and has been deemed unsafe. The Town is requiring him to deconstruct the patio. He was understandably upset, and you may hear from him. If you do, please direct him my way. If you would like additional details, please let me know.
- Speaking of enforcing the rules, we are out posting utility bill shutoff notices to delinquent accounts.
- We are getting ready to issue several RFPs for various Public Works projects including street crack filling and trash services.
- Staff will begin our weekly event planning meetings for Town Clean Up Day and Rockmaggodon next week. Stay tuned for dates and details.
- Brandon and I will be attending the BLM Regional Resource Advisory Council meeting next week to begin talks of incorporating the Mt. Callahan BLM property in their ongoing resource management plan.
- Tesla has reached out to the Town about bringing a supercharger station to the Town. From my brief research, it appears there are no EV chargers between Grand Junction and Rifle, and we think this could be a good amenity to attract I70 travelers to Town. We are meeting with Tesla next week to discuss the concept further.
- Save the date: the annual Energy & Environment Symposium is April 13-14, 2022. Please let us know if you would like to attend, and we can make the necessary arrangements.
- The Garfield County Federal Mineral Lease District's grant award luncheon is January 28<sup>th</sup>.
- I attended the Garfield County Economic Development Partnership quarterly meeting yesterday, which was a great opportunity to meet with regional stakeholders and hear about what is happening in the valley. Everyone is expecting and experiencing a lot of residential development inquiries and projects coming down the pipeline.
- As approved by the Town Council, we have provided a letter of support to CRBOCES for their federal good jobs grant to assist them in building regional technical institutes to train individuals in various career paths and skills. In the meantime, CBOCES plans to utilize the Public Works grounds to begin a high school training program building tiny homes. We are working with them to iron out the details.
- I had a great meeting with BMMD Manager Steve Rippey and Assistant Manager Vinnie Tomasulo today. They informed me that ~200 homes / units are planned for construction beginning this summer.
- I am going to continue my efforts to meet with community stakeholders, businesses, and residents. If there is a particular organization or person you would like for me to meet, please let me know or make the introduction. I appreciate it.