

TO: Mayor Rogin and Members of the Board of Trustees
FROM: Victoria Simonsen, Town Administrator
DATE: September 29, 2022
ITEM: Administrator's Report

ORDINANCE
 MOTION / RESOLUTION
 INFORMATION

CEMEX Application for Extension of Mining Permit: The Board of County Commissioners is scheduled to discuss and make their determination later today. Staff will give an update during the Board meeting.

BOT / Board and Commission Chair Meeting: There was a very good turnout for our Chairs meeting. The mayor reviewed the municipal code and the roles and responsibilities of each group as well as expectations regarding public, and open meetings, and rules. The mayor and trustees shared the 2022-24 priority areas with the group and asked them to take them back to their commissions and review where they can be of assistance. We will start meeting quarterly with the chairs moving forward.

Highland Ditch Meeting: Mayor Rogin, Trustee Elson, and Tracy Sanders met with the Highland Ditch board of directors to discuss 'working in good faith' toward a resolution of the St. Vrain Trail and the use of a portion of the ditch right of way. We are awaiting a written response from them in the coming weeks.

Projects, Grants, and Other Funding: The staff is putting together a spreadsheet of the available funding for unmet capital projects for the town. We have been attending numerous workshops and conferences to better understand the eligibility for certain funds, the process for applying and the criteria for selection. We are also working with Boulder County on updating our Hazard Mitigation Plan to include additional fire mitigation projects and other hazard mitigation opportunities.

Boulder County Sheriff's Sargent Cody Sears: Mayor Rogin and town staff had the opportunity to meet and talk with Sargent Cody Sears, who is the finalist to replace Sargent Crist in mid-January. We will plan to host a going away and welcome party near that time.

Personnel Changes: The town has posted for a temporary receptionist during the maternity leave for our current Finance Tech / Receptionist. The job is posted on the town's website. Marissa Davis, Deputy Town Clerk will be working part-time remotely until the end of the year when she will be resigning her position. This job is posted on the town's website, CML, CMCA, and Indeed. We are also considering reconfiguring the Main Street Manager position into a Cultural and Events Coordinator with the Main Street duties picked up by Director Mitchell.

Town Hall Mural: Android Jones has completed the town hall mural. Plan to join us on Wednesday, October 10 from 5:30-7:00 to celebrate the new view!

Parks and Public Works Information and Highlights

Lyons Valley River Park Ponds: EcoResource Solutions (ERS), the contractor currently being used by the Town for water quality monitoring on the ponds and maintaining the Moleaer Nanobubble systems, was in Lyons on 9/21/22 to do their latest round of water quality testing (the report is attached for your review). The report shows water quality to be within normal ranges. ERS feels the results demonstrate and reflect that the current management program continues to be successful.

Town staff continues to be in regular communication with ERS, who has been continuing to monitor (bi-monthly) the quality of the water at each of the ponds and service the Nanobubble systems. The last service was in July (prior to the one on 9/21/22). Along with the installation of the Nanobubble systems, they have been continuing to add Benthosweep, and have checked on the recommended number of grass carp we have added and have confirmed that the number stocked to date to be an ample number.

BenthoSweep is a recommended ongoing bacteria inoculation. EcoResource Solutions, Inc. uses a propriety blend of bacteria and enzyme products designed to improve water clarity, reduce organic sludge (bottom muck), control foul odors, reduce nutrient levels, and restore natural balance to the ecosystem. Bacteria applications are currently occurring bi-monthly during site visits to both ponds (May – October). It is intended to be used in congruence with the nanobubble aeration system, and the carp. BenthoSweep is biodegradable, and when used as directed, it is not harmful to humans, fish, wildlife, or aquatic organisms.

These applications are done in conjunction with monitoring and evaluation of the nano-bubble systems, as well as continued water quality testing. All of these are meant to work in conjunction to continue to improve the overall water quality of the ponds but aren't immediate solutions or silver bullets. It is not uncommon for smaller bodies of water to be more reactive to temperature change and nutrient load, thus more susceptible to algae bloom.

As of now there has been no indication of water quality ever being outside normal parameters. The Town and ERS have found that another resolution for the algae in the upper pond could involve finding a way to increase flows through the upper pond to better filter water through on a more regular basis-the town is looking into ways this might be accomplished. Another suggestion is to consider adding an aquatic herbicide to the upper pond (information attached). ERS has stated they have applied this to other interconnected waterways and have seen favorable results and that it has favorable safety parameters. Given recent mandates, conversations, and public sentiment, the idea of adding an in-water herbicide does not seem like an ideal alternative but may resolve the issue.

Overall, signs from the water quality reporting and other physical components show that the ponds are in good health and that things continue to improve with current management strategies.

Recently the conduit for the electricity that runs the systems that are anchored under the original portion of the McConnell Bridge was vandalized and torn down. Staff worked with a contractor to have it repaired and reattached. However, it has caused the systems to shut down as they have

a safety mode when any power fluctuations are encountered. Contractors have contacted the manufacturer of the units to come and address the issue.

Fire Mitigation Efforts

Operation Might Goats: Attached is an After-Action Report submitted by Zack Bertges, Code Compliance Officer on the fire mitigation efforts involving the goats on the confluence buyout “Stacey” parcel at 341 Park St. and on the Steamboat Valley Outlot A Parcel near Vasquez and Horizon Drive. Overall, the program was a success and staff would recommend incorporating into next steps with upcoming overall fire mitigation efforts.

Tree Removals/Confluence Area Buyout Parcels: Staff is working on an Invitation for Bid for the removal of dead trees, tree trimming/hazard reductions of existing trees and dead wood removal on several buyout parcels in the confluence area prior to the end of the year. This is intended to assist with fire mitigation efforts on the parcels.

Town Hall Repairs: Staff will be working with contractors prior to the end of the year to complete needed repairs at Town Hall to improve issues related to water damage to the facility. Repairs include replacing three windows in the records room, replacement of soffit (including vents) and fascia, gutter upsizing and replacement, including install of leaf guards. Flashing and drip edge will be fixed and added where needed.

Bohn Park Multi-Purpose Rest Room: Repairs to the multi-purpose rest room near the high school in Bohn Park will be taking place in the next month. Repairs include replacing some of the siding and trim and repainting the facility.

Lyons Bike Park Fall Maintenance: Maintenance of the Lyons Bike Park will be taking place soon with the Jump Doctors. Fall maintenance includes bringing in equipment to add material and wet surfaces to ensure jumps maintain shape and riding lines are kept in place.

Park and Recycle Center Wi-Fi and Cameras: Recently staff completed a process with Lyons Communications to further expand wi-fi in both LaVern and Bohn Parks so that additional cameras can be installed prior to the end of the year. In addition, staff has purchased several ‘trail’ cameras and is working with Code Compliance and the Sheriff on a strategy for the additional placement of cameras to further curb some of the vandalism, illegal dumping, and other issues occurring in these areas.

Fall Street Painting and Striping: Staff will be working with contractors to get quotes on restriping and painting parking stalls, crosswalks, curbs, and other areas on High Street, Railroad Avenue from 3rd to 5th, and McConnell Drive during the month of October.

Fall Tree Trimming: Tree trimming in several of the Town parks and rights of way will be taking place during the months of October and November.

Fall Fertilizing: Fertilizing services are being scheduled for the week of October 3rd for an all-organic turf fertilizer being applied in both Bohn and LMJ Park. This service will be the same service completed in May of this year. The service will be done by SavaTree and should be completed in 2-4 days. The product that is applied is Assure 8-0-6 Organic Fertilizer. It is all-organic and has no synthetics. It is a granular product. We will be applying it per the recommended application rates.