

## TOWN MANAGER REPORT - DEC. 19<sup>th</sup> TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

### TOPICS

- Fire Department Recognitions & Awards
- Shop with a Cop
- Ten Thousand Work Orders
- Retiring Librarian
- Community Host Kick-off
- Meeting with the Community
- Staff Retreat

### Fire Department Recognitions & Awards

On Saturday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>, there was a well-attended ceremony at the West Vail Fire Station, where many members of Vail Fire and Emergency Services were recognized. It was a very moving event with many family members and fellow emergency responders in the audience. This was very similar to the Vail Police Department Ceremony conducted in Town Hall on November 8<sup>th</sup>, with heartwarming stories of individual achievements, professional advancements, and life-saving heroics.



*Please join us for a Promotional and Award Ceremony*

**Saturday, December 2, 2017**

**11:00 am**

**Station 3**

*The following promotions will be recognized:*

**CAPTAIN JACOB SAVONA  
 LIEUTENANT ZAK MILLER  
 LIEUTENANT DUSTIN ELLIOTT  
 ENGINEER MICHAEL LEBLANC  
 ENGINEER JARED OLSON  
 FIREFIGHTER AIREK STREETZ  
 FIREFIGHTER JACOB ENGLE  
 FIREFIGHTER HAYDEN RAGSDALE**

*The following achievements will also be recognized:*

**LIFESAVING AWARD  
 MERIT AWARD  
 DISTINGUISHED SERVICE  
 FIRE CHIEF'S COMMENDATION  
 EDUCATIONAL ACHIEVEMENT**

***Lunch will be served. Please RSVP to Laura Putnam by  
 11/22/2017***



In addition to the recognitions noted in the flier above, commendations were provided to numerous individuals related to educational achievement, hazardous materials training, military service, exceptional contribution, and life-saving measures (involving the successful rescue of multiple unconscious individuals suffering from carbon monoxide poisoning).

Merit awards for notable acts of distinction in the line of duty were provided, and the event culminated with an award for distinguished service for highly unusual act of distinction. These particular awards involved the department's response to the tractor-trailer rollover on I-70 east of Vail in September.



The list of deserving recipients throughout this ceremony is available. We may consider hosting both of these very important ceremonies as a community events next year, with the ceremonies occurring at the Donovan Pavilion or Golf and Nordic Clubhouse. Stay tuned.

## Shop with a Cop



On Monday December 11<sup>th</sup>, approximately 45 Vail and Avon deserving children, selected by their schools, joined our public safety folks in the annual *Shop with a Cop* program.



The Town of Vail buses transported the children and both Vail Police Department and Vail Fire Department personnel to Walmart where the participants went on a shopping excursion. This was followed by a wonderful dinner with the kids at Four Seasons, ending with a massive gift-wrapping session that was enjoyed by all.



This event is invaluable in terms of helping families, but it goes farther than wrapped gifts. The interaction between police and fire personnel with young children in such a positive and festive environment will help build positive relations and good will. Many kudos are extended to those who helped put together this beneficial and fun event.

## Ten thousand Work Orders



The Public Works Facility group has tracked and closed over 10,000 work orders in the work order software that was put into place early 2014. This preventive maintenance program in the software has allowed the department to systematically maintain building components causing less frequent and less severe system outages. The milestone accomplishment was acknowledged with a breakfast at Westside Café.



## Retiring Librarian

A sad but heartfelt farewell to Kathleen Winfield, who is on her way to New Mexico with her spouse Craig (previously a Town of Vail bus driver for 20 years) to enjoy a well-deserved retirement. She will be missed. A nice potluck meal was prepared and some low-key celebration at the library facility was had to honor her. Also of note, her spouse Craig had worked for the Town previously in the Transit Department. Both individuals served for a period of 20 years!

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## Community Hosts Kick-off Event

The Community Host Winter Kick-off was hosted at the Vail Golf and Nordic Clubhouse on December 7<sup>th</sup>. It was very well attended. The participants were duly thanked for their volunteerism, with some coaching and information updates also being shared by our Welcome Center team. Representatives from Town Hall, Vail Resorts, Betty Ford Alpine Gardens, Vail Recreation District, the Library, Art in Public Places, and Environmental Sustainability were all part of the presentation.

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## Meeting with the Community

Recent meetings have involved Eagle River Water & Sanitation District, Vail Chamber & Business Association, personal meetings with Jeff Babb of Vail Resorts, former Mayor Andy Daly, Sam Mamet of the Colorado Municipal League, and follow up meetings with Chris Romer with Vail Valley Partnership, and Jim Lamont with the Vail Homeowners Association.

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## Staff Retreat

The management team had a four-hour retreat at Four Seasons on December 13<sup>th</sup>. It was a very good retreat and we had participation by all members of the management team including the new Economic Development Director, and our Environmental Sustainability Manager.

The first item on the agenda involved a 'check-in' with the group to see how things are going, in general. Some good feedback was obtained, and some constructive suggestions were duly noted.

This was followed by a discussion of management strategies and techniques, premised of course upon a very collaborative decision-making and problem-solving framework.

This transitioned into an in-depth discussion about the organizational structure, involving the soon-to-be-created Housing Department and its interplay with other departments. Emphasis was placed upon 'flattening' the organizational structure and instituting more formalized teams to deal with the myriad subject matters that concern us.

We also had discussions related to the boards and commissions and their respective roles with staff and the Town Council.

We then chatted about the 2018 Compensation Study, and ongoing effort to formulate administrative policy related to fleet vehicles usage, and the upcoming evaluative process which will deviate, to some degree, from the traditional once-per-year format.

In preparing for the January 9<sup>th</sup> Council retreat, the following were identified to be topics for the agenda, subject of course to Council input and approval:

1. Update on the Organization (recapping the Staff retreat presentation)
2. Council Meeting Protocol (a short discussion on existing meeting format, retreat scheduling, and related items).
3. The Policy Process
4. The 2018-20 Town Council Action Plan