



Town of Blowing Rock

1036 Main Street ★ Post Office Box 47 ★ Blowing Rock, North Carolina 28605

Date: March 10, 2015

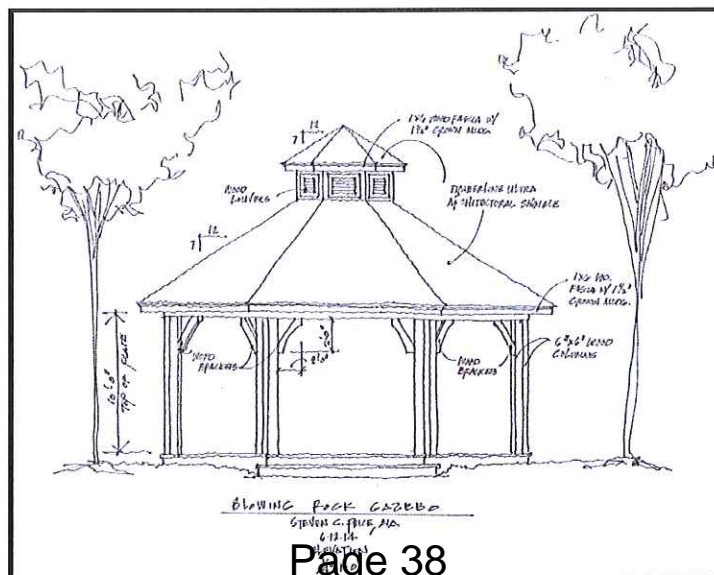
To: Town Council

From: Scott Fogleman, Town Manager

Re: Memorial Park Gazebo Replacement Project and Related Site Improvements

The Watauga Community Band approached the Town last year about the possibility of donating funding to create a performance space in Memorial Park. At the April 8, 2014 Council meeting, Council authorized staff to begin working with interested parties to develop a plan along with associated costs. Since that time, the Blowing Rock Rotary Club and many other community partners have been working together help to create a plan to replace the existing gazebo in Memorial Park, which is approximately 40 years old, with a larger gazebo. The timing of this initiative turns out to be extremely helpful, as the support timbers of the existing gazebo have fallen victim to termite infestation and rot damage in recent years, so some level of significant maintenance/reconstruction would have been necessary very soon.

The construction company 4 Forty Four has agreed to build the new gazebo through a contract with the Blowing Rock Rotary Club, which is the primary funding agency of this project. With Council approval of this project, the current gazebo, which is about 14 feet in diameter, will be removed and replaced with a new gazebo approximately 30 feet in diameter. The new gazebo is designed to have a cupola and open sides to provide flexibility for various uses of the gazebo. Park benches will be placed between support timbers to provide seating when events are not taking place. A sketch of the new gazebo is shown below.



The funding partners identified to bring this \$78,540 gazebo structure project to fruition are identified in the table below.

%	Dollars	Description
100%	78,540	Gazebo Structure Costs

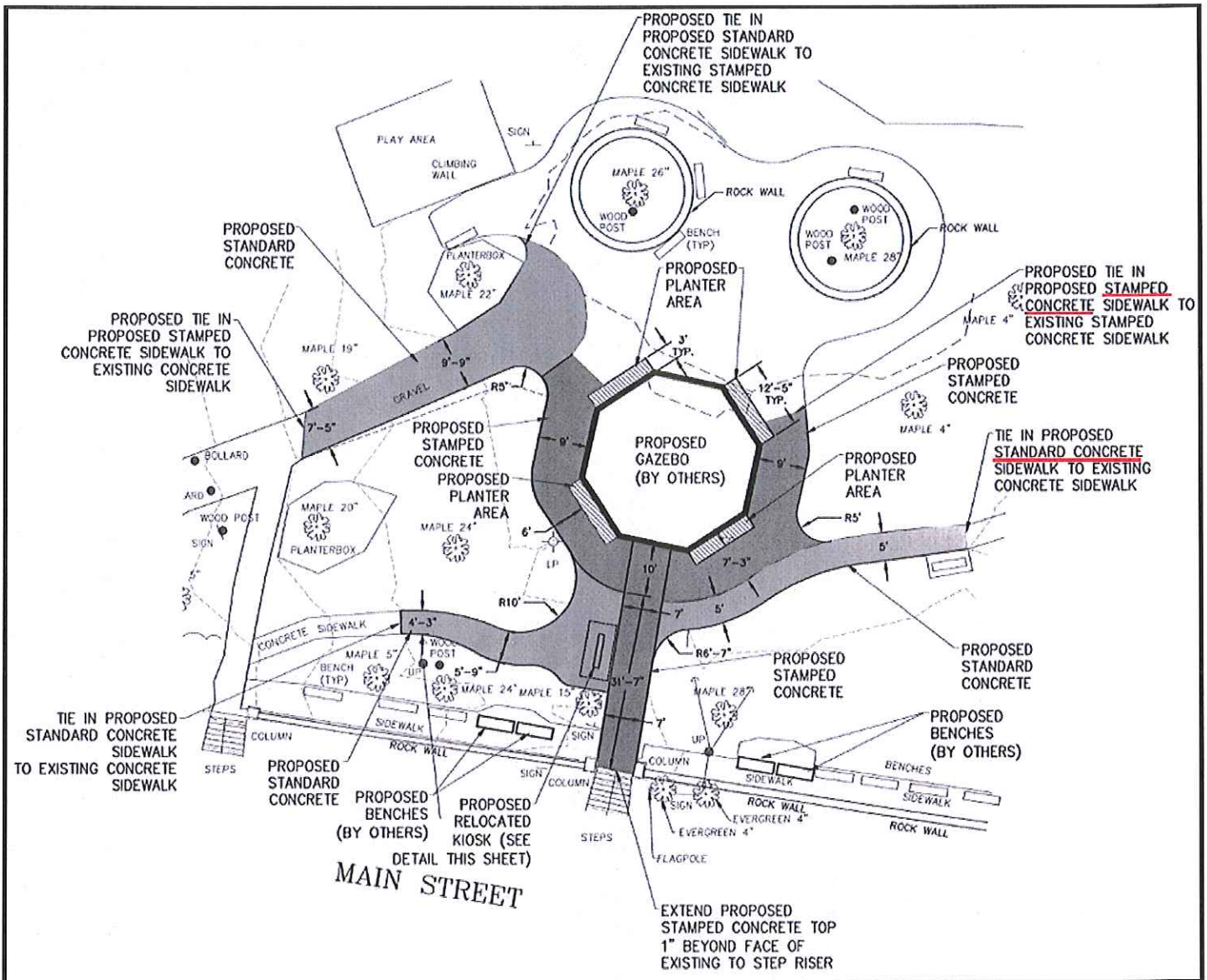
			Funding Sources	
Partners providing 90% or \$70,900 of value	51%	40,000	Rotary Club Cash	
	13%	10,000	Watauga Community Band Cash	
	13%	10,000	New River Building Supply Materials	
	7%	5,500	Four Forty Four Construction Labor In Kind	
	4%	3,000	David Moore Bulders Labor In Kind	
	3%	2,400	Steve Price, Architect Labor in Kind	
Town providing 10% or \$7,640 of value	6%	4,640	Town of Blowing Rock In Kind (demolition)	
	4%	3,000	Town of Blowing Rock Cash	

Due to the timing associated with the Blowing Rock Rotary Club raising additional funding for this project in the fall of 2015, \$10,000 of the \$40,000 Rotary Club contribution will be funded initially by the Town, and the Rotary Club will pay the Town back in September.

Related Site Improvements

With an undertaking of this magnitude, staff has examined how the area around the gazebo will be impacted and has identified site work that would best be performed as part of the gazebo replacement project. Examples of this work include changing out the stone walkway leading from Main Street to the existing gazebo, which has gotten a little rough in spots, to stamped concrete. The same stamped concrete, which will match the stamped concrete remaining behind the gazebo, will be tied together by continuing it around the new gazebo.

The darker shaded areas in the graphic below indicated where the stamped concrete will be located versus where the adjoining new sidewalk sections will be standard concrete.



The related site improvements shown above were put out for bid recently and two bids were received. The low bid of \$34,880 was submitted by 4 Forty Four Construction. With Memorial Park improvements having been identified as part of the Park and Recreation General Obligation Bond Referendum approved by voters last fall, that funding source is being recommended to fund this work under a new capital project.

Staff plans to have the time capsule, installed in 1989, put back in the same place it currently is in the center of the entrance walkway. Staff also plans to ask the Blowing Rock Historical Society for its assistance in determining how to preserve and display the plaque in the floor of the current gazebo.

In recognition of the Blowing Rock Rotary Club's \$40,000 contribution to the project, it will be named the Blowing Rock Rotary Gazebo and a plaque will be incorporated into the site along with recognition of the others donating toward the project.