



To: Mayor Schmidt and Town Council
From: Michael Yerman, Community Development Director
Subject: **Photovoltaic Fee Waiver Policy**
Date: December 17, 2018

Background:

The Town of Crested Butte was approached by a local photovoltaic provider about the Town's requirements for obtaining building permits for photovoltaic systems. A building permit is required for these systems and the systems must also obtain a State electrical permit. There are several necessary items the Town review for including but not limited to proper installation, snow loading, and conformance with design standards especially on historic buildings.

The Town Council has made a goal of reducing the community's emissions by 25% in five years. Town staff has been working on ways to assist the community on reaching this goal. The staff is recommending that the Town Council enact a fee waiver policy for individual PV building permits. This fee waiver includes building permit, mechanical permit, plan review, and BOZAR review fees if required. Town staff have also implemented an insubstantial BOZAR Chair review for the placement of PV systems on a majority of projects. The full review of a PV system by the Board is only required in situations where PV systems are very large or on contributing historic building. However, the fees for this review would be waived under this new policy.

Use tax and the payment of the State Electrical permit fees will still be required.

Policy:

Fees are waived for Photovoltaic/Solar Panel systems for the following Town Permits:

- BOZAR Review
- Build Permit
- Plan Review
- Mechanical Permit

Recommendation:

A Council person make a motion followed by a second to adopt the fee waivers policy for Photovoltaic Systems in the Town of Crested Butte.