

April 2025

# GMF Town News



Thank You Town Volunteers!

## Mayor's Memo:

I hope everyone had fun with the "April Fools" Newsletter, I had fun generating it. First off, some really good news! In March, the State of Colorado set aside **\$1,000,000.00** for us to use as matching funds for our main bridge project. This means when the grant funding is resumed (it is currently paused), we can state that we have those funds available to use for matching. This amount of match money should suffice quite well. The fact that the grant is paused may actually work in our favor. Before it was paused, the deadline for the grant would have been before we had received word on the million-dollar matching. That meant that had the grant not been paused we would have said that we were "pursuing" matching funds from the State. But since it was paused, we can now say we have "received" the matching funds. This should help us compete for the grant funding.

It's that time of year again. The Town has posted positions on our website (<https://greenmountainfalls.colorado.gov/jobs-and-requests-for-proposals>) for **Pool Attendants/Life Guards and for a Lead Pool Coordinator**. If you are interested, please go to the website and print an Application (or stop by Town Hall to pick one up).

In addition, we have posted (at the same link as above) for our **Clerk/Treasurer**. This week, our current Clerk/Treasurer (Bo Ayad) informed us that he has a family medical situation that will preclude him from meeting his duties. We will definitely miss Bo and wish him and his family the best.

On Tuesday, April 1st at 6 pm we held a Town Hall meeting to discuss a potential ballot measure regarding a tax increase for employee retention and capital improvement projects. We received some good input on information some of the voters may want to see. Initially, we are considering a proposed 1% sales tax that could net the Town at least an additional \$73,000.00. However, this is very preliminary and subject to change. While you may hear things like "we can't afford a (fill in the blank - Town Manager, Marshal etc...)", our audit reports going back to 2019 tell a different story. From 2019 until 2023, the **actual audited** results were that the Town took in more revenue than we had expenses (we were in the "black"). Now, having said this,

2024 may be the first recent year where we may have had more expenses than we did revenues. I am concerned that we overspent our General Fund. In addition, we also bought a replacement dump truck which was needed because we can no longer get parts for our existing one. Once our 2024 audit is completed (the target for completion is June), we will be able to determine what, if anything, is really needed. Something that I'm convinced of is our accounting systems and tools were just not user-friendly in years past. That has changed with using a different accountant and tools. So, it is my opinion that in years past, due to the non-user-friendly systems, staff created budgets that were overly conservative (higher expenses, lower revenues). This led to a perception that we couldn't afford things when in fact, our audited "actuals" said differently. As far as the proposed tax increase goes, even if the 2024 "actuals" come back in the black, we need to evaluate whether or not a change is needed to support maintaining the Town.

## Grants:

Most of the Federal grants have been paused. We are confident that they will be re-started and once they are we will do our best to get the Applications in. This mainly affects the pursuit of funding for the Ute Pass Avenue bridge. So, the grants we have applied for (or will apply for) are:

1. PROTECT - Ute Pass Avenue Bridge, \$6,332,000.00 (paused)
2. DOLA LOMA (State Local Match) - Ute Pass Ave Bridge, **State has set aside \$1,000,000.00 for the Town of GMF.**
3. Project Accelerator - 250 hours of labor for a Comprehensive Stormwater Plan; we did not receive this one.
4. BRIC - Stormwater Master Plan, \$60,000.00
5. Congressionally Directed Spending - Mill and Fill all asphalt roads and replace large culverts on Ute Pass Ave and Lake Street, \$1,000,000.00
6. Fishing is Fun - Gazebo Restroom upgrade, \$70,089.00.
7. CDOT Revitalizing Main Street - Sign for coming into Town (similar to Manitou's),

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\$250,000.00. The Town will be requesting matching funds support.

8. DOLA REDI - Refurbishing the Old Marshal's Office, \$100,000.00. The Town will be requesting matching funds support.

## **Fire Mitigation:**

The Fire Mitigation Advisory Committee is sponsoring "How to Make Your Home Insurable and Fire Defensible" on April 28, 7-9 PM at Town Hall. To register for in-person or virtual attendance, please contact Paul Yingling at [paul.l.yingling@gmail.com](mailto:paul.l.yingling@gmail.com). A flyer is posted and available at Town Hall.

## **Reminder:**

If you are doing any upgrade to your property, please submit your Pikes Peak Regional Building Department permit number to the Town with your Application for the Town permit.

## **Calendar:**

Apr 1st - Town Hall/Board of Trustees  
Apr 8th - Planning Commission  
Apr 9th - Parks, Recreation and Trails Committee  
Apr 15th - Board of Trustees (if needed)  
Apr 22nd - Planning Commission  
Apr 28th - Fire Mitigation Committee

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## Marshal's Report March 2025

Call Type	# of Calls	Outcomes if any
Case follow-ups	7	
911 hang ups	2	
Assist outside agencies	3	
Traffic complaint	1	
Citizen Contacts	1	
Sexual Assault	1	Still being investigated
Attempt to locate	3	
Trespassing	0	
Domestic violence	0	
Litter complaint	1	
Traffic stops	5	
Parking complaints	0	
Check the welfare	0	
Suicidal check the welfare	0	
Noise complaints	0	
Traffic Accident	0	
VIN verification	0	
Theft	1	
Suspicious Incident	1	
Utility issue	0	
Criminal Mischief	0	
Animal complaint	3	
Alarms	1	
Total calls for service	30	

Other agencies assisting us - 2 calls for service

Us assisting other agencies - 3 calls for service

NIBERS reports completed

Citizen Contact upload completed.

Reserve hours worked - 28 hours

On March 21 yearly firearms training was conducted - All officers are requalified for the year on handguns. We will have another qualification on long guns (shotguns, rifles and less lethal bean bag gun) in July. We were also honored to have retirees from the Woodland Park Police Department, the Cripple Creek Police Department and the El Paso County Sheriff's Office join us. They were all requalified for the year for the retired officer concealed carrying course.

Thank you all for joining us!