

August 2025

# GMF Town News



Thank You Town Volunteers!

## Mayor's Memo:

It was an amazing, but incredibly busy July! For starters, the Green Box Arts Festival was a huge success. If you were able to attend some of the events, you know that there was an incredible amount of volunteers who shared their talents with our community. A special thanks to Green Box and all of the volunteers who assisted with this Festival. Some statistics I've seen for the Festival are: 7,000 tickets were sold for events such as concerts and classes; and an estimated 15,000 to 20,000 people came into Town to see the outdoor art installations.

The next event was the "Dive-In" that was done at the Town's pool. There were approximately 50 people who came to enjoy the pool, the smores and the movie. I'd like to recognize our pool staff for putting on an excellent event!

The next event was Bronc Day. A great big "Thank You" to all of the members of the Building Ute Pass Community (BUPC) non-profit organization and all of the volunteers and sponsors who helped make Bronc Day extremely successful! The Parade had 34 entries and almost 200 participants. I have no idea how many people attended this event, but I can tell you that some of the food vendors ran out of food. Many people have visited our Town and have fallen in love with it.

So with the events this summer, that does bring up a topic that the Town as a whole needs to consider. That topic being, how do we deal with the number of visitors that are likely to be coming into Town? One simple fact about tourism is that our businesses need the visitors in order to remain in business. Of course, when the businesses are doing well, the Town benefits as well. The largest portion of our revenues are sales and use taxes. I personally prefer sales and use taxes over property taxes.

The three biggest concerns with large numbers of visitors that I've observed are parking, restrooms and trash. For parking, the Town will need to make all of the Town's larger, more easily accessible, right-of-way areas into available parking. That won't gain much, but it may give us enough to look for land acquisition opportunities to help support future needs. Ultimately, the parking is what limits the amount of visitors the Town can handle. However, with the population increase that is expected in the Springs,

Fountain and El Paso County areas, we will need to develop as much as we practically can. If we don't make plans to deal with the parking situation, we will have a worse mess. Something else we will likely have to do is to make it illegal to park in more areas overnight. We do have situations where folks are using the downtown areas for longer-term parking.

For restrooms, we do have grant funds available for making our Gazebo Park restroom usable year-round. However, in the summer months, we will have to supplement it. One of the areas to supplement the Gazebo Park restroom is at the Old Marshal's Office. We have received some seed money to begin renovations there. It is likely that we will start with the restroom to make it available to the public. There's already a restroom there, but it's just not usable at this time. The other available option is if we are able to fund the Pool Park renovations. The current concept plans do add public restroom facilities.

The final concern is with trash. Obviously for Special Events we will need to have a dumpster available. However, with the increased tourism numbers we will need to have a larger dumpster available somewhere in Town that Public Works can use throughout the summer.

If we plan on increased tourism now, it should help alleviate some of the issues that go along with having an increase in visitors in the future.

In other news, we should be doing some asphalt repairs beginning in early October. There are two main areas, in front of the Post Office and Hotel Street. The Post Office has needed work for some time as the asphalt has settled and made for areas that can ice over in the winter. Hotel Street has had several settling issues. There will be some more areas repaired, but those are the most significant.

At the Board of Trustees meeting on August 5th, the Board will be voting on the Town Manager. The current Agreement the Town Manager is working under expires at the end of December of this year. The first vote will be whether or not to keep the position. If that vote passes, then the Board will be voting on the Manager's updated Agreement. That Agreement, as it is currently written, would extend the Town Manager job until the end of 2027. My

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position about this is unchanged, I support the Town Manager position.

## **Fire Mitigation Advisory Committee:**

The Team Rubicon and Chipper events were very successful. During Chipper Days, the Fire Department, FMAC and town resident volunteers served 50 homes, chipping more than 100 slash piles. Residents donated \$1,256 to our Fire Department to purchase critically needed equipment.

Team Rubicon served 37 homes in Green Mountain Falls and surrounding areas, completing fire mitigation work with a commercial value of more than \$600,000. Four FMAC members and one Town Trustee served as grayshirts during this operation. The Church of the Wildwood provided a base of operations for this effort, and the Town provided shower and classroom facilities. Historic Green Mountain Falls Foundation donated \$650 to sponsor an Appreciation Dinner for Team Rubicon.

The Fire Department and FMAC will be conducting a second “Chipper Days” on September 6th and 7th. Fixed site chipping at Joyland Church will occur on Saturday, the 6th. Mobile chipping will occur on Sunday, the 7th. FMAC will have a flyer with sign-up instructions out soon.

## **Committees:**

**Planning Commission:** The Planning Commission has been working on updating the Town’s Comprehensive Plan. This Plan is very important because many grants want to see how the grant request fits within the community’s planning documents.

**Parks, Rec and Trails Committee:** This Committee is working on numerous potential park improvements including Pool Park, Hotel Park, relocating the American Discovery Trail and more. One recent item that this Committee is putting in front of the Board is for the Town to be recognized as an American Discovery Trail (ADT) Trail Town. This could expand the Town’s recognition at no cost to the Town.

## **Reminder:**

***Parking in the Public Works Yard is not allowed.*** Also, do not park in front of the Public Works gate.

If you are doing any exterior upgrade to your property or lot, please discuss your project with the Town to avoid a stop order.

## **Calendar:**

Aug 5th - Town Hall/Board of Trustees

Aug 12th - Planning Commission

Aug 13th - Parks, Recreation and Trails Committee

Aug 19th - Board of Trustees (if needed)

Aug 25th - Fire Mitigation Advisory Committee

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## Marshal's Report June 2025

Call Type	# of calls	Outcomes if any
Case follow-ups	0	
911 hang ups	2	
Traffic Control	3	Art display at the lake
Citizen Contacts	4	
Sexual Assault	0	
Attempt to locate	2	
Trespassing	0	
Domestic Violence	0	
Litter complaint	0	
Traffic Stops	10	
Parking complaints	15	
Check the welfare	0	
Suicidal check the welfare	0	
Noise complaints	1	
Disturbance	2	
VIN verification	1	
Alarm	1	
Suspicious Incident	2	
Utility Issue	0	
Hazard	0	
Animal Complaint	6	
Fraud	1	
<b>TOTAL CALLS FOR SERVICE</b>	<b>52</b>	

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## **Marshal's Report June 2025 (Continued)**

Other agencies assisting us - 2 calls for service

Us assisting other agencies - 3 calls for service

NIBERS reports completed

Citizen Contact upload completed

Use of force reporting completed

Reserve hours worked - 0 hours

1033 audit to be completed between July 1 and July 30