

February  
2024

# GMF Town News

Thank You Town Volunteers!



## Mayor's Memo:

**Short-Term Rental Owners: If you have not done so already, renew your short-term rental. On March 15th, anyone who has not renewed will lose their license and it will be given to the next STR in line.**

We are in the midst of doing an assessment for Broadband capability for the Town residents. The assessment will tell the contractor if the Town is eligible to pursue funding for infrastructure to increase our Broadband capability. There is a speed test that can be accessed from the homepage of the Town's website. Once you click on the links, you will be sent to a website that will ask you some basic questions about your internet service. It will also ask you to upload a copy of your bill that shows what speeds you should be getting. We need to have this testing done by February 9th. This assessment is part of a grant that is fully funded by the State and is at no cost to the Town. The information from this assessment will help identify if the Town can pursue grants to install infrastructure and/or have another provider for our area.

The State has begun this year's Legislative Session. As expected, there are already some proposed Bills where the State may dictate Local Codes. Some of these fly right in the face of maintaining local control. Both the Pikes Peak Area Council of Governments (PPACG) and the Pikes Peak Regional Building Department (PPRBD) have legislative committees that are meeting regularly now to review and take positions on various bills. From the list of bills that those organizations review, I have compiled a list of 45 bills (for now) that I am monitoring for the Town. Some of the bills that I am currently focusing on are HB24-1006: Assist Rural Community Wildfire-Related Grant Application, HB24-1007: Prohibit Residential Occupancy Limits and HB24-1050: Simplify Processes Regarding certain Local Government Taxes (includes lodging taxes). There are obviously several other Bills, but these have most of my focus now. One of the biggest concerns that I have is that the Lobbyists are telling us that the Trial Lawyers Association is trying to remove all caps on liability claims. This would be disastrous because it directly affects everyone's insurance (no caps = expensive and/or no insurance).

There are a couple of events I'd like to call your attention to. The first is a public meeting regarding Team Rubicon and how they may be able to assist with fire mitigation on private property. That meeting will be held at Town Hall at **6 pm on February 21st** and will be carried via Zoom as well. **Pizza and apple pies made by Lisa Huizenga will be served.** For more information about the Team Rubicon event, see the banner on the Town's homepage.

The second is "Superskate at the Lake" on **Saturday February 10th from noon to 4 pm.** This includes ice skating, broom hockey and ice fishing (with some warm activities in the park). I encourage everyone to come join us for a "day of winter fun". The "Events" tab on the Town website has a link to the flyer for this as well.

You may notice that the Newsletters may be getting a little thinner. The Town is under State mandate to have all digital media meet accessibility requirements, so the format and content of these Newsletters may have to change.

There is an open position on the Planning Commission. If you are interested, please stop by Town Hall and apply.

*Mayor Dixon*

## Fire Safety Update

The Town has received a conditional two-year grant to utilize the Mile High Youth Corps to do mitigation work. The Grant is for 11 weeks of work in 2024 and 2025 (total of 22 weeks).

CUSP cost sharing grant funds are still available through the end of this year. Contact Adrian Knight with CUSP - [adrian@cusp.ws](mailto:adrian@cusp.ws).

## Grants/FEMA

The Town has submitted the final paperwork to receive payment for our damages. The Town has also made application for mitigation funding to install new culverts. The mitigation funding is competitive and it may be awhile before we know if we receive a grant.

## Lake/Park Projects:

**The Gazebo will be closed March 1st to May 24th for the repairs to the bridge.** New electrical service has been run to Gazebo bridge. We then have to run temporary cords for any electrical needs at the Gazebo until the bridge is replaced.

## Reminder:

Please cut down your dead/dying trees. **Also, please make sure your mailing address (PO Box) is associated with your voter registration.** <https://www.coloradosos.gov/voter/pages/pub/home.xhtml>

**February Events** - For times and locations, refer to the Town Website

6th & 20th - Board of Trustees  
13th - Planning Commission  
14th - Parks, Recreation and Trails  
26th - Fire Mitigation

## Marshal's report Jan BoT

Call type	# of calls	Outcomes if any
Traffic Control	1	
911 hang ups	1	
Assist outside agencies	3	
Civil papers served	2	By EPSO
Citizen Contacts	4	
Menacing	0	
Follow ups	3	
Suspicious incident	1	
Harassment	1	
Abandoned vehicle	0	
Traffic stops	4	
Parking complaints	2	
Check the welfare	3	
Trespassing		
Noise complaints	1	
Motor vehicle theft	0	
Lost property	0	
Parks violation	1	Ice fishing on lake???
Motorist assist	1	
Mental health hold	1	Transported by UPRAD
Vin verification	0	
Animal complaint	3	Mostly bears in trash or dogs
Alarms	1	
<b>Total calls for service</b>	<b>34</b>	Down from 40 last month

Other agencies assisting us – 5

Us assisting other agencies – 2

NIBERS reports completed.

Citizen Contact upload completed.

Reserve hours worked – 92 hours

Assisted WPPD with Christmas Parade

Worked shop with a hero with TCSO, WPPD etc.