

January 2026

# GMF Town News



Thank You Town Volunteers!

## Mayor's Memo:

I wish you all had a very happy holiday season!

**Please consider applying for the open**

**Planning Commission position!** You need to be a Town resident to apply.

Before I dive into my annual "year in review" Newsletter, I want to make some announcements. First, I am planning on running for a third term in the November elections. Second, some of the things I'll be looking into this coming year are:

1. Regulation 43 (wastewater - cesspools) adoption by the El Paso County Board of Health. I've already requested that the Board of Health have a discussion about this.
2. Testing data that set the Ozone standards. Our region is on the verge of being in "non-attainment" which could mean millions or billions in extra costs. I am seeking verification that the tests were run taking altitude into account.
3. Pursuing funding for a water attorney. I would really like to know for sure what we do or don't have.

## 2025 Year in Review Highlights:

### January 2025:

The BoT selected Caleb Patterson as the new Town Manager.

### February 2025:

I highlighted all the hours and what those hours were spent doing while I acted as Town Manager prior to Caleb's start date. I had captured 142 hours just in the "acting" role.

### March 2025:

The BoT set several goals for the new Town Manager. Regulation 43 for wastewater was discussed. El Paso Trail concerns were raised and several Federal grants had been paused.

### April 2025:

The State of Colorado set aside \$1,000,000.00 for the Town to use as matching funds for our bridge project (which we later lost because the PROTECT Grant was not reinstated). The Clerk/Treasurer position was posted and the potential ballot issue for 2026 was discussed.

### May 2025:

The Town announced that they were looking for a Pool Coordinator. Another Town Hall meeting was held to discuss a potential ballot issue for Nov. 2026.

### June 2025:

Colorado Parks and Wildlife awarded the Town a \$70,089.00 grant under "Fishing is Fun" for the restrooms at Gazebo Lake. The Town also received word of grants totaling \$95,000.00 being awarded for various projects around Town from the Kirkpatrick Family Fund. Our new Town Clerk/Treasurer, Nicole Woods, started and the pool opened for the season.

### July 2025:

The BoT decided to table the potential ballot issue and re-evaluate it for the 2026 election. The Green Box Arts Festival was very well attended and the art display at the lake went viral. Bronc Day was held at the end of July and was very successful. There was also a discussion on wildfire mitigation.

### August 2025:

In that Newsletter, there was a recap of the July activities and a discussion about handling more tourism and the challenges the Town would face. The BoT voted to extend the Town Manager's contract to the end of 2027.

### September 2025:

The need for replacement heavy equipment was discussed. The Town received the "go-ahead" for spending funds on the restroom project at the Lake from Colorado Parks and Wildlife. The proposal for the speed cameras was presented to the Board (and approved).

### October 2025:

The BoT authorized the purchase of a replacement grader and skid steer. Students from Ute Pass Elementary worked at various locations across Town doing beautification activities. The BoT reviewed the draft budget and the asphalt replacement in certain areas commenced.

### November 2025:

GMF Parks and Trails were awarded the Leave No Trace Gold Standard designation. The \$1 million in matching funds from the State for our bridge project was re-awarded. Speed camera data was presented.

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## December 2025:

Yule Days information was presented. The Town received permission from the El Paso Trail landowner to continue certain operations until April 2026. The Town's potential water rights were also discussed. The BoT approved an overall budget for the Town of \$1,043,960.26 with estimated General Fund expenses totaling \$941,622.16.

## **Committees:**

### **Fire Mitigation Advisory Committee**

The Fire Mitigation Advisory Committee FMAC members can assess your property from a fire mitigation perspective.

**Planning Commission:** The Planning Commission has an opening. If you are a resident of the Town of Green Mountain Falls, please consider applying! 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:**

A new retaining wall has been installed at Hotel Park. This wall contains some of the historic markers that were displaced when the basin was installed.

## **Reminders:**

When driving in Town, please do not proceed past a road closure sign. There are times when we need to close a road for the safety of the workers.

If work in Town is needed, please report it on the Town's website at:

<https://greenmountainfalls.colorado.gov/form/report-a-nonemergency-issue> or contact Town Hall.

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:**

Jan 6th - Board of Trustees

Jan 13th - Planning Commission

Jan 14th - Parks, Recreation and Trails

Jan 20th - Board of Trustees (if needed)

Jan 26th - Fire Mitigation Advisory Committee