

June 2025

GMF Town News



Thank You Town Volunteers!

Mayor's Memo:

So in last month's newsletter, I hinted at a grant for something down at Gazebo Lake. Colorado Parks and Wildlife, through their "Fishing is Fun" grant, has awarded the Town \$70,089 for upgrading our Gazebo Lake restroom facilities so that anglers can use it year-round. This will include heat and hot water as well as upgrading the wastewater system. We are hopeful that the work can commence on this project in the fall. I just want to say "thank you" to Colorado Parks and Wildlife for helping us fund this project.

We have also received word that we are the recipients of a grant totalling \$95,000 from the Kirkpatrick Family Fund (KFF). These funds are specifically for supporting the following: a) highway wayfinding signage (\$45,000); b) beautification of the Stilling Basin (Hotel Park) (\$30,000); and c) renovations to the old Marshal's office (\$20,000). I want to say "thank you" to the Kirkpatrick Family Fund for assisting the Town with these projects. This funding is greatly appreciated!

It's that time of year again. Our pool is scheduled to open on June 6th. We are staffed, but volunteers are also welcomed. If you'd like to volunteer, please contact Town Hall. The days/hours of operation will be Friday, Saturday and Sunday, 9am until 6pm. From 9am until 10am will be an adult swim only. Open swimming will be from 10am until 6pm with a break between 12:30pm and 1pm. A difference from last year is that there will be a charge for using the pool. The rates are: a) Seniors 60+, \$4.00; b) Regular age 2-59, \$6.00; c) under 2 years old is free. To rent the pool facility is \$200.00 per hour. This year, we will have some concessions available.

In personnel news, we will have a new Town Clerk starting on June 9th. The new Town Clerk's name is Nicole Woods and I will have more information on Nicole in a future newsletter.

We have now held two Town Hall meetings regarding a potential ballot item for taxes. In the June BoT meeting, we will be putting forth some potential options for the BoT. I've attempted to compile and summarize information regarding the ballot question as best as I can. The info I have is as follows:

1) Financials:

- a) The Town has been in the black at least since 2017. The Town Manager position has been in place that whole time.
- b) 2024 unaudited numbers are looking like they are in the black
- c) Most of our revenues are coming from sales and use taxes
- d) The Town is spending most of the funds in the Public Works Department
- e) Based upon known financial information, the Town can continue its existing operations without a tax increase
- f) The Town does need numerous improvements. Some can be handled by the Town only, others will require grants to complete all the work needed (see item "2" below)

2) Summary of Town Improvements: *(these are my estimates based upon information that I could obtain from either actuals or, in some cases, artificial intelligence)*

- a) Ute Pass Ave Bridge - \$7.9 Million (requires grant \$)
- b) Culverts - \$4.864 Million (requires grant \$)
- c) Asphalt - \$4.050 Million (requires grant \$)
- d) Buildings - \$123,000+ (grant \$ may be needed)
- e) Parks - \$4.6 Million (requires grant \$)
- f) Equipment/Vehicles - \$450,000+ (very limited grant \$)
- g) Total = \$21,987,000.00

3) Things to Consider

- a) Almost all grants require matching funds now. Matching percentages vary depending on the grant (up to 25% or more)
- b) Grants are typically being awarded to projects that are "shovel ready". That means we will have to spend more money up-front on engineering to be competitive.
- c) All grants require monitoring and reporting. Federal and CDOT grants require significant reporting (including contractor labor and wages).
- d) With the recent Federal freezes, less funding is available.

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- e) Larger projects will not be able to be completed without grant funding
- f) It will cost the Town over \$10,000 to have a special election in 2025. It is anticipated that to have ballot items on a regular election (in 2026), it would be at least half that cost.
- 4) **Potential Ballot Items** (*other items may be added by the BoT at the June meeting and actual ballot language will be more complex*)
 - a) Option 1: Should the Town of Green Mountain Falls increase sales and use taxes by up to 1% (for a total of 4%) to be used to supplement the Capital Improvement Fund
 - b) Option 2: Should the Town of Green Mountain Falls increase sales and use taxes by up to 1% (for a total of 4%) to be used to supplement the Capital Improvement Fund and to fund staff positions.
 - c) Option 3: Should the Town of Green Mountain Falls increase sales and use taxes by up to 1% (for a total of 4%) to be used to fund the Town Manager position.
 - d) Option 4: Table the potential financial ballot issue and re-evaluate it for the 2026 elections
 - e) Option 5: Delete the financial ballot issue

Upcoming Events:

Firefighter Appreciation Day: On Saturday, June 14th, from 11 am to 2 pm, there will be a Firefighter Appreciation Day sponsored by the Fire Mitigation Committee. This event will be held at the Green Mountain Falls Fire Station and hot dogs, brats and ice cream will be available.

Green Box Arts Festival: The Green Box Arts Festival will begin in Town on June 27th. I'm really looking forward to attending several events. The Mayor's Forum will be at Church in the Wildwood from 12pm to 1pm on July 4th. There will be an unveiling of the new art installations on Friday June 27th. These installations are significant investments and add to the Town's character. I'm looking forward to seeing them!

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.

Fire Mitigation Advisory Committee: As previously stated, the Fire Mitigation Committee is sponsoring a Firefighter Appreciation Day and is working with the Town on the current fire mitigation efforts with Mile High Youth and the Coalition for the Upper South Platte (CUSP). They are also sponsoring bringing back Team Rubicon to assist local property owners with mitigating their properties.

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:

June 2nd - Fire Mitigation Committee
June 3rd - Town Hall/Board of Trustees
June 10th - Planning Commission
June 11th - Parks, Recreation and Trails Committee
June 14th - Firefighter Appreciation Day
June 17th - Board of Trustees (if needed)
June 27th - Green Box Arts Festival Begins

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April 2025 Marshal's Report

Call type	# of calls	Outcomes if any
Case follow-ups	1	
911 hang ups	2	
Assist outside agencies	3	
Traffic complaint	0	
Citizen Contacts	9	
Sexual Assault	0	
Attempt to locate	1	
Trespassing	0	
Domestic violence	0	
Litter complaint	1	
Traffic stops	9	
Parking complaints	0	
Check the welfare	2	
Suicidal check the welfare	1	
Noise complaints	0	
Traffic Accident	0	
Vin verification	0	
Theft	0	
Suspicious Incident	3	
Utility issue	0	
Criminal Mischief	0	
Animal complaint	1	
Alarms	0	
Total calls for service	33	

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 – 10 hours

The Marshal's Office signed an updated agreement with the Federal Government's 1033 program.

Training was conducted for our new citation issuing program.

Deputy Starks completed Officer Ambush Awareness training.

Deputy Matos completed Defensive Driving for Law Enforcement training.

Marshal Goings completed Advanced Driving Dynamics for Law Enforcement training.