

March
2024

GMF Town News

Thank You Town Volunteers!



Mayor's Memo:

There are several items to highlight this month.

Election Process: The process for our upcoming election will be as follows:

- 1) The last day for the Town to mail ballots is March 18th. You should receive your ballot shortly thereafter. If you do not receive a ballot in the mail by the election date; and you are a registered voter in Green Mountain Falls, you can pick up a replacement ballot at Town Hall.
- 2) Vote for the respective positions per the instructions on the ballot
- 3) Drop your sealed ballot into the ballot box that will be located in front of Town Hall. The ballots can also be mailed, but they must be **received** at Town Hall by 7 pm on April 2nd.
- 4) **All ballots must be received by 7 pm on April 2nd.**
- 5) The ballots will be tabulated by election judges and the initial results posted.

There is no "in person" voting at Town Hall for this election in the traditional sense. If someone has lost their ballot or did not receive one in the mail, a replacement ballot can be picked up at Town Hall and you can fill it out and drop it in the box, but there will not be voting booths. The election judges will be verifying signatures on the ballot envelopes. **There are paid election judge positions available, so if you are interested in being an elections judge, please contact Bo at Town Hall by March 11.**

There will be a question on the ballot for whether or not you agree to move the Town elections to November. Doing this can save the Town several thousand dollars during election years. This would mean Town elections would come in with the traditional ballot we receive in November of election years.

Project Updates: The contract for the Gazebo Bridge has been awarded to CMS of Colorado Springs. They will be starting the reconstruction process as soon as the ice melts and we can lower the lake. The staging area for this project will likely be somewhere on Lake Street, so expect this to have an impact on parking downtown. We are hoping that construction will be done by Memorial Day, but that is highly weather dependent. In addition to reconstructing Gazebo Bridge, we will have some new concrete poured going from the existing sidewalk to the bridge.

The Dumpster Blind contract has been awarded to a company called Dawg Gone and work on that is expected to commence soon. We did have to scale the project back because what had been originally proposed came in at around twice the money we received from the Grant. Staging for this will likely be on Oak Street.

Legislative Matters: On February 27th, I went to Denver to testify against HB24-1152 (Accessory Dwelling Units - ADUs) on behalf of the Pikes Peak Area Council of Governments (PPACG). This Bill does not directly affect Green Mountain Falls because it is limited to municipalities with a population of 1,000 or more, but the requirements of the Bill are next to impossible for municipalities like Manitou to meet.

Regulation 43 deals with septic systems and it is undergoing a revision that is due for a final hearing in March of 2025. This revision will mandate that if you transfer a real estate Title and have a cesspool, it will be required that something be done with the cesspool. This has the potential to run into significant costs.

Public Works: Another Mag Chloride application coming in March (helps with stabilizing roads before monsoon season).

There is an open position for Planning Commission. If you are interested, please stop by Town Hall.

Mayor Dixon

Fire Safety Update

The Team Rubicon meeting was well attended. A special thanks to Lisa Huizenga for the delicious pies!

There are opportunities available with Rubicon and if you are interested, please contact David Douglas at david@falconpartnersltd.com.

Grants/FEMA

FEMA has turned us over to the State. This means we should be one step closer to actually receiving funds. We can't apply for mitigation funding for culverts until August. 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>

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

5th & 19th - Board of Trustees
12th - Planning Commission
13th - Parks, Recreation and Trails
25th - Fire Mitigation