

May 2024

# GMF Town News



Thank You Town Volunteers!

## Mayor's Memo:

A big welcome to John Bell and Don Walker as our newest Trustees! Also, a big welcome to Brandy Morales to the Planning Commission!

On Saturday, May 4th, there will be a Community Work Day beginning at 9 am at the Greenbox Farmstand. Please bring your own work gloves and water bottle. Other equipment will be provided. It is planned to end at around 11 am. Hope to see you there!

The bears are out now. Please don't put your trash out until the morning that it is picked up. If you do have to put it out, it must be in a wildlife-proof container. Section 6-33 of our Code contains the requirements for the Town.

Speaking of animals, the beaver is back at Gazebo Lake. The Town will be contacting Colorado Parks and Wildlife to determine if there are any hazards and if it needs to be relocated. We think that once the Lake is drained for the bridge repair, the beaver will likely move on. Be aware that it appears that its home is by the Gazebo bridge and avoid interacting with it if you see it.

Work has begun on preparing the pool for the summer. As of this writing, the planned opening date will be around Memorial Day weekend. The planned opening is obviously dependent on pool staffing and operational conditions. The BoT will still need to weigh in on whether or not users are charged, but I anticipate that they will likely adopt the same donation-based fees as were used last year. As of this writing, the pool is planned to be open Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays. **If you'd like to volunteer for the pool front desk, please contact Town Hall.**

**Legislative Matters:** The legislative session will end on May 8th. There are still roughly 300 Bills that are being considered. Some of those, if signed into law, will affect the Town. I haven't seen any Bills yet that would mean less work or less cost for the Town.

**Public Works:** Weather permitting, Magnesium Chloride will be applied to the Town roads on May 10th and 17th. The plan is to do 2 of the Town zones on the 10th, and the other 2 zones on the 17th. **Please do not park in the right-of-way (roads) on either of these days.**

## Fire Safety Update:

The chipper days have been set for June 29th and 30th. On these dates, the chipper will be towed to as many residences as they can get to. The second set of days will be September 28th and 29th. On the September dates, the chipper will be located at Joyland and people will need to take their slash to that area. If you can't take it to Joyland, a team of volunteers is being organized to pick up slash at the residences.

There are opportunities available with Rubicon and if you are interested, please contact David Douglas at [david@falconpartnersltd.com](mailto:david@falconpartnersltd.com).

CUSP has told the Town that all the workable Town Right-of-Ways (RoWs) that are covered under their existing contract pricing have been completed. This does not mean that all of the Town RoWs have been mitigated. It means that for those areas that haven't been worked, it will require more expense than what they are currently contracted for (areas next to houses, areas with utilities, etc.). CUSP will be doing additional work for the Town up above the Thomas trail (on the western side) this summer. The Mile High Youth Corps. will be doing more mitigation work this summer as well. They will be above the Thomas trail more towards the eastern side.

## Grants/FEMA

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

There are a handful of repairs that still need to be completed. The fence along Ute Pass Ave. along the lake has a couple of areas that are washed out. These two areas as well as the sediment removal from Catamount Creek still need to be done. When we do the fence repairs, Ute Pass Avenue will likely be down to 1 lane while they are working on it.

## Lake/Park Projects:

**Gazebo Bridge:** The Gazebo will be closed until May 24<sup>th</sup> for the repairs to the bridge. This bridge was originally designed and constructed by the USAF Academy Department of Astronautics Engineering 410 in the fall of 1990 (there is info about this in a framed poster in Town Hall). The bridge project includes replacement of the deck and supporting structure, repair of the piers, upgraded electrical for the island and new light fixtures and benches. In addition, concrete will be added from the existing sidewalk to the bridge to allow for better accessibility. This has all been made possible through a generous grant from the El Paso County Community Development Block Grants (CDBG). The target completion date is by Memorial Day. The lake will be drained the first week in May.

**Dumpster Blind:** Construction should begin soon. Staging for this will likely be on Oak Street. Site work for this project is complete.

## Reminder:

Please cut down your dead/dying trees.

## Calendar:

May 4th - Community Work Day  
May 7th - Board of Trustees  
May 8th - Parks, Rec and Trails Committee  
May 14<sup>th</sup> - Planning Commission  
May 21st - Board of Trustees  
May 20th - Fire Mitigation Committee