

September 2024

# GMF Town News



Thank You Town Volunteers!

## Mayor's Memo:

I hope you all have a restful, safe and happy Labor Day weekend!

For this issue, I've decided to talk about our roads. Several of you have commented to me about how the roads seem to be holding up better. There are a few reasons for this. The first is that we are using a special mix of road base from our supplier that has a little more clay in it than the traditional Class 6 Road Base. This additional clay material seems to be more resistant to washing away than what we were using before. This is the main material we are purchasing now for our roads. When we apply the Magnesium Chloride (Mag Chloride) to this material, it acts as a binding agent and provides an additional layer of cohesion for our roads. Another reason the roads may be holding up better is that we are purposefully trying to maintain road grades and ditches. The first thing everyone needs to understand is that our roads are our drainage system. When the road grade is not where it should be, we tend to get much more water damage and rutting. The ditches and culverts are the next step in trying to maintain passable roads. You will notice that some of the ditches in town have concrete in them. We may, over time, try to concrete or use "rip rap" (larger rocks) in more of our ditches. This helps maintain them.

As for culverts, I need to point out that culverts on driveways are really the responsibility of the private property owner. When I counted culverts after the June 2023 disaster, I counted that we need approximately 98 more culverts here within town limits. As our Public Works crews are working, they will likely try to maintain ditch lines as best as possible. That means there will likely be bumps getting into certain driveways. If the ditch going across your driveway gets too deep, please try to maintain what is called a "swale" (gradual "U" shape) in the driveway approach to maintain the ditch line. Filling in the ditch to make your driveway approach smooth will only push the water out into the road and make a rut in the road.

The town is attempting to obtain FEMA mitigation funding for some culverts. However with the restrictions on the application for that funding I'm anticipating that if we do get any money, we will only be able to do the worst spots in town (and these would be town projects). If you decide to put in your own culvert, that will require a permit from the town.

The FEMA mitigation funding application for culverts and/or ditches was very challenging and a whole lot of work. It included the State requiring last minute changes and dedicated time on several of our parts. I am very hopeful that our efforts will pay out because we are asking for a little over \$300,000.

One of the more major road reconstruction projects is on Foster. Crews are already working to eliminate the second ditch that had come about from years worth of grading and not putting material back on the road. Our Public Works staff are telling me that it will take 3 to 5 feet (yes, feet!) of material in some places to get Foster back to the grade it should be. Obviously, we can't do that much material all at once, so it will take a long time to get there.

Another project we are working on is to obtain funding to replace the bridge coming into town on Ute Pass Avenue. We are working closely with the Pikes Peak Area Council of Governments (PPACG) Grant Navigator to accomplish this. Very soon we will have an engineering firm develop cost estimates so that we can apply for funding under the Bridge Improvement Program. We are proposing a new bridge that will have roughly a 10-foot pedestrian/bicycle section as part of the bridge. If we are able to obtain funding, this will be a significant infrastructure improvement for our town.

## Fire Safety Update:

The Team Rubicon event was very successful. We had several properties signed up and they had significant progress made on their fuels mitigation. An anonymous donor stepped forward and paid for a caterer for the Team Rubicon workers. The Town then chipped in and paid for the recipient's dinner, so it was overall a very nice event.

The second set of chipper 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.

Please note that Thomas Trail may have closings during the week for fire mitigation.

**Pool** - the planned last day for the pool is September 22nd.

## Reminder:

Please cut down your dead/dying trees. Also, if you are doing any improvements to the outside of your house/property, please check with Town Hall to see if you need a permit. Stop Orders and fines are just no fun!

## Calendar:

Sept 3rd - Board of Trustees  
Sept 10th - Planning Commission  
Sept 11th - Parks, Recreation and Trails Committee  
Sept 17th - Board of Trustees  
Sept 22nd - Last day for the pool  
Sept 30th - Fire Mitigation Committee

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## Marshal's report August 2024

<b>Call type</b>	<b># of calls</b>	<b>Outcomes if any</b>
<b>Bar checks</b>	1	
<b>911 hang ups</b>	2	
<b>Assist outside agencies</b>	3	
<b>Traffic complaint</b>	0	
<b>Citizen Contacts</b>	2	
<b>Missing person</b>	0	
<b>Follow ups</b>	10	
<b>Summons service</b>	1	
<b>Harassment</b>	0	
<b>Abandoned vehicle</b>	0	
<b>Traffic stops</b>	6	
<b>Parking complaints</b>	0	
<b>Fireworks</b>	1	
<b>Suicidal check the welfare</b>	1	Transported to Cedar Springs
<b>Noise complaints</b>	3	
<b>Traffic Accident</b>	0	
<b>Vin verification</b>	1	
<b>Theft</b>	0	
<b>Suspicious Incident</b>	2	
<b>Civil service</b>	0	
<b>Criminal Mischief</b>	2	
<b>Animal complaint</b>	6	
<b>Alarms</b>	1	
<b>Total calls for service</b>	42	

Other agencies assisting us – 2

Us assisting other agencies – 3

NIBERS reports completed.

Citizen Contact upload completed.

Reserve hours worked - 37 hours.

Assisted Woodland Park PD with The Salute to Veterans Rally