



**TRAVIS ELLIOTT
TOWN MANAGER**

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TO: Mayor and Town Council
FROM: Travis Elliott, Town Manager
CC: Town Staff
DATE: March 25, 2022
RE: Info Update

HELP WANTED

Thank you to the incoming Council that attended the Town Council orientation meeting on Tuesday. We really enjoyed the conversation and thoughtful questions, and the Town has a bright future ahead of us. As a reminder, the new Town Council will be sworn in at the Town Council meeting on Thursday, April 21st, and staff is now advertising for the 7th Town Council seat. This will be a two-year term. If you know of anyone that is interested, please have them submit a cover letter and resume to Lucy at lspalenka@parachutecolorado.com by 5 p.m. on April 13th. Applicants will need to be registered voters and residents of the Town. We will prepare the submissions for the Town Council to review on the 21st.

THE WORK BEGINS

As you know, the Town did not receive any bids from contractors to construct the Wasson-McKay parklet. Luckily for us, we have a team of very qualified public works professionals that have picked up the ball and are running with it. We have finished surveying, locating, and planning for the site, and crews will be on site starting Monday to begin tree removal and grading. We have started ordering the materials (e.g. gazebo, bike racks, picnic tables, benches, etc.), but the restroom facility has the longest lead time by far. It was ordered over two months ago. Once it arrives and is in place, the concrete / asphalt work will take place soon thereafter.

DIRTY TALKS

Rockmageddon is right around the corner (6/3 - 6/4). For various reasons, the beloved mud drags are not going to be part of this event. We heard from quite a few community members that were disappointed in this news, but we unfortunately didn't think we could pull it off safely and at the quality this event deserves on such short notice. However, we have informed these community members that the Town would be open to hosting a stand alone mud drag event later in the season, such as a weekend in September when no other events are planned. We think the mud drags could be a worthwhile and standalone event to help bring visitors to town during an additional weekend this summer – separate from Rockmageddon. The Town and town staff would be happy to support this event to make it happen, including contributing the many hours that would be necessary to construct the venue and advertise it to the masses.

This is exciting, but I understand there have been some announcements made on social media that are premature. We have not settled on any dates or determined if this event can actually happen in 2022. I know this may be shocking to hear, but you just can't believe everything you read on Facebook. I will keep you posted on this possible exciting development.

TID BITS:

- The draft Comprehensive Plan is LIVE on our website at planparachute.com. We are taking feedback through the end of the month, and a survey is available on the website for us to collect official responses. Please feel free to take the survey, and please share it with your family, neighbors, and friends in the community.
- Speaking of feedback, we will be presenting the draft comp plan at the "State of the Grand Valley" at 6:30 p.m. in the Rec Center. Dinner, babysitting, and translation services will be available.
- The Town has finished awarding our beautification grants. The future home of Carb Eats Café at 116 1st St. and the Nalinis building at 257 1st St. each were awarded \$5,000 from the Town to help offset the costs of their projects to boost their curb appeal. They will be reimbursed when their respective projects are complete.
- Spring has sprung. We are getting our ditches and headgates ready for irrigation water. Individual water users should have their valves turned off and be ready for water before April 15th. Irrigation water won't be at full capacity until May 1st. Please help us spread the word.
- We are working on calibrating and training on our new alignment machine in the shop.
- Our PATS bus that was in an accident a few weeks back is still in the shop. We do not have an estimated timeline for its return, but our other bus is doing okay pulling double duty in the meantime.
- We are hoping to reopen the Visitor Center soon.
- We have received a handful of applications for the seasonal park maintenance position and the full-time public works position. We are still accepting applications, but we will begin our review and interviews with candidates next week.
- We have received land use applications for the Healthy Mantra and a minor subdivision application at 248 4th St. from JAZ holdings. Both applications have been sent out to our referral agencies (Garfield County, Fire District, BMMD, etc.) for review and comments.
- CONGRATULATIONS to Andrew Kingen who recently had a baby.
- Also congratulations to officer Ryan Reynolds who is now a certified Field Training Officer (FTO). This isn't as amazing as having a baby, but it is a significant accomplishment that we are all proud of.
- We have finished submitting our Conservation Trust Fund report, which will keep us eligible for these state funds.
- We have started to process of installing a software called "Threatlocker" that can detect and prevent ransomware / malware before it is unleashed.
- We are ready to be audited.
- Rock chalk, Jayhawk! I know everyone will be pulling for KU tonight and (hopefully) Sunday.
- Mark your calendars:
 - Grand Valley Town Hall Meeting: March 29, 2022
 - Parachute Pick Up - Friday, April 29 and Saturday, April 30
 - Rockmagedon: Friday, June 3 – Saturday, June 4.
 - Grand Valley Days will be August 19, 20, and 21st