



**TRAVIS ELLIOTT
TOWN MANAGER**

Integrity • Respect • Teamwork • Pride • Innovation • Diversity

222 GRAND VALLEY WAY ▪ PARACHUTE, CO 81635 ▪ (970) 285-7630

TO: Mayor and Town Council
FROM: Travis Elliott, Town Manager
CC: Town Staff
DATE: May 6, 2022
RE: Info Update

FRANCHISE FEES

As some of you may already know, the Town of Parachute and Xcel discovered an error in our collection of franchise fees back in ~2012. This error resulted in Xcel over-remitting approximately \$700,000 to the Town. In 2013, the Town and Xcel reached an agreement through the renewed franchise agreement to repay this amount by deferring future fee payments and crediting them towards this amount due. Town staff recently worked with Xcel to verify the amounts owed and update the total amount that remains due. Based on their calculations, the Town still owes approximately \$220,000. This amount should be completely paid off around the end of 2025, and the Town will then resume collecting franchise fee payments from Xcel in early 2026. If you have any questions, please let me know.

TRASHY NUMBERS

The numbers are in. The Town hauled away 13 roll off dumpsters and nearly 26 tons of garbage from the Parachute Pick Up last weekend. That is nearly double the amount that was collected last year. We also recycled approximately 16,000 pounds of scrap metal, and over 2,000 pounds of food were collected for Lift Up. These are impressive numbers, and they don't even capture the amount of great work that staff and volunteers from Western Slope COGA were able to accomplish on Friday. Kudos to all of our staff, sponsors, community, and volunteers that made it happen.

Next up, Rockmageddon – June 3-5!

DETOX CENTER IGA

I attended a joint manager's meeting this week, and among the many things discussed was the ongoing development of a detox center in Glenwood Springs. Garfield County is asking for contributions and ongoing funding commitments from each municipality to help fund the detox center. You may have read that the City of Rifle approved a \$40,000 contribution recently. We do not know what amount they will be asking for from the Town of Parachute, but any formal commitment and IGA from the Town will ultimately be approved by the Town Council.

Although staff is very supportive of this effort, Glenwood Springs is a long way from. It would have little benefit to our daily operations since our Police Department would not likely use the detox center. We will continue to gather information for the Town Council for your future consideration.

TID BITS:

- We are getting ready to kick off the annual performance review process with all Town staff. Merit-based pay increases are expected to take effect during the first pay period in July.
- We are still recruiting for our seasonal Parks Maintenance position, but we had a couple of promising interviews this week and hope to make an offer next week.
- Our irrigation system is at full capacity, and we have been working through a myriad of issues and leak repairs.
- PATS busses are headed for the 21st Century. We are working with Trillium and Google Transit to create a GTFS feed which will show PATS routes and schedules on most map apps (google maps, apple maps, Transit, etc.)
- We attended the Board of County Commissioners meeting this week with the Parks Association to make a joint request for \$5,000 to help fund renovations to the fairgrounds.
- We will be spraying for noxious weeds on our TOP properties and within the Right of Way this week and next week.
- Municipal Court is on Monday, 5/9.
- The state has issued many new liquor license rules to add flexibility for establishments such as wineries and restaurants that share a common space. We are working through these new rules and how they may impact local businesses.
- Some trash and debris recently wreaked havoc on our sewer lift stations. Our crews were able to get them operational again, but we will likely need to make more repairs soon. This incident emphasizes the importance of our system and protecting it from illegal dumping.
- I am taking a quick trip to Austin, TX in May. I will be out of the office beginning in the afternoon of Wednesday, May 11th, but I will be back in the saddle on Monday, May 16th.
- Mark your calendars:
 - Rockmagedon: Friday, June 3 – Saturday, June 4.
 - “State of the Grand Valley” Town Hall meeting #2: June 22nd
 - Grand Valley Days will be August 19, 20, and 21st