

To: Minturn Town Council  
From: Michelle Metteer  
Date: September 18, 2024  
RE: Town Manager Update

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### **Bellm Bridge Feasibility Study & Grant Opportunity**

Jeff Spanel, Inter-Mountain Engineering and I met with SEH Engineering who is conducting the Bellm Bridge Feasibility Study as well as Sarah Marin, with Sustainable Strategies who is tasked with Minturn's grant application for any bridge repairs. The group reviewed the current progress of the Feasibility Study along with the timeline for the CDOT Bridge grant application.

The above group has tentatively scheduled to bring this matter before the Council at the October 2, 2024, meeting for consideration of either a repair or replacement of the bridge. The grant application process is highly competitive and the costs for either repair or replacement will be extensive – meaning, at this point, Minturn will not be able to conduct the infrastructure improvements without a loan or a grant.

### **HWY 24/Main Street Phase II Sidewalk Project Update**

As the project nears construction, scheduled for the spring of 2025, costs continue to increase. Currently the sidewalk is estimated at \$1000 per linear foot. With this updated construction cost, the Town will only have funds for the east (river) side of the road and the sidewalk, originally scoped to be built to the entrance of the Boneyard Open Space, will end well before that location. I am scheduling Stolfus Engineering to attend an upcoming Council meeting and provide a more detailed update.

### **Tank #3 (New Concrete Water Tank) Project Closeout**

Staff are working toward the project close out of the concrete water tank (tank #3). This includes the finalization of the State Revolving Fund (SRF) loan. The loan was originally approved for \$3M and the town has been paying on the loan at a total assumed project cost of \$3M (as required until project close out). With the total project cost coming in at \$2,265,112.96, the SRF loan, and subsequent debt repayment will be decreased by \$734,887.04. Once these internal project close-out transactions are completed, Council will have the option of decreasing the debt repayment currently billed to the utility customers or absorbing this difference to minimize any future rate increases required for new infrastructure.

### **First Friday Event**

Success! The September First Friday, held at the Eagle River Inn, had over 200 attendees. The October First Friday event will be at Kirby Cosmos BBQ and include a pig roast. Thus far, after extensive outreach by Cindy Krieg, no other businesses have expressed interest in hosting the event, which is sponsored by the Town of Minturn, so unfortunately October may be the last First Friday.

### **Public Utilities Commission – Railroad Ave Pedestrian Improvements Application**

The application for installing a sidewalk over the rail line at Railroad Ave and Taylor St has been submitted. Once approved, the Town can move forward with the pedestrian improvements awarded through the CDOT Revitalization grant.

### **Battle Mountain Settlement/Closing**

All closing documents by both parties were submitted to the title companies on September 12, 2024. We anticipate the recording of the documents to be completed prior to this council meeting. Additionally, the stipulation for dismissal with prejudice will be filed with the court at which point we expect the courts' acknowledgement/stamp thereby resolving all court matters related to the lawsuit.

**High Five Media Board Representation**

If the Council is unable to appoint a representative, I recommend the Town relinquish its seat on the High Five Media Board.

**Little Beach Park Grant Application**

An application for the Phase I improvements to Little Beach Park has been submitted to Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO) for consideration. Included with this manager's report is a copy of the application and improvements to be made if the application is approved. The Town should know later this fall if the application is awarded by GOCO however, the process is very competitive and there are not enough funds to support the number of applications submitted, so an approval is unknown.