

# STAFF REPORTS

DEPARTMENT	PRESENTED BY	DATE
Administration	Christy Doon - City Administrator	January 16, 2024

## **Administration and Human Resources**

- Conducting resume evaluations for the Fire Chief position.
- Continue to support Department Heads through the new performance management process.

### **Arts and Culture**

- The exhibit that debuted in the Paquette Gallery featured the works from local artist Emily Moody. The artist was recognized at the reception held during the monthly Creative Mixer, which was attended by (75) people and featured local musician Joan Lobeck.
- The 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Holiday Art Pop-up took place over two days in the SteamPlant Ballroom. The Arts & Culture department organized (20) local and regional vendors to set up booths presenting a variety of artist offerings from jewelry and sculpture to wall art and cards, just in time for the holidays! The two-day event was attended by (510) people.
- The performance highlights of the month were from local and touring musical groups, including Grammy-nominated David Arkenstone, The Noteables, Ark Valley Children's Chorus, Poetry Consorts of CO, Salida Circus Camp and Sventastik Productions. The six (6) performances were attended by (620) people.
- The SteamPlant and Scout Hut played host venues to many municipal, county, educational, business and non-profit groups, including Foodshed Alliance, High Country Bank, City of Salida, Colorado Water Trust, Chaffee County Economic Development Corporation, HRRMC, Chaffee County Dept of Human Services, United States Air Force, Pinon Real Estate, Solvista Health and Chaffee County Public Health. All total the LISTED events/meetings were attended throughout the month by (667).
- TOTAL GUESTS Attending (41) Events/Meetings for December = 2,948
  - Number of free arts and culture events/no admission = 13
  - Number of attendees at free events = 1,650
  - Number of events paying rental fees = 25
  - Number of entities using the facilities = 23

### **City Clerk**

No report available

# **Community Development**

- Building Permits: In 2023, there were a total of 248 building permits, inc. 172 new residential units. In 2022, we reviewed 169 total permits, inc. 113 new residential units. In 2021, we reviewed 253 total permits, inc. 175 new residential units. Thus far in 2024, we have seen 5 total building permits, including 2 new residential units.
- South Ark Neighborhood Master Plan and Phase I Infrastructure: Now that the PD modification/master plan has been approved, the focus is on amassing funding to implement design and development of the first phase of mainline infrastructure throughout the site (anticipated total of approximately \$7.1 million). As reported before, both Chaffee County's Board of Commissioners and Colorado Mountain College's Board of Trustees approved the City's partnership/funding request (each for up to \$1 million towards Phase I). We also received notice from DOLA that we have been officially invited to apply for the Strong Communities Infrastructure grant (application due Feb. 2), which is competitive but with a much smaller pool of applicants and a max award of ~\$4 million.



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This is in addition to the More Housing Now grant that we have applied for (max. award of \$2 million). We probably will not find out about an award until March, however. Right now, the hope is to receive at least a total of \$4 million in funding from one or both of the grants. We will continue to look at other funding opportunities to potentially supplement the partnership and grant funds, as needed.

- 1st and D Apartments Project: The architects and engineers for the project continue to work on massing models and more detailed components of the project, taking in feedback from the fall open houses and online survey. They will also be utilizing the services of a local surveyor and geotech services in the coming weeks, so you may see folks doing some work on site to establish some more baseline data for the architects and engineers to use. We are still on schedule to have final designs by Spring/early summer 2024, with potential construction beginning at the end of 2024/beginning of 2025, provided affordable housing funds, grants, and potentially other loans can be compiled in the coming year.
- Land Use Code update: Staff is finishing up final review of Installment 2 of the Land Use Code update (districts, dimensional standards, and uses, etc.) and beginning review of Installment 3 (design standards). This new installment is expected to be made public for review and feedback in the next couple of months prior to a consolidated draft code being created.
- Local Planning Capacity Grant: This would help fund a position to help with housing-related work and specifically
  to help meet the requirements of Proposition 123 commitments, in addition to the deluge of applications,
  permits, and inquiries that we now deal with on a daily basis. Application is due Feb. 15 with notification due in
  March.

### <u>Finance</u>

- The 2024 Budget Document is under final review and will be submitted to GFOA and the State on time.
- Year-end work and planning for the annual audit has begun.

# <u>Fire</u>

- Annual flow testing on the department's Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus was completed on January 5, 2024.
   This process highlighted some much-needed repairs. Most repairs could be accomplished by the on-site technician.
- We ended 2023 with 1,132 calls for service. This is up 82 calls from 2022 (8% increase). 46% of calls were fire related calls, while 54% were EMS. Please see attached report.
- The trucks that were in repair in December are back in service. While we were repairing the ladder truck multiple maintenance issues arose that we will need to repair for safety.
- The new fire station foundations are being poured. The outline of the building is visible now with the footers dug out. Next step will be going vertical, after foundations are in place.

### Parks and Recreation

- Aquatics Please reference previous communications regarding the incident at the pool on 1/8/24.
- Recreation
  - Youth basketball began on 1/9/24 with 115 players and 42 volunteer coaches.
  - Youth Learn to Kayak classes, a P&R and FIBArk collaboration, filled in minutes with a waitlist that will fill the next session.



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- o The ski bus started its season this week.
- Facilities
  - o The P&R team met with the Outdoor Soaking pool builders (Aqua Builders) onsite 12/20/23
- Parks Please find details of the Tenderfoot Mountain Reforestation Project attached.

# **Police**

• No report available

# **Public Works**

• No report available



# **S-Mtn Reforestation Project Outline**

## Background of S-Mtn trees

- Provide pictures
  - In the 1880's and early 1890's S-Mtn was filled with trees
- O Why are the trees gone?
  - easy firewood with no restrictions tree cutting
  - vandals
  - The smelter plant operating in 1902-1920 and the noxious gases it blew out did not help the cause

# Why put trees back?

- Landscape restoration
- Better soils
- Health of the ecosystem
- Flood and erosion control
- Slowly and surely reverse the erosion on S-Mtn and revive a landscape that every local or visitor downtown looks at every day!
- Multiyear process
  - Continually to plant trees every spring
  - Knowing a majority of them will die
- o Picture 10,20,30 years from now the hillside covered in healthy native trees
- The future of Salida will thank us

### How to do it?

- Creating rock water bars in convenient locations to slow down rainwater to capture more water and sediment too re-saturate soils to create better growing conditions
- o Planting 200-300 saplings every year?
- o \$2.50/plant-
- o Watering?
- Volunteer event- many hands
- o Large PR push and education

### What kind of trees?

- Junipers
- o Pinon pines
- Pondo pines
- o Sage brush?

#### Who can be involved?

- Central Colorado conservancy
- Colorado state forest service
- GARNA
- SPOT
- SMT
- Tree board
- o SWCC
- o School age kids

6

10

3

release, reaction, or

toxic condition (44) Electrical wiring/equipm. problem

(45) Biological hazard

	Jan '23	Feb '23	Mar '23	Apr '23	May '23	Jun '23	Jul '23	Aug '23	Sep '23	Oct '23	Nov '23	Dec '23	Jan '24	Total
(46) Accident, potential accident			1			2		2			2	1		8
(48) Attempted burning, illegal action									1					1
(52) Water problem	1													1
(54) Animal problem or rescue						1								1
(55) Public service assistance	16	10	6	18	10	21	23	19	20	16	11	20		190
(56) Unauthorized burning		1		1			2							4
(61) Dispatched and canceled en route	4	6	7	6	13	7	8	8	12	6	6	4		87
(62) Wrong location, no emergency found	2	5	4		8	8	6	7	7	3	7	7		64
(63) Controlled burning						1	1		1					3
(65) Steam, other gas mistaken for smoke	2	1	1	1	1	1	4			2	1	1		15
(66) EMS call where party has been transported									1	1				2
(67) HazMat release investigation w/no HazMat			1			1			1			1		4
(70) False alarm and false call, other					1									1
(71) Malicious, mischievous false alarm				1										1
(73) System or detector malfunction		1	1	1	2	4	1		5	2	1	1		19
(74) Unintentional system/detect operation (no fire)	3	1	4	2	8	4	2	6		2	4	5		41
(91) Citizen complaint		1						1	1			1		4
UNK							1							1

Total

1,132