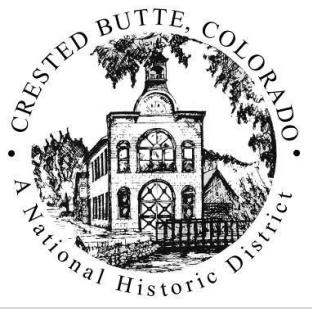




Community Values

Authentic
Connected
Accountable
Bold

Town Council

5-year Goals:

- Approach community challenges through active collaboration and public engagement.
- Accommodate growth in a way that maintains our rural feel.
- Enable people who live and work here to thrive.
- Retain the unique character and traditions of Crested Butte.
- De-emphasize cars and focus on walking, biking, and transit.
- Continue to passionately care for our natural surroundings and forever protect Red Lady.
- Act on the urgency of climate change and prepare for the changes we expect from it.

Critical to our success is an engaged community and knowledgeable and experienced staff.

AGENDA
Town of Crested Butte
Regular Town Council Meeting
Town Council Chambers
507 Maroon Ave; Crested Butte, CO
Monday, November 17, 2025

Meeting information to connect remotely:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87286872177>
Join via audio: +1 719 359 4580 US +1 669 444 9171 US +1 253 205 0468 US +1 305 224 1968 US +1 309 205 3325 US +1 360 209 5623 US +1 386 347 5053 US +1 507 473 4847 US +1 564 217 2000 US +1 646 931 3860 US +1 689 278 1000 US
Webinar ID: 872 8687 2177

Public comments may be submitted at any time to the entire Council via email at towncouncil@crestedbutte-co.gov.

The times are approximate. The meeting may move faster or slower than expected.

- 6:00 WORK SESSION**
1) Parks, Recreation, Open Space, and Trails (PROST) Plan Update.
Staff Contact: Parks, Recreation, Open Space and Trails Director Janna Hansen
- 7:00 REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING CALLED TO ORDER**
BY MAYOR OR MAYOR PRO-TEM
- 7:02 APPROVAL OF AGENDA**
- 7:03 CONSENT AGENDA**
1) November 3, 2025 Regular Town Council Minutes.
Staff Contact: Deputy/Licensing Clerk Eric Treadwell
2) (First Reading) Ordinance No. 12, Series 2025 - An Ordinance of the Crested Butte Town Council Amending Section 4-5-50 of the Crested Butte Municipal Code.
Staff Contact: Community Development Director Mel Yemma
3) WinterGlow 2025 Special Event Application (Crested Butte Tree Lighting) Closing the 300 Block of Elk Avenue on Saturday, December 6, 2025.
Staff Contact: Town Clerk Lynelle Stanford
4) Letter to Captain Saunders of the Colorado State Patrol Requesting Additional Patrol Presence Along State Highway 135 between Gunnison and Crested Butte.
Staff Contact: Town Manager Dara MacDonald
The listing under Consent Agenda is a group of items to be acted on with a single motion. The Consent Agenda is designed to expedite Council business. Council members may request that an item be removed from Consent Agenda prior to the Council’s vote. Items removed from the Consent Agenda will be considered under New Business.
- 7:05 RECOGNITION OF SERVICE AND APPRECIATION FOR ANNA FENERTY**
- 7:10 APPOINTMENT OF COUNCIL MEMBER**
- 7:20 MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEMBERS - OATH OF OFFICE**
- 7:25 PUBLIC COMMENT**
The public has the opportunity to comment during the public comment period at the beginning of every regular Council meeting. At this time people may speak for up to five minutes on any topic that is not on the agenda. The Mayor may limit public comments to no more than three minutes if it appears there will be many comments on a similar topic. The public comment period is a time for the Council to listen to the people. Council generally should not engage in a two-way conversation at this time nor should the Council feel compelled to respond to the comments. If Council chooses to discuss, discussion will be at the end of the Council meeting under “Other Business to Come Before the Council.”
- 7:30 STAFF UPDATES**
- 7:35 LEGAL MATTERS**
- 7:40 NEW BUSINESS**
1) Appointment of Mayor Pro Tem.
Staff Contact: Town Clerk Lynelle Stanford
- 7:50 2) Consideration of Appointments to Boards and Committees.**
Staff Contact: Town Clerk Lynelle Stanford
- 8:05 COUNCIL REPORTS AND COMMITTEE UPDATES**
- 8:10 OTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE COUNCIL**

8:15 DISCUSSION OF SCHEDULING FUTURE WORK SESSION TOPICS AND COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE

- Monday, December 1, 2025 - 6:00PM Work Session - 7:00PM Regular Council

- Monday, December 15, 2025 - 6:00PM Work Session - 7:00PM Regular Council²
- Monday, January 5, 2026 - 6:00PM Work Session - 7:00PM Regular Council

8:20 EXECUTIVE SESSION

1) For discussion of a personnel matter under C.R.S. Section 24-6-402(4)(f) and not involving: any specific employees who have requested discussion of the matter in open session; any member of this body or any elected official; the appointment of any person to fill an office of this body or of an elected official; or personnel policies that do not require the discussion of matters personal to particular employees regarding the review of the Town Manager.

9:05 ADJOURNMENT



Staff Report
11/17/25

To: Mayor and Town Council

Prepared By: Janna Hansen - Parks, Recreation, Open Space & Trails Director

Thru: Dara MacDonald, Town Manager

Subject: Work Session - PROST Plan Update

Summary: We will focus on two primary objectives during the work session:

1. Feedback on draft success measures
2. Feedback on draft open space definition, values, and strategies

Previous Council Action:

6/16 Work Session: Reviewed Plan goal and vision, identified challenges, and defined service area

What we heard from Council:

- We want to keep our rough edges, grow incrementally, and prioritize financial feasibility
- Our priority demographic is residents of the north valley and there's a need to leverage partnerships for these regional recreation needs.
- Our Open Space program should not be defined by a specific map/boundary

8/5 Work Session: Reviewed Challenge & Opportunity Statements

What we heard from Council:

- We can't be everything to everyone = collaboration with regional partners will be key to success
- Let's focus on what we are uniquely positioned to do
- Recreational access and trail connectivity near town are top priorities for our Open Space program, while focusing on habitat/ecological preservation in more remote areas.

Background:

The PROST plan is following the Community Compass framework, which is:

1. Identify the challenge and goal

Three primary focus area challenges for this plan are:

1. *Balancing demand with capacity and financial sustainability without losing our authenticity*
2. *Clarifying the Town's role and strengthening partnerships*
3. *Improving connectivity and access while protecting natural areas and ecosystems*

Guiding Goal Statement:

Optimize the Town's parks, recreation, open space, and trail (PROST) resources to better meet the community's needs, and support community health while being responsible stewards of the environment and actively partnering to support the growing demands of the broader region.

2. Commit to a community engagement strategy

The Town held two public outreach events for the PROST plan to date, at Alpenglow in June and a "Pumpkins and Portraits" event in October. Several focus groups and interviews have also occurred. A summary of the key takeaways from the latest engagement event is attached.

3. Identify success measures (CURRENT STEP)

The PROST Plan process is currently identifying success measures to guide the plan in a way that's aligned with the Community Compass values of being authentic, connected, accountable, and bold.

4. Draft alternatives and filter them through the success measures

The PROST plan team is currently working on drafting park concept designs, trail connectivity and town as a trailhead concepts, and indoor recreation concepts, which will be further refined based on the success measures and community feedback as the plan begins to be crafted.

5. Make decisions based on informed consent

The first draft of the PROST plan is anticipated to come before Council in Q1 of 2026.

Discussion:

I. Success Measures

Why do we need success measures? From the Community Compass, success measures define what success looks like for Crested Butte to ensure solutions authentically connect the community's values to the challenges we're addressing.

Specifically tailoring success measures facilitates effective progress evaluation.

How did we develop these success measures? We considered the Compass Values and drafted statements to define what those values mean for PROST. We facilitated an exercise to better define our community values during our "Pumpkins & Portraits" event (please see the "Success Measures" board in the engagement report). We brought this feedback to the PROST Plan Advisory Committee and have incorporated feedback into what is being presented today.

1st Draft Success Measures;

Being Authentic means...this Town's vibe is diverse, modest, and quirky. To be authentic, the Town may need to consider...prioritizing recreation opportunities for residents while welcoming visitors with facilities that balance rough edges with safety to feel modest and accessible rather than exclusive.

Being Bold means...we are not afraid to experiment or be the first to try something. To be bold, the Town may need to consider...experimental, unconventional multi-use public spaces that haven't been tried before or may change with the seasons.

Being Connected means...residents don't need a car to live here and visitors don't need a car to travel here. To be connected, the Town may need to consider...making streets, trails, and public spaces safe and inviting for neighbors to gather and connect.

Being Accountable means... living in Crested Butte is accessible to those who work locally. To be accountable, the Town may need to consider... being fiscally, environmentally, and socially responsible in the management of parks, recreation, open space, and trails so these amenities can benefit the community without overextending resources. Being Accountable also means...we continue to reduce development impacts on our natural environment. To be accountable, the Town may need to consider...being thoughtful about how we prioritize future open space and conserved lands to ensure that our natural environment remains intact for future generations

To be successful, the Town will... Optimize the Town's parks, recreation, open space, and trail (PROST) resources to better meet the community's needs, and support community health while being responsible stewards of the environment and actively partnering to support the growing demands of the broader region.

To do so, the Town will:

Prioritize the creative multi-use of recreation and community spaces.

Leverage strong partnerships to provide PROST services throughout the region

Keep our rough edges and polish only where necessary

Ensure financial sustainability

Protect and steward natural resources

Keep recreation accessible

Increase recreation options and reduce program waitlists

Please Review Attachment:

- **PROST Plan Success Measures**

Questions for Council

- **Is there Council alignment on these success measures?**
- **Is there anything missing?**

II. Open space definition, values, and strategies

As part of the PROST plan, a guiding definition and strategy for the Town's open space program is being crafted for the first time to help facilitate and guide open space investment and stewardship priorities. Staff incorporated feedback received from our stakeholders, the public, and previous Council reactions to create an Open Space definition for the Town, a list of 6 core Open Space Values, and decision-making considerations. These tools are meant to help guide Council and staff when evaluating opportunities to utilize Open Space funds. They are non-binding guiding questions that align with the values identified by the community:

State of Colorado defined values:

1. Wildlife Habitat
2. Scenic Vistas
3. Recreation
4. Agriculture

Town of CB additional values:

5. Watershed Health
6. Ecosystem Integrity

Define Acceptable Uses of Open Space Funds: The current RETT language states:

“An ordinance amending Article 4-3 of the Crested Butte code, land transfer excise tax, by increasing the amount of said tax from one and one-half percent (1 1/2%) to three percent (3%), earmarking the proceeds from the increase for acquisition of interests in real property for the purpose of preserving open space and access outside the town boundaries as they presently exist and financing activities relevant thereto;...”

The intent for the creation of an open space strategy is to bring more clarity to the Town's open space investments and decision-making. This first draft of the definition, values, and strategies are the first step to develop a framework for Council to utilize in making open space decisions and priorities.

Please Review Attachment:

- **Open Space Definition, Values and Strategies**

Questions for Council:

- **Do you agree with this definition of Open Space for the Town of Crested Butte?**
- **Is there Council alignment on the 6 core Open Space Values?**
- **Does Council want to further define "recreation"?**
- **What are the most appropriate uses of RETT open space funds?**
- **Will these decision-making considerations serve as a useful guide?**
- **Is anything missing?**

Next Steps:

- Begin to draft the Plan using the success measures as a rubric/filter
- Refine the Parks and Trail Concepts
- Draft a Cost Recovery Model
- Draft Initial Recommendations

MINUTES
Town of Crested Butte
Regular Town Council Meeting
Monday, November 3, 2025

Mayor Billick called the meeting to order at 7:00PM.

Council Members Present: Mayor Ian Billick, John O’Neal, Anna Fenerty, Mallika Magner, Beth Goldstone, and Gabi Prochaska

Kent Cowherd attended via Zoom for part of the meeting.

Staff Present: Town Attorney Karl Hanlon, Town Manager Dara MacDonald, Deputy Clerk/Licensing Clerk Eric Treadwell, Community Development Director Mel Yemma, Finance Director Rob Sweeney, Public Works Director Shea Earley, Sustainability Coordinator Dannah Leeman Gore, Town Planner III Jessie Earley, Housing Director Erin Ganser, and Town Clerk Lynelle Stanford (for part of the meeting)

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Fenerty moved and Prochaska seconded a motion to approve the agenda. A roll call vote was taken with all voting, “Yes.” Goldstone was momentarily absent and did not vote.
Motion passed unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA

1) October 20, 2025 Regular Town Council Meeting Minutes.

Staff Contact: Town Clerk Lynelle Stanford

2) Resolution No. 35, Series 2025 - A Resolution of the Crested Butte Town Council Amending the Fund Balance Reserve Policy, Effective November 3, 2025.

Staff Contact: Interim Finance Director Rob Sweeney

3) Resolution No. 36, Series 2025 – A Resolution of the Town Council of the Town of Crested Butte, Colorado Approving the Amended and Restated Gunnison Valley Transportation Authority Intergovernmental Agreement.

Staff Contact: Town Manager Dara MacDonald

4) Quarter 3 2025 Financial Update.

Staff Contact: Finance Director Rob Sweeney

Magner removed item #4 from the Consent Agenda.

Magner moved and Fenerty seconded a motion to approve the amended Consent Agenda with item #4 removed. A roll call vote was taken with all voting, “Yes.” **Motion passed unanimously.**

PUBLIC COMMENT

Billick acknowledged public comment submitted via email from Johnna and Bob Bernholtz.

Randi Stroh of Elk Mountain Backcountry Alliance commented.

STAFF UPDATES

MacDonald, Gore, and Ganser provided updates.

LEGAL MATTERS

Hanlon updated.

PUBLIC HEARING

1) Resolution No. 32, Series 2025 - A Resolution of the Crested Butte Town Council Adopting the Budget and Appropriating Sums of Money for the Town of Crested Butte, Colorado for the Fiscal Year Beginning the First Day of January 2026, and Ending the Last Day of December 2026, Estimating the Amount of Money Necessary to be Derived from Revenue Sources, and Setting Forth the Total Estimated Expenditures for Each Fund.

Staff Contact: Interim Finance Director Rob Sweeney

Billick opened the public hearing. There were no comments, and the public hearing was closed.

Prochaska moved and Goldstone seconded a motion to approve Resolution No. 32, Series 2025. A roll call vote was taken with all voting, "Yes." **Motion passed unanimously.**

NEW BUSINESS

1) Appointment of Two Town Council Members to Design Standards Update Advisory Committee.

Staff Contact: Town Planner III Jessie Earley

Magner, Prochaska, and Cowherd volunteered to join the committee.

Fenerty moved and O'Neal seconded a motion to appoint three members of the Town Council to the Design Standards Update Advisory Committee. A roll call vote was taken with all voting, "Yes." **Motion Passed unanimously.**

2) Resolution No. 33, Series 2025 - A Resolution of the Crested Butte Town Council Adopting the Mill Levy for the Town of Crested Butte, Colorado for the Fiscal Year 2026, Beginning the First Day of January 2026 and Ending the Last Day of

December 2026.

Staff Contact: Interim Finance Director Rob Sweeney

Goldstone moved and O’Neal seconded a motion to approve Resolution No. 33, Series 2025 to set the Mill Levy to nine mills for the Street and Alley Fund. A roll call vote was taken with Goldstone and O’Neal voting, “Yes,” and Prochaska, Fenerty, Magner, Cowherd, and Billick voting, “No.” **Motion failed.**

Council discussed and asked questions.

Prochaska moved and Cowherd seconded a motion to approve Resolution No. 33, Series 2025 to set the Mill Levy to ten mills for the Street and Alley Fund. A roll call vote was taken with Prochaska, Goldstone, Cowherd, O’Neal and Billick voting, “Yes,” and Fenerty and Magner voting, “No.” **Motion Passed.**

3) Resolution No. 34, Series 2025 - A Resolution of the Crested Butte Town Council Adopting Certain Fees and Charges for the Fiscal Year 2026.

Staff Contact: Interim Finance Director Rob Sweeney

O’Neal moved and Prochaska seconded a motion to approve Resolution No. 34, Series 2025 adopting the fiscal year 2026 fee schedule. A roll call vote was taken with all voting, “Yes.” **Motion passed unanimously.**

4) Quarter 3 2025 Financial Update.

Staff Contact: Finance Director Rob Sweeney

Formerly Consent Agenda item number four.

Magner asked questions, which were answered by MacDonald and Ganser.

Cowherd left the (Zoom) meeting, and he did not vote on subsequent motions.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Billick read the reason for entering executive session: for a conference with the Town Attorney pursuant to C.R.S. § 24-6-402 (4)(e) for determining positions relative to matters that may be subject to negotiations; developing strategy for negotiations; and instructing negotiators and pursuant to C.R.S. § 24-6-402 (4)(b) to receive legal advice on specific legal questions both regarding Mt. Crested Butte Water and Sanitation District.

Prochaska moved and O’Neal seconded a motion to go into Executive Session. A roll call vote was taken with all voting, “Yes,” except Cowherd was absent and did not vote. **Motion passed unanimously.**

Billick, Prochaska, Fenerty, Magner, Goldstone, and O’Neal were present for Executive Session. Town Attorney Karl Hanlon, Town Manager Dara MacDonald, Interim Finance

Director Rob Sweeney, and Public Works Director Shea Earley were present for the Executive Session.

The Council went into Executive Session at 8:37PM. The Executive Session concluded at 8:45PM. Mayor Billick made the required announcement upon returning to open meeting at 8:45PM.

NEW BUSINESS CON'T

1) Mt. Crested Butte Water and Sanitation's Failure to Pay for Biosolids.

The staff report outlined three options for Council consideration:

1. Accept the district's proposed payment plan and direct staff to prepare the necessary loan agreements to document the arrangement; or
2. Direct staff to pursue a one-day mediation session with the district; or
3. Direct staff to prepare a complaint for collection of the outstanding balance.

MacDonald also provided an email to the Council presenting three settlement options for consideration:

- Option A: Payoff by December 1, 2028, with 2% interest accrued from January 1, 2023, through November 30, 2025, and 4.5% interest commencing December 1, 2025;
- Option B: Payoff by December 1, 2028, with 0% interest accrued from January 1, 2023, through November 30, 2025, and 5.5% interest commencing December 1, 2025; or
- Option C: Payoff by December 1, 2029, with 0% interest accrued from January 1, 2023, through November 30, 2025, and 5.5% interest commencing December 1, 2025.

Council discussed above options. Council decided that two Council members, the attorney and appropriate Town Staff would plan to meet with the district to pursue settlement Option A and then Option B. If Option A or B was not agreed upon, then mediation would be pursued.

Prochaska moved and Goldstone seconded a motion to offer Settlement Option A as identified in MacDonald's email. If an agreement was not made, then Council, staff and the attorney would pursue Option 2 from the staff report to pursue one-day mediation with the district. A roll call vote was taken with all voting, "Yes," except Cowherd was absent and did not vote. **Motion passed unanimously.**

COUNCIL REPORTS AND COMMITTEE UPDATES

None

OTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE COUNCIL

There was discussion regarding The Center for the Arts.

DISCUSSION OF SCHEDULING FUTURE WORK SESSION TOPICS AND COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE

- Monday, November 3, 2025 - 6:00PM Work Session - 7:00PM Regular Council
- Monday, November 17, 2025 - 6:00PM Work Session - 7:00PM Regular Council
- Monday, December 1, 2025 - 6:00PM Work Session - 7:00PM Regular Council

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Billick read the reason for entering executive session: for discussion of a personnel matter under C.R.S. Section 24-6-402(4)(f) and not involving: any specific employees who have requested discussion of the matter in open session; any member of this body or any elected official; the appointment of any person to fill an office of this body or of an elected official; or personnel policies that do not require the discussion of matters personal to particular employees regarding the review of the Town Manager.

Magner moved and Fenerty seconded a motion to go into Executive Session. A roll call vote was taken with all voting, “Yes,” except Cowherd was absent and did not vote.

Motion passed unanimously.

Billick, Prochaska, Fenerty, Magner, Goldstone, and O’Neal were present for Executive Session. MacDonald was present for a portion of the Executive Session.

The Council went into Executive Session at 9:24PM. The Executive Session concluded at 10:21PM. Mayor Billick made the required announcement upon returning to open meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Billick adjourned the meeting at 10:21PM.

Ian Billick, Mayor

Eric Treadwell, Deputy Clerk/Licensing Clerk (SEAL)



Staff Report

November 17, 2025

To: Mayor and Town Council

From: Kaitlyn Archambault, Community Development, Planner I

Thru: Dara MacDonald, Town Manager

Subject: Ordinance 12, Series 2025 - An Ordinance of the Crested Butte Town Council Amending Section 4-5-50 of the Crested Butte Municipal Code

Summary

This is the first reading of Ordinance 12, Series 2025, an Ordinance of the Crested Butte Town Council Amending Section 4-5-50 of the Crested Butte Municipal Code. The proposed amendments clarify the language related to specific exemptions from the Real Estate Transfer Tax (RETT).

Background

Recently, the Town of Crested Butte has paid its portion of the Real Estate Transfer Tax (RETT) when buying or selling real property within Town limits. In the past few years, the Town has purchased deed restricted housing as a pass through in a couple of circumstances to clean up an error made in the deed restriction, which has resulted in cost to the Town to pay RETT twice. At the October 20 Council meeting, Town Manager Dara MacDonald asked the Council if they would be interested in exploring an exemption for these types of circumstances, which the council agreed to look at.

Upon review of the current RETT exemptions listed in Section 4-5-50, staff identified that subsection (1) reads:

“Any document wherein the United States or any agency or instrumentality thereof, the State, any county, city and county, municipality, district or other political subdivision of the State is either the grantor or grantee.”

This language appears to exempt transfers involving governmental entities, including the Town, from paying the RETT. However, the use of the term “document” rather than “transfer” creates ambiguity regarding the intent and application of the exemption.

The proposed amendment replaces the word “document” with “transfer” in subsections (1) and (2) to clarify that the exemption applies to the act of transferring property, not merely to the recorded instrument.

Currently, half of the RETT revenue is allocated to the preservation of open space, and the remaining half is directed to the Town’s General Capital Fund. Staff believe that paying a fee upon the closing of a real estate transaction between Town funds is an unnecessary administrative process that does not produce a financial benefit to the Town overall.

Recommendation

Staff recommends that a Council Member make a motion, followed by a second, to set Ordinance 12, Series 2025 - An Ordinance of the Crested Butte Town Council Amending Section 4-5-50 of the Crested Butte Municipal Code, for public hearing on December 1, 2025.

Attachment

- Ordinance 12, Series 2025



Staff Report

November 17, 2025

To: Mayor and Town Council

Thru: Dara MacDonald, Town Manager

From: Lynelle Stanford, Town Clerk

Subject: WinterGlow 2025 Special Event Application (Crested Butte Tree Lighting) Closing the 300 Block of Elk Avenue on Saturday, December 6, 2025.

Date: November 4, 2025

Summary:

Heather Leonard, representing the Crested Butte/Mt. Crested Butte Chamber of Commerce, has submitted a special event application for WinterGlow 2025. This event continues the tradition of the former Crested Butte Tree Lighting celebration.

WinterGlow 2025 is proposed for Saturday, December 6, 2025. The applicant requests closure of the 300 Block of Elk Avenue from 12:00 PM to 8:00 PM to accommodate event setup, activities, and takedown. Due to the logistics of closing Elk Avenue, the block will remain closed for the entire day. The event aims to celebrate the start of the holiday season by illuminating Elk Avenue and fostering community spirit during the winter months.

CB State of Mind plans to wrap the light poles along Elk Avenue, from the Zero Block through the 600 Block, with green lights, which will be installed by 3:00 PM on December 6. The Chamber of Commerce will also promote local engagement through the sale of Butte Bucks and by hosting a holiday window display contest among local businesses. Property and business owners along Elk Avenue will be encouraged to participate by decorating their storefronts and buildings.

The WinterGlow committee is coordinating acoustic music and carolers or buskers to perform between 4:00 PM and 7:00 PM. The event set up in the 300 Block will include tents, fire pits, and a Santa chair to create a festive gathering space. Community members will be invited to mingle and enjoy the event from 4:00 PM to 7:00 PM. It is anticipated that Elk Avenue will reopen to vehicle traffic by 9:00 PM.

Recommendation:

To approve the WinterGlow 2025 special event application as part of the Consent Agenda.

Recommended Motion:

Motion to approve the WinterGlow 2025 special event application as part of the Consent Agenda.

Town of Crested Butte

P.O. Box 39 Crested Butte, Colorado 81224

-National Trust for Historic Preservation's 2008 Dozen Distinctive Destinations Award Recipient-

-A National Historic District-

Phone: (970) 349-5338
FAX: (970) 349-6626
www.townofcrestedbutte.com

November 17, 2025

Captain James W. Saunders
Colorado State Patrol – Troop 5C
Montrose Troop Office
2420 North Townsend Avenue
Montrose, CO 81401
Via email: JamesW.Saunders@state.co.us

RE: Request for Increased Patrols on State Highway 135

Dear Captain Saunders,

On behalf of the Crested Butte Town Council, I am writing to request additional patrol presence by the Colorado State Patrol along State Highway 135 between Gunnison and Crested Butte. The Town and our community members have become increasingly concerned about speeding, unsafe passing behaviors, and general driver impatience on this corridor.

These unsafe driving practices have led to numerous close calls and at least two severe crashes so far in 2025, one of which resulted in a tragic fatality. With winter approaching and traffic volumes expected to increase as residents, workers, and visitors travel to and from Crested Butte, we are deeply concerned that the risk of additional serious accidents will only grow.

The Brush Creek intersection has long been recognized as one of the most hazardous areas along the highway, even prior to the commencement of the Whetstone workforce housing project and associated utility extensions now underway in that vicinity. Construction activity and traffic disruptions have further intensified safety concerns, especially given the mix of local commuters, heavy equipment, and visitors unfamiliar with the area.

Looking ahead, our community anticipates beginning construction of two roundabouts in 2026 along SH 135 at Brush Creek Road and at the entrance to Crested Butte. While these projects are critical for long-term safety improvements, the Town is also concerned about maintaining safe traffic operations through and during the construction periods, which will require heightened enforcement and driver awareness.

We recognize and appreciate the ongoing efforts of the Colorado State Patrol to promote roadway safety throughout Gunnison County. However, the level of reckless driving being observed along SH 135 has reached a point that warrants enhanced enforcement presence and visibility. Even intermittent patrols or targeted enforcement campaigns would serve as a strong deterrent and a reassurance to the community.

The Town Council and Crested Butte Marshals stand ready to assist in coordinating with your office, the Gunnison County Sheriff's Office, and other local partners to address this growing concern. Please let us know how we can best support your efforts to improve safety along this vital transportation corridor.

Thank you for your attention and for your continued service to our region.

Sincerely,

Ian Billick, Mayor

Cc: Sheriff Adam Murdie, amurdie@gunnisoncounty.org
Chief Nate Stepanek, n.stepanek@mtcbpd.us



Staff Report

November 17, 2025

To: Mayor and Town Council
Thru: Dara MacDonald, Town Manager
From: Lynelle Stanford, Town Clerk
Subject: Appointment of New Council Member
Date: November 9, 2025

Summary:

One citizen submitted a letter of interest to serve on the Council, Kate Guibert. The appointment will be for a two-year seat serving through the November 2, 2027, election. Guibert is a registered elector in the Town of Crested Butte; has lived in Town for longer than the one-year residency requirement; and is qualified to be a Council member.

Recommendation:

Appoint Kate Guibert as a Council member through the November 2, 2027, election.

Recommended Motion:

Motion to appoint Kate Guibert to serve as Council member through the November 2nd, 2027, election.

Attachments:

- Letter of interest from Kate Guibert



Memorandum

To: Town Council

From: Dara MacDonald, Town Manager

Subject: Manager's Report

Date: November 17, 2025

Town Manager

- 1) No updates.

Public Works

- 1) Whetstone Off-Site Utility Update
 - a. Water – Town Staff has allowed an exception to the Right-Of-Way excavation moratorium to assist the County's contractor in completing the water line tie-in to the Town system. Town Staff has informed the contractor that all work in the Town ROW shall be completed by November 14.
 - b. Sewer – Completion postponed until next August.
- 2) Block 80 Water Main Construction – This project is substantially complete following a Punch Walk with Town Staff, JVA Engineers, and Dietrich Dirtworks on Thursday, November 6th.
- 3) Whiterock Water Main Project – This project is substantially complete following a Punch Walk with Town Staff, JVA Engineers, and Dietrich Dirtworks on Thursday, November 6th.
- 4) Annual Snow Summit – The Streets and Alleys Division of Public Works hosted their Annual Snow Summit on October 30th. This year had the best attendance on record. Attendees included snow removal contractors, GCEA, ATMOS, CDOT, Gunnison County, Waste Management, among others etc. 5 snow storage spaces within in the gravel pit were assigned via lottery to contractors. An additional storage lot was set aside for emergency overflow use by the Community School.
- 5) Old Rock Jail – Six Points has signed their lease and has begun move-in. They will be establishing a "boutique" style second-hand store within the old Jail.

Marshals

- 1) The Marshal's Office is actively tagging items on the Town right of way in preparation for winter, and officers will begin distributing winter parking warnings on Monday, November 10th.

Parks, Recreation, Open Space and Trails

- 1) 2025 Trail Use Data
 - a. Open Space Assistant Georgia Behrens worked diligently through the 2025 trail season to put together a strong baseline data set in our second year of deploying trail cams to count users.
 - b. Four cameras were deployed in 2025 from early June to late October at the Deli Trail, Green Lake, Woods Walk, and the Red Lady Open Space. Unfortunately, the Red Lady Open Space camera was stolen sometime between July 21st and 28th, limiting the data collected at that location.
 - c. A total of 89,674 users, including 8,562 dogs were counted across all locations.
 - i. Deli Trail: 31,834 users total with nearly 77% being bikers. Anecdotally, Georgia stated that many users were recurring who appeared to be commuting to-from Town.
 - ii. Woods Walk: 50,681 users total with 61% being hikers. Woods walk is a difficult place to capture accurate counts due to the braided trail network so close to Town, so the camera is placed near Lot 3 at Trappers which is the pinch point heading out to the Lower Loop. Actual counts on the trails directly adjacent to Town are likely substantially higher.
 - iii. Green Lake: 6343 users traveling downhill with an approximate 66/33 split of hikers/bikers.
 - iv. Red Lady Open Space counted 816 total users from June 10th to July 28th. While this camera was not deployed for the entire season, it was definitively the lowest use area despite its adjacency to Town.
 - d. The cameras also capture various wildlife enjoying the trail systems including deer, elk, moose, fox, coyotes, various birds and small mammals. Some highlight photos can be found in the attached report as well as a more detailed breakdown of the data.

Community Development

- 1) **Housing Listening Sessions:** The Town is hosting two upcoming listening sessions for owners of deed-restricted housing to begin to better understand challenges and opportunities with deed restriction administration, from qualifications, sales, and lotteries to compliance. These sessions are simply focused on listening at this time as the Town prepares to take over deed restriction administration and will be facilitated by Miles Graham. Councilmembers are invited to attend; however, to avoid any Open Meetings issues, please ensure no more than two attend each session and let Dara know if you plan to join. There is currently one council member signed up for each session. Staff also extended the invitation to Mt. CB staff and council as we continue to explore collaboration/partnership opportunities for deed restricted administration.
- Sessions:
- Virtual: Wednesday, 11/12 at 1:30 pm
 - In-person: Thursday, 11/13 at 6 pm
 - (A second virtual session may be added on Friday if needed.)
- A recording of the virtual session will be shared for anyone unable to attend. Please reach out with any questions.

- 2) **GreenDeed:** GVRHA staff have indicated that Gunnison County will continue administering GV-HEAT programming through Gunnison Health and Human Services, including GreenDeed. Staff will meet with GV-HEAT program administrator Gesa Michel next week to understand details and discuss program developments for 2026.
- 3) **Design Standards Kickoff:** The Design Standards update will officially kick off at the Tuesday, November 18 BOZAR meeting at 5:30 pm for an interactive public work session.
- 4) **Zoning Code Update Webinars:** The introductory zoning code webinars are off to a great start with strong community participation. Thank you to everyone who has joined so far! You can catch up anytime on the [zoning code update website](#), where webinar recordings and zone-specific fact sheets are available.
Upcoming webinar sessions:
 - **B2 Zone:** Tuesday, 11/11 at 4 pm
 - **C Zones:** Wednesday, 11/12 at 4 pm
 - **Residential Zones:** Thursday, 11/20 at 12 pm
- 5) **CLG Report approved:** The Town's Certified Local Government (CLG) yearly evaluation report was approved. The CLG status enables the Town to access federal matching grants for historic preservation, apply for grants and tax credits, and apply more formally in state and federal preservation processes.

Town Clerk

- 1) Unofficial election results in the Mayoral election are Ian Billick with 405 votes (63.78%) and Anna Fenerty with 230 votes (36.22%). The County has a Secretary of State deadline of Friday, November 14, 2025, to finish tabulating ballots cast by voters. The certified, official results will likely be released the week of November 17.
- 2) Please be reminded that the Council appointment will be fulfilled through the next Mayor/Council election taking place on November 2, 2027, which will result in a two-year seat on the ballot in the 2027 election year.
- 3) Please find the annual vacation rental licensing memo attached.

Finance/HR/IT

- 1) Staff hiring updates:

Senior Accountant - Sage Duff. Sage joins us with over 20 years of progressive experience in accounting, including roles as Accountant and Controller. Through these positions, Sage has built a strong foundation in financial management, reporting, and strategic analysis — skills that make her a perfect fit for our team. We're thrilled to have her on board!

Facilities Maintenance Worker - Pete Jacobsen. You've probably seen Pete around town working on the flower boxes with the PROST team, but we're excited to officially welcome him as our new Facilities Maintenance Worker/Custodian! Pete's already been a familiar face in our community, and

we're lucky to have him join us full-time to help keep our facilities running smoothly and looking great.

Water System Manager - James Law. James brings an impressive background in municipal utilities, with multiple Colorado water and wastewater certifications, a Backflow Prevention Assembly Tester certification, and over five years of operational and supervisory experience. Most recently, he served as Utilities Design Project Manager for the City of Durango, overseeing capital projects, budgets, and design coordination. His technical expertise and leadership experience will be a huge asset as he manages the Town's water treatment and distribution systems.

Upcoming Meetings or Events Council may choose to attend

November 19th – Oh Be Joyful Solar Array ribbon cutting, 1:00-2:00 at Avalanche Park (Baxter Gulch Trailhead)

December 5 – Town employee holiday party, Center for the Arts, 5:30-9:30

Upcoming Agenda Items

See attached **draft** list of upcoming Council agenda topics

* As always, please let me know if you have any questions or concerns. You may also directly contact department directors with questions as well.



Staff Report

November 17, 2025

To: Mayor and Town Council
Thru: Dara MacDonald, Town Manager
From: Lynelle Stanford, Town Clerk
Subject: Consideration of Appointments to Boards and Committees
Date: November 7, 2025

Summary:

Board and committee appointments are being considered as part of the agenda due to the election and the Town Council vacancy resulting from Anna Fenerty's departure. There are vacancies on the following boards and committees:

- Mountain Express
- Rural Transportation Authority Board (RTA)
- Gunnison Valley Transportation Planning Region (GVTPR)
- West Elk Scenic Byway Committee
- Public Art Commission
- Region 10

Any other reappointments could also be considered at this time.

Included in the packet are two lists of boards and committees. One list contains background information, meeting schedules, and contact information for organizations. The other list is meant to be an at-a-glance reference.

Recommendation:

The Council should appoint a member to the boards and committees with vacancies and consider any reappointments at this time.

Recommended Motion:

Motion to appoint _____ to Mountain Express, RTA, GVTPR, West Elk Scenic Byway Committee, Region 10, and Public Art Commission.