



Official Minutes
Town Council Regular Meeting | 5:30 PM
Wednesday, April 1, 2026
Town Hall / Council Chambers - 302 Pine St Minturn, CO

The agenda is subject to change, including the addition of items 24 hours in advance or the deletion of items at any time. The order of agenda items listed are approximate.
This agenda and meetings can be viewed at www.minturn.org.

Meeting Access Information and Public Participation:

This will be an in-person meeting with access for the public to attend in person or via the Zoom link included. Zoom Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87077741701>

Zoom Call-In Information: 1 651 372 8299 or 1 301 715 8592 **Webinar ID:** 870 7774 1701

Please note: All virtual participants are muted. In order to be called upon an unmuted, you will need to use the “raise hand” feature in the Zoom platform. When it’s your turn to speak, the moderator will unmute your line and you will have five minutes for public comment.

Public Comments: If you are unable to attend, public comments regarding any items on the agenda can be submitted to Jay Brunvand, Town Clerk, prior to the meeting and will be included as part of the record.

1. Call to Order

Mayor Earle Bidez called the meeting to order at 5:32pm.

2. Roll Call and Pledge of Allegiance

Council present: Mayor Earle Bidez, and Town Council Members Eric Gotthelf, Gusty Kanakis, Brian Rodine, Tom Priest, Lynn Feiger, and Kate Schifani.

Staff Members Present: Town Manager Rob Gutierrez, Town Clerk Jay Brunvand, Town Attorney Mike Sawyer (Zoom), Town Engineer Jeff Spanel, Deputy Clerk Cindy Krieg (Zoom).

3. Approval of Consent Agenda

Consent agenda items are routine Town business, items that have received clear direction previously from the council, final land-use file documents after the public hearing has been closed, or which do not require council deliberation.

One correction was made to the 3/18 minutes.

Motion by Kate S., second by Gusty K., to approve the April 1, 2026 Consent Agenda with that correction. Motion passed 7-0.

A. 03-18-2026 Minutes

4. Approval of Regular Agenda

Opportunity for amendment or deletions to the agenda.

One change to the agenda: Item 11B is being moved up, to follow after 10C. There were some other additions to the agenda following the original publication. But those additions were posted more than 24 hours in advance, so they were included in the online agenda / packet.

Motion by Eric G., second by Gusty K., to approve the April 1, 2026 Regular Agenda as amended. Motion passed 7-0.

5. Declaration of Conflicts of Interest

6. Public Comment

Citizens are invited to comment on any item on the Consent Agenda, or not on the regular Agenda subject to a public hearing. Please limit your comments to five minutes per person unless arrangements have been made for a presentation with the Town Clerk. Those who are speaking are requested to state their name and address for the record.

Jason Boston, Candidate for Eagle County Sheriff

Mr. Boston introduced himself and described his background and qualifications. More information about him can be found at his website at <https://www.bostonforeaglecountysheriff.com/>.

Elliot Hovey, 653 Boulder St.

Mr. Hovey expressed concern that speeding on Pine St. has become a very serious problem. He suggested lowering the speed limit or looking into other options to help with safety on that street. He offered to help lead this initiative if that's helpful. Town Manager Rob Gutierrez offered to have a follow up meeting with Mr. Hovey and will also seek input from staff.

7. Council and Committee Reports

Kate S. gave an update on the scholarship interviews and award process. She reiterated what a great program this is, and the quality of the students applying has been impressive.

Brian R. noted how great the energy was at the recent RTAP workshop. He suggested that the Town consider trying to extend that steering committee into an ongoing working group, to keep the momentum going.

Cindy K. also noted that there will be two post-workshop virtual calls, which the steering committee and workshop attendees will be invited to join. Invites to follow soon.

Gusty K. reminded everyone about First Friday on 4/3 at the Crazy Chicken. He also thanked Brian R. for his work on Council, and Earle B. for his work on Council and as mayor.

Eric G. also extended his thanks to Earle B. and Brian R. and he looks forward to serving as Mayor.

8. Staff Reports

A. Manager's Report

In addition to the items in the published Managers Report, Town Manager Rob Gutierrez gave an update on emergency preparedness planning and some efforts and tools that the Town is working on to be more prepared this summer.

Also, Minturn Road/Railroad Avenue Concrete Sidewalk Follow Up:

We estimated that the construction of a concrete sidewalk along Minturn Road and Railroad Avenue could be \$250,000 to \$425,000. Staff would recommend not pursuing this option at this time for two reasons. We would like to redirect the savings from the Taylor Avenue paving project to the playground replacement project at Little Beach Park. We have \$175,000 budgeted but will need an additional \$250,000+ to deliver a solid project.

Regarding the Taylor Ave reconstruction:

Initial exploratory work (utility locates, etc) will start the week of April 6th. Notices will be given out to all Taylor Ave. residents. The actual road construction is not expected to start for another 6 – 8 weeks.

One other thing that came up at the last meeting was the savings from the Taylor Ave project, and how those funds could best be utilized. Council had previously asked about constructing a concrete sidewalk along Minturn Rd / Railroad Ave. for safety reasons, but this could be \$250K - \$425K. Staff would not recommend pursuing this option at this time, but perhaps other ideas can be looked into as a temporary or simpler, lower cost solution (even a temporary option). Additionally, staff feels the Taylor Ave. project savings would be best spent on the Little Beach Playground replacement project. The Town has approximately \$150K cash on hand for that project, but to deliver a high quality project, the cost will likely be a minimum of \$300K, more likely \$350K+.

Top Updates

1. Water Supply & Conservation

Town staff are coordinating with the Town's water consultants, **Martin and Wood**, and the **Eagle River Water and Sanitation District (ERWSD)** to evaluate current snowpack conditions and water supply forecasts. ERWSD representatives will attend the **April 1 Town Council meeting** to discuss their plans for water conservation and community engagement.

Staff will also be **preparing an ordinance to implement water restrictions** and are evaluating potential updates to **landscaping plant selections and summer watering schedules**. In addition, staff are exploring **communication strategies to regularly update the public on water supply conditions and conservation efforts**.

Residents are encouraged to begin **voluntary water conservation efforts now** and should expect to see a **significant public outreach and engagement effort** focused on conservation this spring.

2. All-Staff Emergency Management Training

On **April 14**, the Town will conduct an **all-staff emergency management training** at Town Hall in coordination with **Eagle County**.

In parallel, staff are identifying **short- to medium-term actions** to strengthen the Town's emergency response capabilities. The Town has acquired a **second mobile digital message board**, and staff are evaluating the potential acquisition of a **truck-mounted message board**. Staff are also exploring the purchase of **additional two-way radios**, including **1–3 Eagle**

County dispatch-compatible Motorola radios, as well as **traffic control equipment** to support road closures and emergency response operations.

Capital Projects

New Water Treatment Plant (WTP)

Design & Regulatory Review

The Water Treatment Plant design is approximately **90 percent complete** and has been submitted to, and accepted by, the Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment (CDPHE) for formal review. Plans have also been submitted for local building and zoning review.

Updated Cost Estimates

Staff received an updated construction cost estimate on February 4 from HDR and Glacier based on the 90 percent design for the Water Treatment Plant. The updated estimate is approximately **\$12,429,000 assuming SRF financing**, and approximately **\$11,629,000 assuming non-SRF (private bank) financing**.

Construction Bid Process

The Town has opened the **public bid process** for contractors interested in constructing the new Water Treatment Plant. A **mandatory pre-bid meeting and site visit** was held by Town staff and the project design engineer, **HDR**, on **March 3**. The bid process will remain open until **April 3 at 3:00 p.m.**

Project Financing

At the **March 4 meeting**, Town Council conducted the **first reading of a bond issuance ordinance** related to financing for the Water Treatment Plant project and narrowed the financing options to three proposals with the lowest ratepayer impact during the initial term.

At the **March 18 meeting**, Town Council selected **Alpine Bank as the preferred financing partner**. The selected structure is based on **Option 1** from Alpine Bank's term sheet, which includes a **24-month construction draw period followed by long-term amortization**, a **fixed interest rate of approximately 5.0% for the initial term period**, and **no minimum deposit requirement**.

Staff have worked with the Town's Municipal Advisor and Alpine Bank to clarify terms and ensure a competitive financing structure for the Town. Due to the **30-day noticing requirement in the Town Code**, the **next reading of the bond issuance ordinance is scheduled for the April 15 Town Council meeting**.

Minturn Bike Park 2026 Improvements

Staff are planning a series of **capital improvements** to the Minturn Bike Park in **May 2026**, including **significant upgrades to the bike jump features** and the **dual slalom course**. The work will be completed by the **Vail Valley Mountain Trails Association (VVMTA)** with **support from the Town**. These improvements are intended to enhance rider safety, improve ride quality, and expand the long-term usability of the park for a wide range of skill levels. Additional details on scope, scheduling, and coordination will be provided as the project is finalized.

Town Hall 2-Bedroom Apartment Reconstruction

Following evaluation of proposals, Coleman Custom Homes was selected for the project. Staff have negotiated a draft contract, which is **pending review and approval by the Town Attorney**.

Taylor Avenue Repaving Project

Design is complete, and the project has completed the public bid process. The Town received three bids for the project from 360 Civil, Schofield Excavating, and Phoenix Contracting. Two of the bids came in lower than anticipated, with the lowest bid submitted by Schofield Excavating in the amount of \$453,638.80. **At the March 18 meeting, Town Council approved the selection of Schofield Excavating for the project.**

Utility locates will begin next week for this project. Homeowners will be notified and signage will be placed as well.

US 24 Pedestrian Improvement Project Phase II

Negotiations with **CDOT, Xcel Energy, and Phoenix Industries** have been completed. A change order in the amount of \$99,991.88 was approved by Town Council at the February 18 meeting. We anticipate gas line relocation work by Xcel Energy will begin the **first week of May 2026**.

Main Street Streetlighting Project

Staff are pursuing **Holophane** as the preferred streetlight manufacturer, and preliminary fixture and pole concepts have been informally reviewed by **CDOT**. Staff are currently working on **utility coordination with Xcel Energy** as part of project planning for electrical service to the new lights.

Bellm Bridge Replacement

Status:

The Town has been **awarded \$4,000,000** from CDOT's **Off-System Bridge Grant Program** for the Bellm Bridge project. The professional services agreement between the Town and **Short Elliott Hendrickson (SEH)** has been approved, and **design work is now commencing** on the replacement of the Bellm Bridge.

Next Steps:

Staff will continue to work with SEH on advancing the bridge design and will proceed with **grant programming and contracting coordination with CDOT**. Staff will also continue to **identify and secure the remaining funding** needed for the estimated **\$6 million** construction cost.

Little Beach Park Improvements

Installation of the new retaining wall and asphalt access road is complete. The RFQ for playground design and installation has been completed, and all submittals have been evaluated. **Rocky Mountain Recreation was identified as the highest scoring firm through the RFQ process**. Staff are now working with Rocky Mountain Recreation to **prepare a contract and develop initial design concepts** for presentation to the public and Town Council at a future meeting.

Minturn Community Garden Improvements

Town Council approved submission of an application to the **AARP Community Challenge Grant Program** at the February 4, 2026, Town Council meeting. The Town has since

submitted a request for the maximum \$15,000 grant to support accessibility and gathering space improvements at the Minturn Community Garden.

- Construct an ADA-accessible pathway connecting key areas of the garden.
- Install raised, ADA-accessible planter boxes to improve gardening access.
- Add weather-resistant benches with back support for comfort and rest opportunities.
- Construct a snow- and wind-rated shaded pergola to support gatherings and small events.
- Install permanent electrical service to enable community events, workshops, and performances.
- Install a communal worktable with integrated sinks

Other Projects

Grouse Creek Trailhead Parking Lot Expansion

Public Works is scheduled to complete the **Grouse Creek Trailhead Parking Lot Expansion** on **April 6 and 7**. The project is being completed in collaboration with the **Vail Valley Mountain Trails Association (VVMTA)** and the **U.S. Forest Service (USFS)** to improve access and parking at the trailhead.

Highlands Parcels

Background:

As part of a settlement agreement with the former developer of the Battle Mountain Ski Resort, the Town obtained ownership of approximately **55 acres of land** located west of **U.S. Highway 24** at the south end of Town. The property was conveyed to the Town after the developer failed to meet financial obligations associated with the construction of a new water treatment plant.

Status:

The two Highlands Parcels have now been **listed on the MLS as part of the Town's strategy to help offset the cost of the new water treatment plant** and are publicly available for viewing. The listings can be accessed at the following links:

1. <https://www.realtor.com/realestateandhomes-detail/Notch-Mountain-Unit-highlands-2-Rd-Parcel-B-Minturn-CO-81645-M91907-95156>

2. <https://www.realtor.com/realestateandhomes-detail/Notch-Mountain-Unit-highlands-1-Rd-Parcel-A-Minturn-CO-81645-M93795-65402>

Minturn USFS Shooting Range

Background:

At the **November 19, 2025, Town Council meeting**, Council directed staff to explore options for Town management of the **Minturn Shooting Range** in order to address long-standing community concerns related to **safety, noise, and environmental impacts**. The shooting range is located on **federal land south of the Minturn Bike Park**.

Status:

On **January 8, 2026**, staff met with **U.S. Forest Service (USFS) District Ranger Leanne Veldhuis** to discuss the process for seeking a **Special Use Permit** to operate the shooting

range. Staff are awaiting follow-up from USFS regarding several outstanding questions related to the permitting process.

Policy & Planning Initiatives

Minturn Forward Land Use Code Update

The Planning Commission recently conducted a 2/3rds review of **draft Article 3: Subdivision & Development Standards**, discussing topics such as site design, landscaping, and lighting standards. The Planning Commission and staff will continue their work on the **Minturn Forward Land Use Code Update** in April to review remaining sections of Article 3. Members of the **public are welcome to attend the meetings or submit comments** for consideration.

Minturn Impact Fee Study

Background:

In November 2025, staff issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) to solicit qualified firms to conduct a comprehensive impact fee study. The purpose of the study is to ensure that the impacts of new developments appropriately contribute to the Town's future infrastructure costs.

Status:

A professional services agreement with **BBC Research and Consulting** has been approved. The study has started and the project is anticipated to be completed by **July 2026**.

Rural Technical Assistance Program

Background:

The Town was selected to participate in the **Rural Technical Assistance Program (RTAP)** through the Colorado Office of Economic Development & International Trade (OEDIT). The program pairs Minturn with graduate students from the **University of Colorado Boulder** and **Colorado State University** to develop strategies for leveraging outdoor recreation to support the local economy.

Status:

The Town held a **two-day community workshop at Minturn Town Hall on March 24 and 25**, with **over 45 participants** attending across both days. Staff received a **significant amount of useful community feedback** and will be working with the student team to **compile and analyze input** as part of the ongoing project.

Housing Affordability and Neighborhood Stability

Staff met with representatives from the **Town of Avon** and **Eagle County** on **February 18** to discuss progress on the **Regional Housing Authority formation study** and received updates on the current status of the project. Staff presented a memorandum to **Town Council at the March 4 meeting**, and Council provided feedback and direction on the concept. Staff are now working to develop a **Minturn-specific framework** outlining how the Town could potentially participate in a future regional housing authority.

Temporary & Mobile Business Pilot Program

At the **February 4 meeting**, Town Council approved the **Temporary & Mobile Business Pilot Program**, authorizing the licensing of mobile and modular businesses on Town-owned property through **October 31, 2026**.

All program materials, including **administrative rules and application forms**, are now available on the Town's website:

<https://www.minturn.org/finance/page/mobile-and-modular-business-licensing>

The Town is now **accepting applications** for participation in the pilot program. Interested parties may contact **manager@minturn.org** for additional information.

Public Works

Weekly Report (March 16-22, 2026)

Operations & Winter Maintenance

Public Works completed all scheduled operations, including **Water Treatment Plant operations, utility locates, equipment maintenance, and servicing of trash and dog waste stations**. Staff also supported Town Hall operations by relocating appliances from Apartment #2 and completing routine shop organization.

Infrastructure & System Improvements

Crews completed **street sweeping along Main Street**, constructed and installed signage for the **Grouse Creek Trailhead Access Improvement Project**, and performed excavation work to locate utilities near the proposed Meyer's Shed site. Additional work included **soil sampling**, snow management at the dump site, and verification of water meter readings for the "**No Read**" list.

Coordination & Planning

Staff coordinated with the **Upper Eagle River Sanitation District**, contractors, and suppliers on water system operations and upcoming projects, including planning for a potential **Williams Street water line improvement**. Coordination also continued with Colorado 811 for utility locates and with regional partners on **training and emergency preparedness**, including review of Public Works responsibilities under the Town's evacuation plan and exploration of improved radio communications with Eagle County dispatch.

Training, Coordination & Partnerships

Staff participated in several coordination activities including a **Water Treatment Plant pre-bid meeting**, coordination with **Colorado 811 regarding upcoming Exactix utility locate training**, and outreach with **Core & Main** regarding automated water meter reading technology. Staff also attended the **Red Cliff Town Council meeting** to present a plaque recognizing Billy Martinez and the Town of Red Cliff for assisting Minturn during a prior staffing shortage.

Equipment Maintenance

Routine servicing and repairs were completed, including **removal and repair of the cinder spreader**, tire rotations on multiple fleet vehicles, and diagnostic coordination with the Town of Avon for a truck oil leak.

A. ERWSD Presentation on Current & Expected Conditions (Snowpack, Streamflows, and Drought Conditions)

Lauren Snyder and Allison Ebbets from Eagle River Water & Sanitation provided a high-level overview of current and expected conditions for the spring and summer.

The slides from this presentation will be included at the end of this document. Highlights included:

- Current snow water equivalent is only 24% of normal
- Water usage tiers were discussed. Tiers 4 & 5 are considered excessive use, and will be subject to fines and surcharges.

- Ideas such as letting lawns go dormant, short vs. green grass, choosing native plants, etc were discussed.
- The ERWSD watering schedule will be released soon. It will be a scaled back schedule with increased restrictions given the water shortage.

See attached slides. This information can also be found on the ERWSD website and social channels.

10. Business Items

Items and/or Public Hearings listed under Business Items may be old or new and may require review or action by the Council.

A. Ordinance No. 03 - Series 2026 - Request for Continuance

Ordinance No. 03 reflects changes to the Town of Minturn Building Resolution (Chapter 18) by introducing new building requirements along with site development standards (defensible space) that will only apply to new construction and/or major exterior additions or remodels.

Importantly, the Town's proposed code changes have received *initial* approval – with suggested revisions - from the State of Colorado Wildfire Resiliency Board. Staff continue to work with the State agency and with Eagle County to ensure Minturn's language revisions are approved by the State prior to bringing Ordinance No 3, Series 2026 in front of Council for consideration at 2nd reading.

Therefore, staff **recommend CONTINUANCE of Ordinance No. 3 – Series 2026** to the regular meeting of April 15, 2026, to allow staff additional time to finalize minor revisions to the proposed Minturn Wildfire Resiliency Code language in accordance with State guidance.

Motion by Tom P., second by Lynn F., to continue Ordinance No. 03 – Series 2026, to the regular meeting of April 15, 2026. Motion passed 7-0.

B. Resolution No. 18 - Series 2026, A Resolution Authorizing a Contract with SEH for the Bellm Bridge Replacement Design Services

The Town previously selected SEH (Short Elliott Hendrickson Inc). as the design consultant for the Bellm Bridge Replacement Project under the CDOT Off-System Bridge Program (via Resolution No. 43 - Series 2025). Resolution No. 43 - Series 2025 further provided that the final agreement, including the negotiated scope and contract amount, must be brought back to the Town Council for approval prior to execution. The Town Manager has negotiated a Professional Services Agreement with SEH, which agreement has been reviewed and approved by the Town Attorney. The proposed Professional Services Agreement sets forth the scope of services for the Bellm Bridge Replacement Project, including design, permitting coordination, hydrology and hydraulics, right-of-way acquisition support, bidding-phase services, and related work as more particularly described in Exhibit A to the Agreement.

The Town is entering into a separate agreement with Kumar & Associates, which is the next item on the agenda.

Motion by Tom P., second by Kate S., to approve Resolution No. 18 – Series 2026, A Resolution Authorizing a Contract with SEH for the Bellm Bridge Replacement Design Services. Motion passed 7-0.

C. Motion Authorizing the Town Manager to enter into a contract for a geotechnical and services associated with the design of Bellm Bridge in an amount not to exceed \$50,000

Motion by Eric G., second by Kate S., to authorize the Town Manager to enter into a contract for a geotechnical and services associated with the design of Bellm Bridge in an amount not to exceed \$50,000. Motion passed 7-0.

11B. Williams St. Water Main Loop to Nelson

Jeff Spanel:

There was some recent work that needed to be done to some water taps on Williams St. At that time, it was discovered that there is a 3in. pvc water pipe, extending from the hydrant in front of Magustos, which extends under 1st St (under the trash compactor) and ends at 107 Williams St. This pipe is non-conforming and is considered very suspect to splitting and needs to be addressed. There is also a valve on the line that is not intended to be an underground line (and is corroding). The minimum size pipe for a mainline in Minturn is 6in. The Town is not sure who put the line in (or when), and it's unclear who owns it.

The pipe needs to be replaced and tied in to the mainline. There are multiple service lines tied in to this sub-standard pipe.

This was discovered in the winter, so it could not be dealt with at that time. Town staff is seeking direction for next steps and also how the Town can integrate other necessary improvements that would align with this work. The trash compactor will need to be moved to do this work, and the Town is looking into a possible permanent move and also looking into grant funding to possibly help with that.

Mike S:

Normally a line that serves more than one property would be a Town main (not a service line), but at some point the multi-property service line was installed, and it now needs to be fixed and brought into compliance. Being forward-thinking and getting lines in that can both fix the issue and allow for future development. It's recommended to do it in a way to allow for a looped system. We don't know exactly how it came about, and the Town needs to bring this up to standard. There may be some grounds where the Town can seek some contribution from the neighbors / property owners, and this will be looked into.

Jeff S. also noted that it's being discussed to put in more than the minimum required 6in. pipe, to allow for future growth.

D. Resolution No. 19 - Series 2026, A Resolution Approving an Application for CPW Shooting Range Grant Program

Rob G:

Rob G. went back and reviewed the final report issued by the Keystone Policy Center on the Minturn Shooting Range.

The report recommends maintaining a recreational shooting opportunity in the Minturn area, either through improvements to the existing range, development of an alternative site, or a combination of both. To quote the executive summary it states: **"...they propose that this vision be achieved either by enhancing the range design and management of the Two Elk Target Range, by designating an alternative site for a target range in the area, or by implementing some combination of these two strategies."**

The challenge with option 2 (relocation) is that we would both need a place for it to go, and a champion. If the property is much further from Town, does the Town need to be the champion and how would we do that if it's miles from Town. If we want to adjust this issue in a

reasonable timeframe, the most feasible option seems to be for the Town to enter into a management agreement with the USFS.

The previous recommendations from the Keystone report include:

1. Recreational shooting should continue in the area, either:
 - By improving and managing the existing Two Elk Range,
 - By developing an alternative site, or
 - Through some combination of both
2. The Stakeholder Advisory Group identified that any future approach should improve:
 - Access and opportunity (maintaining a shooting opportunity near Minturn)
 - Safety
 - Wildfire risk
 - Environmental impacts
 - Community stewardship
3. The primary issues identified at the existing range include:
 - Safety
 - Wildfire risk
 - Noise impacts
 - Trash and misuse
 - Environmental concerns
 - Lack of oversight and enforcement

The report also emphasizes the need for a **responsible managing entity** to oversee the site.

In evaluating alternative locations (e.g., Homestake, Wolcott, Camp Hale), the report notes that each presents constraints, including potential wildlife conflicts, access challenges, private land considerations, and competing recreational uses.

Grant Funded Shooting Range Improvements Phase 1

- Improve roadway access and conditions
- Install new signage
- Install cameras and security equipment
- Develop detailed Environmental Management Plan
- Fund a lead remediation project
- Install berms and fencing
- Install fixtures to delineate shooting lanes, new shooting tables and benches
- Improve ADA accessibility for the range and surrounding area

Public Comment:

Rob Davis, 1796 Main St.

Mr. Davis' fear with the Town taking this over is that we would need to move very slowly with the Forest Service, to ensure it's handled properly.

He would like the Town to have the ability to close it / close the gate for fire closures or other safety concerns. The Forest Service uses different standards / guidelines for closures.

He also recommends keeping on the table the idea of finding an alternative site. He thinks this should continue to be explored in the long-term.

Mr. Davis brought up the high pressure gas line in that area, and the risk that poses.

Mr. Davis also mentioned the surrounding area and regulations about firearms in that area (if the range is closed). For example, if the range is closed you can go 50 yards north and you're back on Forest Service land and the rules for firearms are back in play. So he suggested that any type of management plan needs to extend from the bike park all the way down to Cross Creek.

Earle B. also commented on the process for USFS to implement fire restriction closures. It is a long, slow process that has to be approved by multiple people.

Mike S:

The Forest Service cannot legally shut down a shooting range, without having a replacement range (it's a 1 for 1 trade). They have indicated that that is not an option.

The only way the Town can exercise control of whether it's open or not, is to get a management permit to manage the range from the USFS. The Town or the County has the ability to declare emergencies and shut down Forest Service lands. It is a Federal supremacy issue. We do not have the authority to just go and lock the gate on USFS property.

Council noted that they were in favor of the Town taking control of the shooting range.

Motion by Lynn F., second by Tom P., to approve Resolution No. 19 – Series 2026, , A Resolution Approving an Application for CPW Shooting Range Grant Program. Motion Passed 7-0.

11. Discussion / Direction Items

A. Legislative Update

No additional updates from the previous meeting.

C. WTP Financing Timeline of Events / Update

At the previous Council meeting, Council directed staff to continue negotiations with **Alpine Bank and Columbia Bank** as the two leading financing options. A key concern with Alpine Bank at that time was the requirement to **hold \$2 million in Town funds** for the term of the loan. Council provided direction to negotiate more favorable terms, particularly to **eliminate any requirement to hold Town funds on deposit**.

Following the meeting, Alpine Bank provided a revised term sheet with two options:

- **Option 1: Approximately 5.0% interest rate with no deposit requirement**
- **Option 2: Approximately 4.65% interest rate with a \$1,000,000 deposit requirement**

Staff distributed the updated Alpine Bank term sheet, along with Columbia Bank's proposal, to Mayor Bidez and Councilor Kanakis. During review, Councilor Kanakis identified a provision in the Columbia Bank term sheet requiring **minimum monthly draws of \$500,000 during the two-year construction period**. This requirement would effectively obligate the Town to draw the full loan amount within the draw period, reducing the financial flexibility and benefit of phased borrowing.

Based on this information, staff compared the overall cost and structure of **Alpine Bank Option 1 and the Columbia Bank proposal** and found the difference to be minimal. Given the **greater**

flexibility and absence of restrictive draw requirements, staff proceeded with **Alpine Bank Option 1** as the preferred financing approach.

Next Steps

Town Council will review the **final version of the debt issuance ordinance** at the **April 15 Town Council meeting**. At that time, Council will also receive the **debt service schedule**, finalized **loan terms**, information regarding the **payoff of an existing water system debt**, and details on **anticipated rate adjustments**, which are expected to take effect in **June 2026**.

12. Future Agenda Items

A. Future Meeting Topics

Rob G:

Will be meeting with USFS next week and will update Council on some options for the shooting range coming up on either 4/15 or 5/6.

Earle B. inquired about the discussion of a solar field at the tailings pile? Should this be on an upcoming agenda?

Rob G. noted that Xcel will be coming in to talk with council about multiple items (gas line work, wildfire risk / mitigation, etc) upcoming very soon, so this could be part of that conversation. Rob was given a specific contact at Xcel to follow up with regarding the solar field conversation.

13. Adjourn

Motion by Eric G., second by Tom P., to adjourn the meeting at 7:13pm.



Eric Gotthelf, Mayor

ATTEST:



Jay Brunvand, Town Clerk





**Rivers
Need
Water**

Reduce your use

erwsd.org

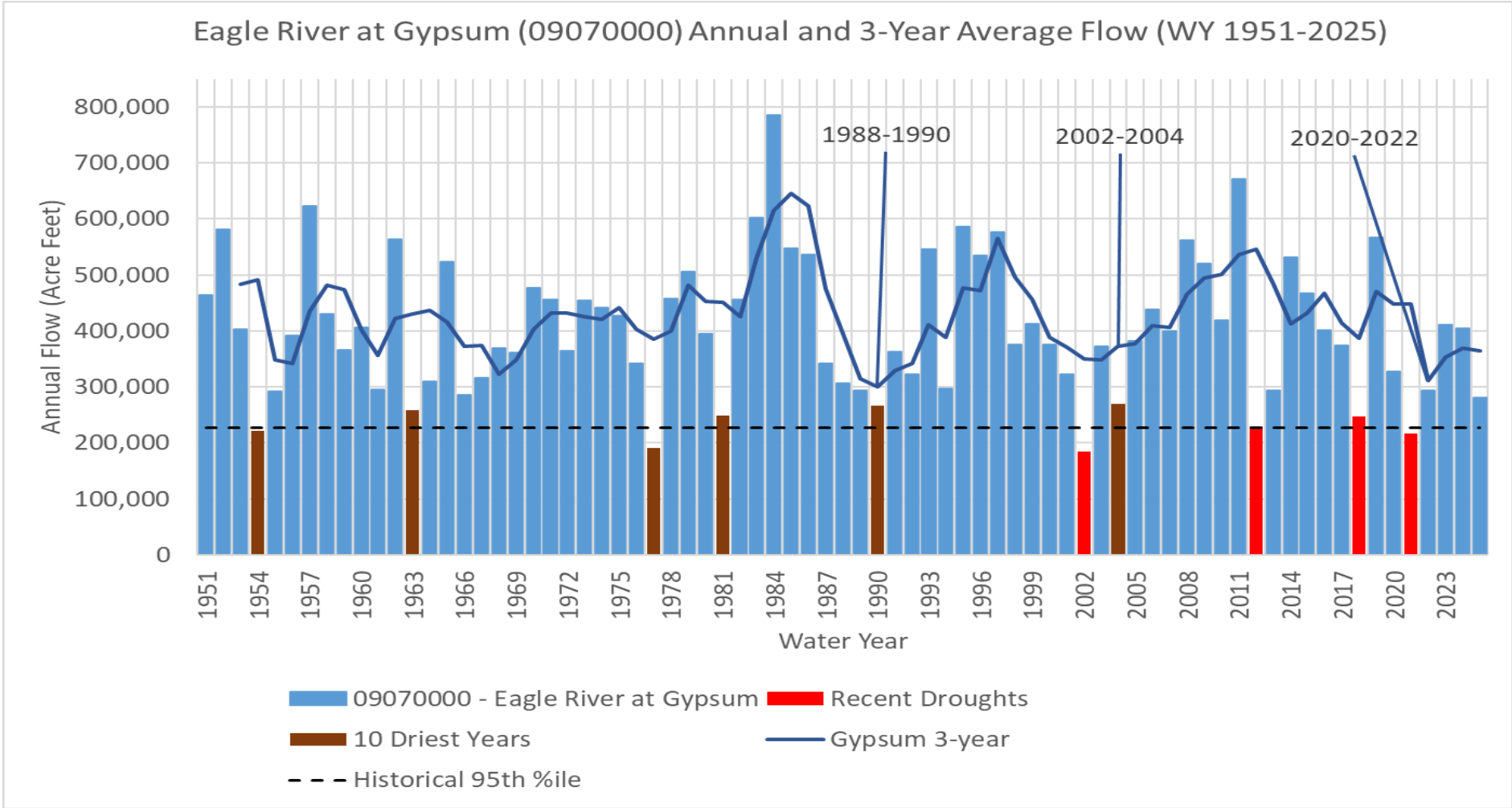
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Water Shortage Response

Apr. 1, 2026 | Minturn City Council



Eagle River at Gypsum



Water Shortage Indicators

2026

Indicator I Snow Pack

How much water the snow pack will contribute to rivers and reservoirs

Snow Pack
April 1

Indicator II Peak Flow

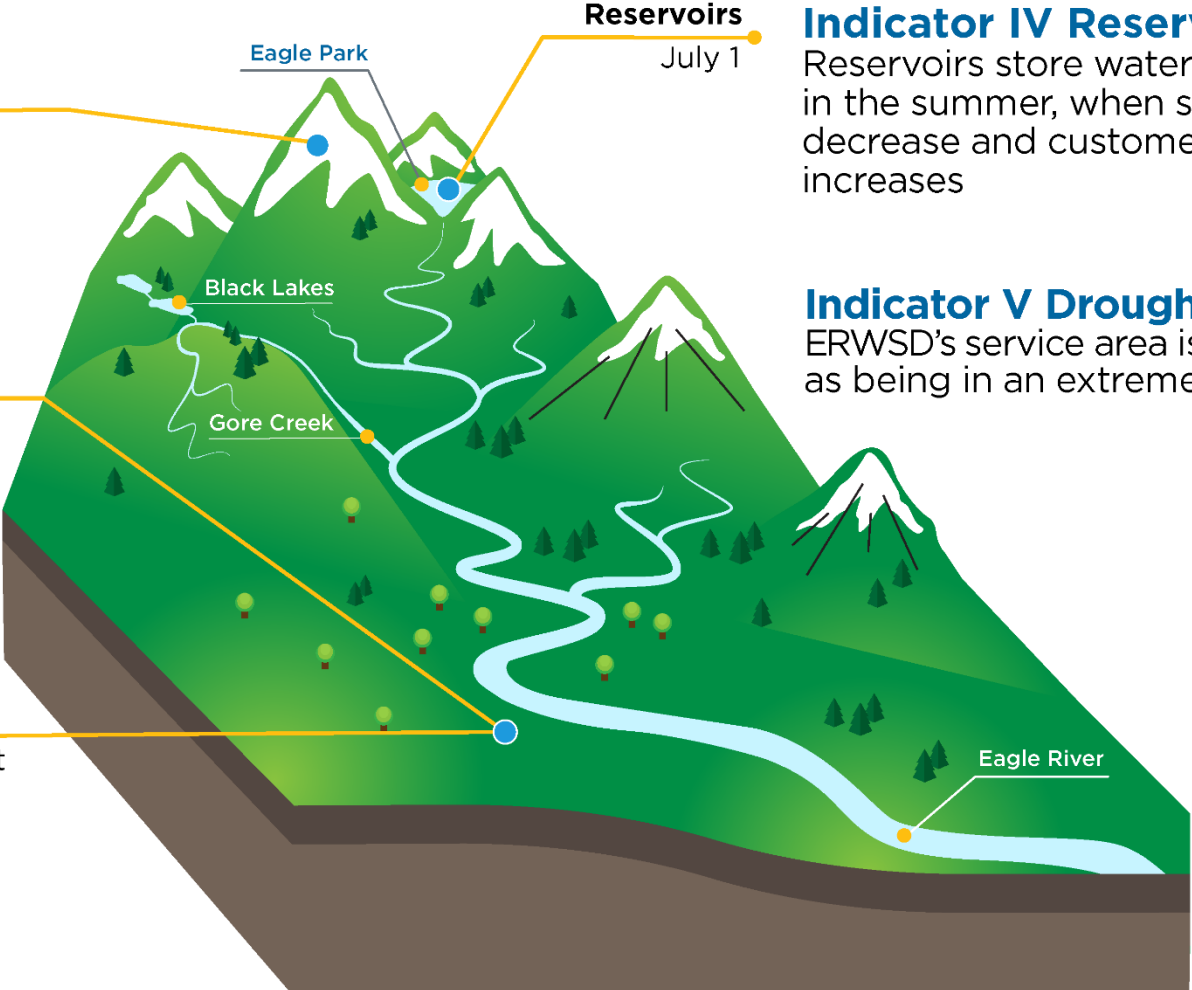
An early and/or low peak streamflow often signals reduced water availability later in the summer

Peak Flow
May-June

Indicator III Low Flow

The first day when the Eagle River in Avon records a flow below 100 cfs is a strong indicator of a potential water shortage

Low Flow
July - August



Indicator IV Reservoirs

Reservoirs store water for later in the summer, when streamflows decrease and customer demand increases

Indicator V Drought Severity

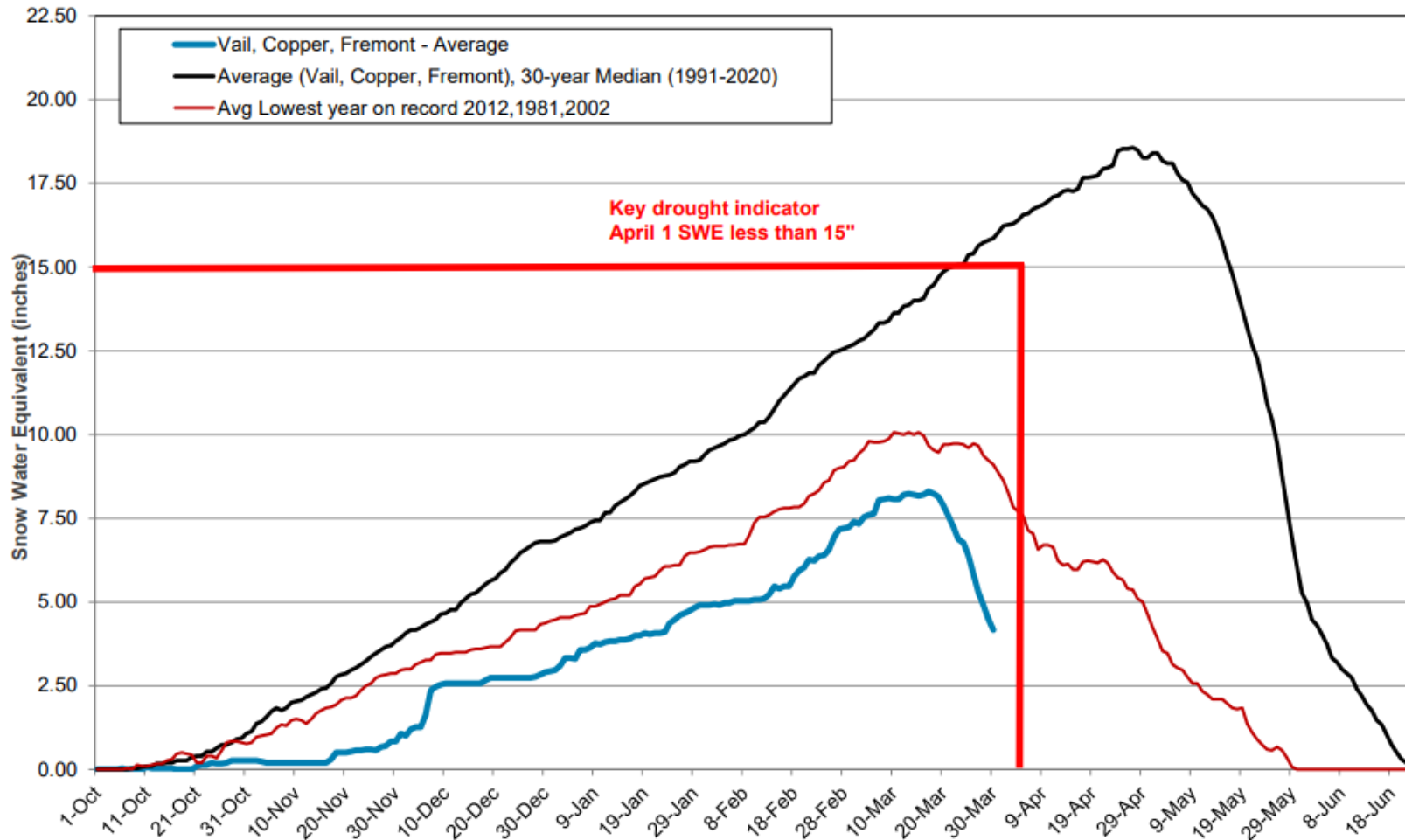
ERWSD's service area is categorized as being in an extreme drought

Water Supply

Current Snow Water Equivalent – 3 Site Average

USDA SNOTEL 3 Site Average (Vail, Copper, Fremont Pass)

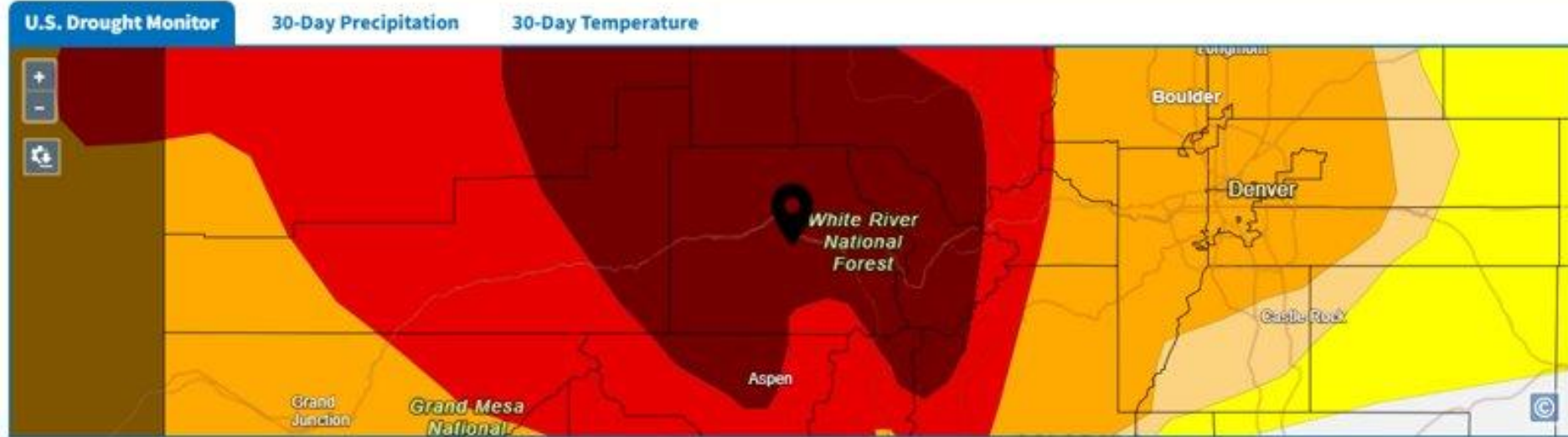
04/01/2026 snow water equivalent: 3.9 in., 24% of normal



*Snow Water Equivalent is a measure of the water content in snow. erwsd.org

Eagle County Drought Conditions

Current Conditions for Eagle County



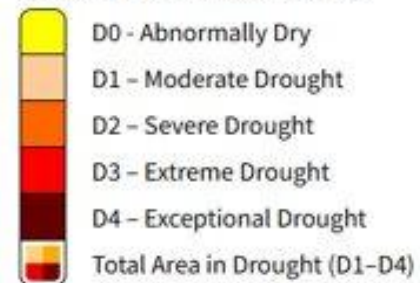
The U.S. Drought Monitor depicts the location and intensity of drought across the country using 5 classifications: Abnormally Dry (D0), showing areas that may be going into or are coming out of drought, and four levels of drought (D1-D4).

The U.S. Drought Monitor is a joint effort of the National Drought Mitigation Center, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

Source(s): NDMC, NOAA, USDA

Legend

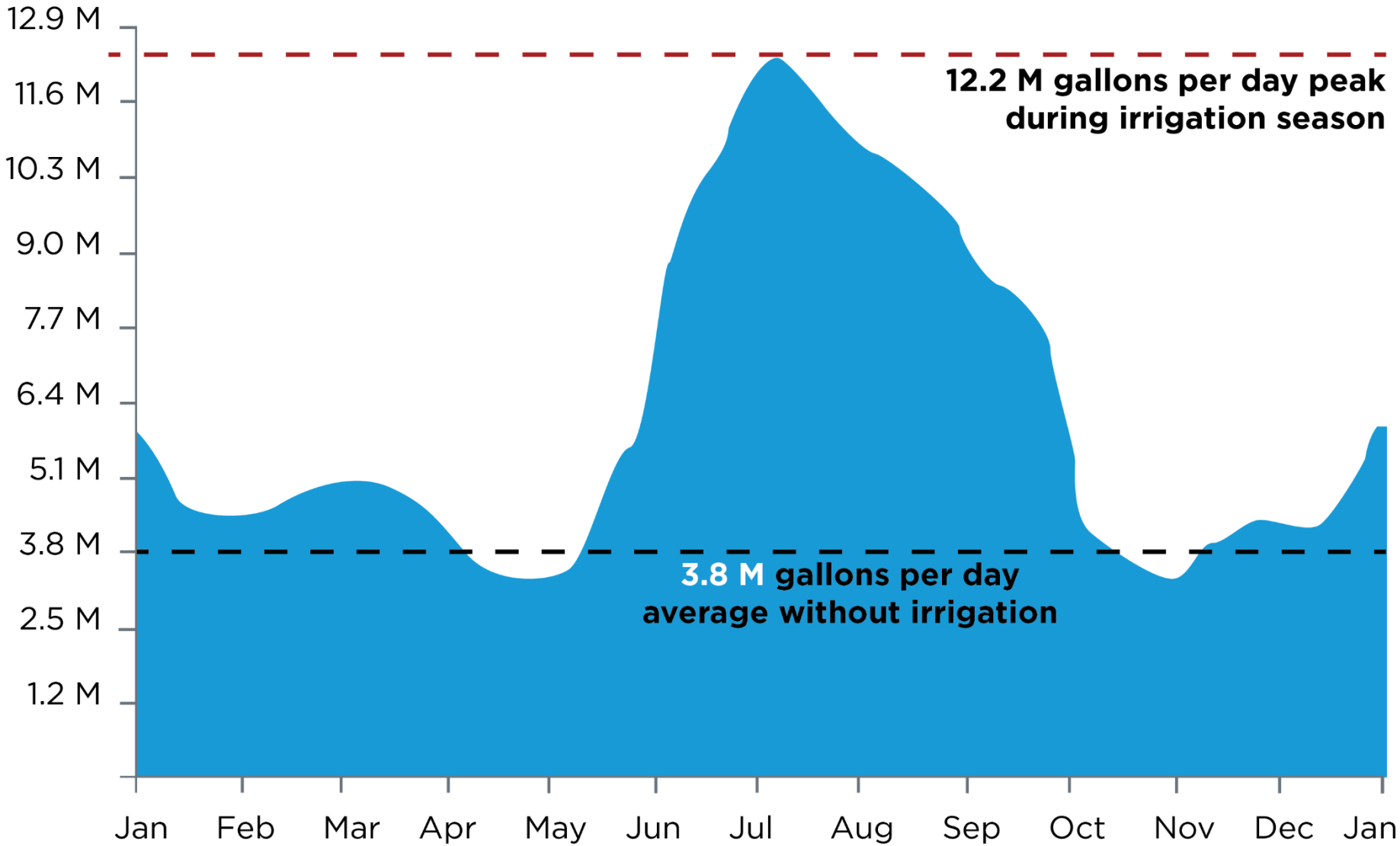
Drought & Dryness Categories



% of Eagle County

0%
0%
0%
5.17%
94.83%
100.00%

Average Daily Demands



Water Shortage Prevention

Overall Tiers & Use

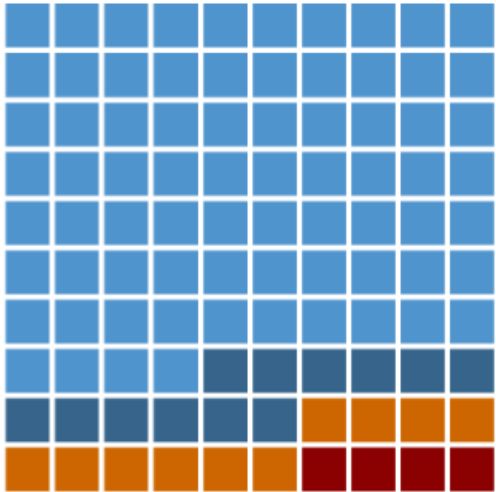
Tier 1	Water use is in a Sustainable range
Tier 2	Water use is in a Sustainable range
Tier 3	Water use is Reasonable for outdoor use
Tier 4	Water use is Excessive. Please reduce your use.
Tier 5	Water use is Unsustainable. Reduce your use.

Summer Water Use: Customers vs. Consumption

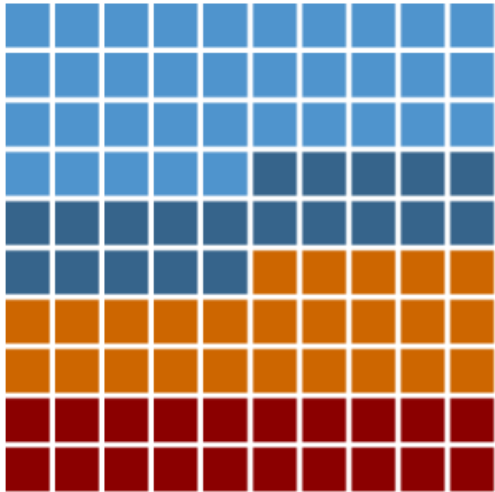
Share of Customers

Share of Total Water Use

14% of residential customers in T4/T5



1 square = 1% of customers



1 square = 1% of total summer water use

45% of residential water usage in T4/T5

Indicator Risk Increases



Stage I

Tier 4 Surcharges & Tier 5

Escalating Surcharges



Stage II

Tier 4 Surcharges

Tier 5 Escalating Surcharges + Flat Fines



Stage III

Water Shortage Declaration

Tier 4 Surcharges

Tier 5 Escalating Surcharges + Flat Fines



Stage IV

Water Shortage Declaration

Tier 4 & Tier 5 Escalating Surcharges + Flat Fines



Stage V

Emergency Water Shortage Declaration

Tier 3, 4 & Tier 5 Escalating Surcharges + Flat Fines

Action Items

Live Like a Local Campaign



A collaborative, valley-wide water conservation campaign that reconnects people to mountain values and caring for this place through stewardship and simplicity.



When we cut the excess, we protect the place that gives us so much and stay rooted in what it truly means to Live Like a Local.

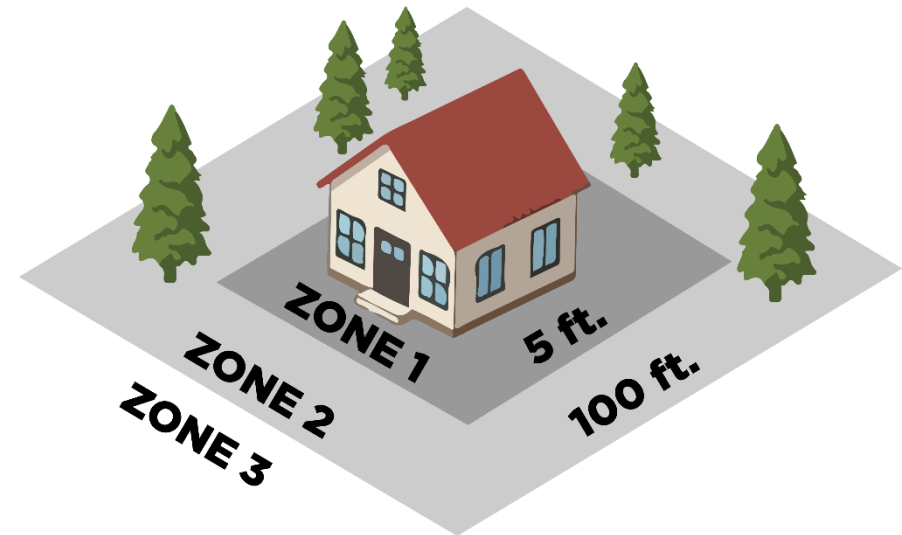
Be water and fire smart

Protect your home from wildfire while helping safeguard the water in our rivers and streams we all need.

- **Let trees be trees**
- **Don't run sprinklers if you evacuate**
- **Short grass, not green grass, is safer**
- **Live like a local – choose native plants**

Create defensible space

- **Zone 1:** Avoid Landscaping
- **Zone 2:** Spaced landscaping extends 100 feet from the structure
- **Zone 3:** Irrigation is not necessary



Collaboration Opportunities

- Encourage residents to reduce water use.
- Let your lawn go dormant.
- Reduce sprinkler run times and eliminate sprinkler overspray and runoff.
- Choose water-wise perennials instead of annuals.
- Convert to drip irrigation for trees, shrubs, and garden beds.
- Water only on your designated days and during permitted hours.
- Share our social media posts, tell your neighbor!



State of the River, May 6

erwsd.org

Join Colorado River District and ERWSD for a casual, informational evening to look at current watershed hydrology and a summary of major western water issues, with a spotlight on projects and priorities for Eagle County.

With this year's drought and low snowpack, this event will be more important than ever.

Registration is required, but attendance and dinner are free. Go to www.coloradoriverdistrict.org/2026-state-of-the-river-meetings/ to register



A promotional poster for the "State of the River" event. The poster is set against a background image of a river flowing through a forest. The text on the poster reads: "State of the River" in a large, elegant script font, with "of the" in smaller text between "State" and "River". Below this, it says "PRESENTED BY THE COLORADO RIVER DISTRICT" in a smaller, all-caps sans-serif font. The event name "EAGLE RIVER" is written in a large, bold, blue sans-serif font. The date "WEDNESDAY, MAY 6" is in a large, bold, black sans-serif font, followed by the location "Donovan Pavilion, Vail" in a smaller, black sans-serif font. At the bottom, there is a blue rounded rectangular button with the text "RESERVE YOUR SPOT!" in white, all-caps sans-serif font.

**Clean Water.
Quality Life.™**



Official Minutes
Town Council Regular Meeting | 5:30 PM
Wednesday, April 1, 2026
Town Hall / Council Chambers - 302 Pine St Minturn, CO

The agenda is subject to change, including the addition of items 24 hours in advance or the deletion of items at any time. The order of agenda items listed are approximate.
This agenda and meetings can be viewed at www.minturn.org.

Meeting Access Information and Public Participation:

This will be an in-person meeting with access for the public to attend in person or via the Zoom link included. Zoom Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87077741701>

Zoom Call-In Information: 1 651 372 8299 or 1 301 715 8592 **Webinar ID:** 870 7774 1701

Please note: All virtual participants are muted. In order to be called upon an unmuted, you will need to use the “raise hand” feature in the Zoom platform. When it’s your turn to speak, the moderator will unmute your line and you will have five minutes for public comment.

Public Comments: If you are unable to attend, public comments regarding any items on the agenda can be submitted to Jay Brunvand, Town Clerk, prior to the meeting and will be included as part of the record.

1. Call to Order

Mayor Earle Bidez called the meeting to order at 5:32pm.

2. Roll Call and Pledge of Allegiance

Council present: Mayor Earle Bidez, and Town Council Members Eric Gotthelf, Gusty Kanakis, Brian Rodine, Tom Priest, Lynn Feiger, and Kate Schifani.

Staff Members Present: Town Manager Rob Gutierrez, Town Clerk Jay Brunvand, Town Attorney Mike Sawyer (Zoom), Town Engineer Jeff Spanel, Deputy Clerk Cindy Krieg (Zoom).

3. Approval of Consent Agenda

Consent agenda items are routine Town business, items that have received clear direction previously from the council, final land-use file documents after the public hearing has been closed, or which do not require council deliberation.

One correction was made to the 3/18 minutes.

Motion by Kate S., second by Gusty K., to approve the April 1, 2026 Consent Agenda with that correction. Motion passed 7-0.

A. 03-18-2026 Minutes

4. Approval of Regular Agenda

Opportunity for amendment or deletions to the agenda.

One change to the agenda: Item 11B is being moved up, to follow after 10C. There were some other additions to the agenda following the original publication. But those additions were posted more than 24 hours in advance, so they were included in the online agenda / packet.

Motion by Eric G., second by Gusty K., to approve the April 1, 2026 Regular Agenda as amended. Motion passed 7-0.

5. Declaration of Conflicts of Interest

6. Public Comment

Citizens are invited to comment on any item on the Consent Agenda, or not on the regular Agenda subject to a public hearing. Please limit your comments to five minutes per person unless arrangements have been made for a presentation with the Town Clerk. Those who are speaking are requested to state their name and address for the record.

Jason Boston, Candidate for Eagle County Sheriff

Mr. Boston introduced himself and described his background and qualifications. More information about him can be found at his website at <https://www.bostonforeaglecountysheriff.com/>.

Elliot Hovey, 653 Boulder St.

Mr. Hovey expressed concern that speeding on Pine St. has become a very serious problem. He suggested lowering the speed limit or looking into other options to help with safety on that street. He offered to help lead this initiative if that's helpful. Town Manager Rob Gutierrez offered to have a follow up meeting with Mr. Hovey and will also seek input from staff.

7. Council and Committee Reports

Kate S. gave an update on the scholarship interviews and award process. She reiterated what a great program this is, and the quality of the students applying has been impressive.

Brian R. noted how great the energy was at the recent RTAP workshop. He suggested that the Town consider trying to extend that steering committee into an ongoing working group, to keep the momentum going.

Cindy K. also noted that there will be two post-workshop virtual calls, which the steering committee and workshop attendees will be invited to join. Invites to follow soon.

Gusty K. reminded everyone about First Friday on 4/3 at the Crazy Chicken. He also thanked Brian R. for his work on Council, and Earle B. for his work on Council and as mayor.

Eric G. also extended his thanks to Earle B. and Brian R. and he looks forward to serving as Mayor.

8. Staff Reports

A. Manager's Report

In addition to the items in the published Managers Report, Town Manager Rob Gutierrez gave an update on emergency preparedness planning and some efforts and tools that the Town is working on to be more prepared this summer.

Also, Minturn Road/Railroad Avenue Concrete Sidewalk Follow Up:

We estimated that the construction of a concrete sidewalk along Minturn Road and Railroad Avenue could be \$250,000 to \$425,000. Staff would recommend not pursuing this option at this time for two reasons. We would like to redirect the savings from the Taylor Avenue paving project to the playground replacement project at Little Beach Park. We have \$175,000 budgeted but will need an additional \$250,000+ to deliver a solid project.

Regarding the Taylor Ave reconstruction:

Initial exploratory work (utility locates, etc) will start the week of April 6th. Notices will be given out to all Taylor Ave. residents. The actual road construction is not expected to start for another 6 – 8 weeks.

One other thing that came up at the last meeting was the savings from the Taylor Ave project, and how those funds could best be utilized. Council had previously asked about constructing a concrete sidewalk along Minturn Rd / Railroad Ave. for safety reasons, but this could be \$250K - \$425K. Staff would not recommend pursuing this option at this time, but perhaps other ideas can be looked into as a temporary or simpler, lower cost solution (even a temporary option). Additionally, staff feels the Taylor Ave. project savings would be best spent on the Little Beach Playground replacement project. The Town has approximately \$150K cash on hand for that project, but to deliver a high quality project, the cost will likely be a minimum of \$300K, more likely \$350K+.

Top Updates

1. Water Supply & Conservation

Town staff are coordinating with the Town's water consultants, **Martin and Wood**, and the **Eagle River Water and Sanitation District (ERWSD)** to evaluate current snowpack conditions and water supply forecasts. ERWSD representatives will attend the **April 1 Town Council meeting** to discuss their plans for water conservation and community engagement.

Staff will also be **preparing an ordinance to implement water restrictions** and are evaluating potential updates to **landscaping plant selections and summer watering schedules**. In addition, staff are exploring **communication strategies to regularly update the public on water supply conditions and conservation efforts**.

Residents are encouraged to begin **voluntary water conservation efforts now** and should expect to see a **significant public outreach and engagement effort** focused on conservation this spring.

2. All-Staff Emergency Management Training

On **April 14**, the Town will conduct an **all-staff emergency management training** at Town Hall in coordination with **Eagle County**.

In parallel, staff are identifying **short- to medium-term actions** to strengthen the Town's emergency response capabilities. The Town has acquired a **second mobile digital message board**, and staff are evaluating the potential acquisition of a **truck-mounted message board**. Staff are also exploring the purchase of **additional two-way radios**, including **1–3 Eagle**

County dispatch-compatible Motorola radios, as well as **traffic control equipment** to support road closures and emergency response operations.

Capital Projects

New Water Treatment Plant (WTP)

Design & Regulatory Review

The Water Treatment Plant design is approximately **90 percent complete** and has been submitted to, and accepted by, the Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment (CDPHE) for formal review. Plans have also been submitted for local building and zoning review.

Updated Cost Estimates

Staff received an updated construction cost estimate on February 4 from HDR and Glacier based on the 90 percent design for the Water Treatment Plant. The updated estimate is approximately **\$12,429,000 assuming SRF financing**, and approximately **\$11,629,000 assuming non-SRF (private bank) financing**.

Construction Bid Process

The Town has opened the **public bid process** for contractors interested in constructing the new Water Treatment Plant. A **mandatory pre-bid meeting and site visit** was held by Town staff and the project design engineer, **HDR**, on **March 3**. The bid process will remain open until **April 3 at 3:00 p.m.**

Project Financing

At the **March 4 meeting**, Town Council conducted the **first reading of a bond issuance ordinance** related to financing for the Water Treatment Plant project and narrowed the financing options to three proposals with the lowest ratepayer impact during the initial term.

At the **March 18 meeting**, Town Council selected **Alpine Bank as the preferred financing partner**. The selected structure is based on **Option 1** from Alpine Bank's term sheet, which includes a **24-month construction draw period followed by long-term amortization**, a **fixed interest rate of approximately 5.0% for the initial term period**, and **no minimum deposit requirement**.

Staff have worked with the Town's Municipal Advisor and Alpine Bank to clarify terms and ensure a competitive financing structure for the Town. Due to the **30-day noticing requirement in the Town Code**, the **next reading of the bond issuance ordinance is scheduled for the April 15 Town Council meeting**.

Minturn Bike Park 2026 Improvements

Staff are planning a series of **capital improvements** to the Minturn Bike Park in **May 2026**, including **significant upgrades to the bike jump features** and the **dual slalom course**. The work will be completed by the **Vail Valley Mountain Trails Association (VVMTA)** with **support from the Town**. These improvements are intended to enhance rider safety, improve ride quality, and expand the long-term usability of the park for a wide range of skill levels. Additional details on scope, scheduling, and coordination will be provided as the project is finalized.

Town Hall 2-Bedroom Apartment Reconstruction

Following evaluation of proposals, Coleman Custom Homes was selected for the project. Staff have negotiated a draft contract, which is **pending review and approval by the Town Attorney**.

Taylor Avenue Repaving Project

Design is complete, and the project has completed the public bid process. The Town received three bids for the project from 360 Civil, Schofield Excavating, and Phoenix Contracting. Two of the bids came in lower than anticipated, with the lowest bid submitted by Schofield Excavating in the amount of \$453,638.80. **At the March 18 meeting, Town Council approved the selection of Schofield Excavating for the project.**

Utility locates will begin next week for this project. Homeowners will be notified and signage will be placed as well.

US 24 Pedestrian Improvement Project Phase II

Negotiations with **CDOT, Xcel Energy, and Phoenix Industries** have been completed. A change order in the amount of \$99,991.88 was approved by Town Council at the February 18 meeting. We anticipate gas line relocation work by Xcel Energy will begin the **first week of May 2026**.

Main Street Streetlighting Project

Staff are pursuing **Holophane** as the preferred streetlight manufacturer, and preliminary fixture and pole concepts have been informally reviewed by **CDOT**. Staff are currently working on **utility coordination with Xcel Energy** as part of project planning for electrical service to the new lights.

Bellm Bridge Replacement

Status:

The Town has been **awarded \$4,000,000** from CDOT's **Off-System Bridge Grant Program** for the Bellm Bridge project. The professional services agreement between the Town and **Short Elliott Hendrickson (SEH)** has been approved, and **design work is now commencing** on the replacement of the Bellm Bridge.

Next Steps:

Staff will continue to work with SEH on advancing the bridge design and will proceed with **grant programming and contracting coordination with CDOT**. Staff will also continue to **identify and secure the remaining funding** needed for the estimated **\$6 million** construction cost.

Little Beach Park Improvements

Installation of the new retaining wall and asphalt access road is complete. The RFQ for playground design and installation has been completed, and all submittals have been evaluated. **Rocky Mountain Recreation was identified as the highest scoring firm through the RFQ process**. Staff are now working with Rocky Mountain Recreation to **prepare a contract and develop initial design concepts** for presentation to the public and Town Council at a future meeting.

Minturn Community Garden Improvements

Town Council approved submission of an application to the **AARP Community Challenge Grant Program** at the February 4, 2026, Town Council meeting. The Town has since

submitted a request for the maximum \$15,000 grant to support accessibility and gathering space improvements at the Minturn Community Garden.

- Construct an ADA-accessible pathway connecting key areas of the garden.
- Install raised, ADA-accessible planter boxes to improve gardening access.
- Add weather-resistant benches with back support for comfort and rest opportunities.
- Construct a snow- and wind-rated shaded pergola to support gatherings and small events.
- Install permanent electrical service to enable community events, workshops, and performances.
- Install a communal worktable with integrated sinks

Other Projects

Grouse Creek Trailhead Parking Lot Expansion

Public Works is scheduled to complete the **Grouse Creek Trailhead Parking Lot Expansion** on **April 6 and 7**. The project is being completed in collaboration with the **Vail Valley Mountain Trails Association (VVMTA)** and the **U.S. Forest Service (USFS)** to improve access and parking at the trailhead.

Highlands Parcels

Background:

As part of a settlement agreement with the former developer of the Battle Mountain Ski Resort, the Town obtained ownership of approximately **55 acres of land** located west of **U.S. Highway 24** at the south end of Town. The property was conveyed to the Town after the developer failed to meet financial obligations associated with the construction of a new water treatment plant.

Status:

The two Highlands Parcels have now been **listed on the MLS as part of the Town's strategy to help offset the cost of the new water treatment plant** and are publicly available for viewing. The listings can be accessed at the following links:

1. https://www.realtor.com/realestateandhomes-detail/Notch-Mountain-Unit-highlands-2-Rd-Parcel-B_Minturn_CO_81645_M91907-95156

2. https://www.realtor.com/realestateandhomes-detail/Notch-Mountain-Unit-highlands-1-Rd-Parcel-A_Minturn_CO_81645_M93795-65402

Minturn USFS Shooting Range

Background:

At the **November 19, 2025, Town Council meeting**, Council directed staff to explore options for Town management of the **Minturn Shooting Range** in order to address long-standing community concerns related to **safety, noise, and environmental impacts**. The shooting range is located on **federal land south of the Minturn Bike Park**.

Status:

On **January 8, 2026**, staff met with **U.S. Forest Service (USFS) District Ranger Leanne Veldhuis** to discuss the process for seeking a **Special Use Permit** to operate the shooting

range. Staff are awaiting follow-up from USFS regarding several outstanding questions related to the permitting process.

Policy & Planning Initiatives

Minturn Forward Land Use Code Update

The Planning Commission recently conducted a 2/3rds review of **draft Article 3: Subdivision & Development Standards**, discussing topics such as site design, landscaping, and lighting standards. The Planning Commission and staff will continue their work on the **Minturn Forward Land Use Code Update** in April to review remaining sections of Article 3. Members of the **public are welcome to attend the meetings or submit comments** for consideration.

Minturn Impact Fee Study

Background:

In November 2025, staff issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) to solicit qualified firms to conduct a comprehensive impact fee study. The purpose of the study is to ensure that the impacts of new developments appropriately contribute to the Town's future infrastructure costs.

Status:

A professional services agreement with **BBC Research and Consulting** has been approved. The study has started and the project is anticipated to be completed by **July 2026**.

Rural Technical Assistance Program

Background:

The Town was selected to participate in the **Rural Technical Assistance Program (RTAP)** through the Colorado Office of Economic Development & International Trade (OEDIT). The program pairs Minturn with graduate students from the **University of Colorado Boulder** and **Colorado State University** to develop strategies for leveraging outdoor recreation to support the local economy.

Status:

The Town held a **two-day community workshop at Minturn Town Hall on March 24 and 25**, with **over 45 participants** attending across both days. Staff received a **significant amount of useful community feedback** and will be working with the student team to **compile and analyze input** as part of the ongoing project.

Housing Affordability and Neighborhood Stability

Staff met with representatives from the **Town of Avon** and **Eagle County** on **February 18** to discuss progress on the **Regional Housing Authority formation study** and received updates on the current status of the project. Staff presented a memorandum to **Town Council at the March 4 meeting**, and Council provided feedback and direction on the concept. Staff are now working to develop a **Minturn-specific framework** outlining how the Town could potentially participate in a future regional housing authority.

Temporary & Mobile Business Pilot Program

At the **February 4 meeting**, Town Council approved the **Temporary & Mobile Business Pilot Program**, authorizing the licensing of mobile and modular businesses on Town-owned property through **October 31, 2026**.

All program materials, including **administrative rules and application forms**, are now available on the Town's website:

<https://www.minturn.org/finance/page/mobile-and-modular-business-licensing>

The Town is now **accepting applications** for participation in the pilot program. Interested parties may contact **manager@minturn.org** for additional information.

Public Works

Weekly Report (March 16-22, 2026)

Operations & Winter Maintenance

Public Works completed all scheduled operations, including **Water Treatment Plant operations, utility locates, equipment maintenance, and servicing of trash and dog waste stations**. Staff also supported Town Hall operations by relocating appliances from Apartment #2 and completing routine shop organization.

Infrastructure & System Improvements

Crews completed **street sweeping along Main Street**, constructed and installed signage for the **Grouse Creek Trailhead Access Improvement Project**, and performed excavation work to locate utilities near the proposed Meyer's Shed site. Additional work included **soil sampling**, snow management at the dump site, and verification of water meter readings for the "**No Read**" list.

Coordination & Planning

Staff coordinated with the **Upper Eagle River Sanitation District**, contractors, and suppliers on water system operations and upcoming projects, including planning for a potential **Williams Street water line improvement**. Coordination also continued with Colorado 811 for utility locates and with regional partners on **training and emergency preparedness**, including review of Public Works responsibilities under the Town's evacuation plan and exploration of improved radio communications with Eagle County dispatch.

Training, Coordination & Partnerships

Staff participated in several coordination activities including a **Water Treatment Plant pre-bid meeting**, coordination with **Colorado 811 regarding upcoming Exactix utility locate training**, and outreach with **Core & Main** regarding automated water meter reading technology. Staff also attended the **Red Cliff Town Council meeting** to present a plaque recognizing Billy Martinez and the Town of Red Cliff for assisting Minturn during a prior staffing shortage.

Equipment Maintenance

Routine servicing and repairs were completed, including **removal and repair of the cinder spreader**, tire rotations on multiple fleet vehicles, and diagnostic coordination with the Town of Avon for a truck oil leak.

A. ERWSD Presentation on Current & Expected Conditions (Snowpack, Streamflows, and Drought Conditions)

Lauren Snyder and Allison Ebbets from Eagle River Water & Sanitation provided a high-level overview of current and expected conditions for the spring and summer.

The slides from this presentation will be included at the end of this document. Highlights included:

- Current snow water equivalent is only 24% of normal
- Water usage tiers were discussed. Tiers 4 & 5 are considered excessive use, and will be subject to fines and surcharges.

- Ideas such as letting lawns go dormant, short vs. green grass, choosing native plants, etc were discussed.
- The ERWSD watering schedule will be released soon. It will be a scaled back schedule with increased restrictions given the water shortage.

See attached slides. This information can also be found on the ERWSD website and social channels.

10. Business Items

Items and/or Public Hearings listed under Business Items may be old or new and may require review or action by the Council.

A. Ordinance No. 03 - Series 2026 - Request for Continuance

Ordinance No. 03 reflects changes to the Town of Minturn Building Resolution (Chapter 18) by introducing new building requirements along with site development standards (defensible space) that will only apply to new construction and/or major exterior additions or remodels.

Importantly, the Town's proposed code changes have received *initial* approval – with suggested revisions - from the State of Colorado Wildfire Resiliency Board. Staff continue to work with the State agency and with Eagle County to ensure Minturn's language revisions are approved by the State prior to bringing Ordinance No 3, Series 2026 in front of Council for consideration at 2nd reading.

Therefore, staff **recommend CONTINUANCE of Ordinance No. 3 – Series 2026** to the regular meeting of April 15, 2026, to allow staff additional time to finalize minor revisions to the proposed Minturn Wildfire Resiliency Code language in accordance with State guidance.

Motion by Tom P., second by Lynn F., to continue Ordinance No. 03 – Series 2026, to the regular meeting of April 15, 2026. Motion passed 7-0.

B. Resolution No. 18 - Series 2026, A Resolution Authorizing a Contract with SEH for the Bellm Bridge Replacement Design Services

The Town previously selected SEH (Short Elliott Hendrickson Inc). as the design consultant for the Bellm Bridge Replacement Project under the CDOT Off-System Bridge Program (via Resolution No. 43 - Series 2025). Resolution No. 43 - Series 2025 further provided that the final agreement, including the negotiated scope and contract amount, must be brought back to the Town Council for approval prior to execution. The Town Manager has negotiated a Professional Services Agreement with SEH, which agreement has been reviewed and approved by the Town Attorney. The proposed Professional Services Agreement sets forth the scope of services for the Bellm Bridge Replacement Project, including design, permitting coordination, hydrology and hydraulics, right-of-way acquisition support, bidding-phase services, and related work as more particularly described in Exhibit A to the Agreement.

The Town is entering into a separate agreement with Kumar & Associates, which is the next item on the agenda.

Motion by Tom P., second by Kate S., to approve Resolution No. 18 – Series 2026, A Resolution Authorizing a Contract with SEH for the Bellm Bridge Replacement Design Services. Motion passed 7-0.

C. Motion Authorizing the Town Manager to enter into a contract for a geotechnical and services associated with the design of Bellm Bridge in an amount not to exceed \$50,000

Motion by Eric G., second by Kate S., to authorize the Town Manager to enter into a contract for a geotechnical and services associated with the design of Bellm Bridge in an amount not to exceed \$50,000. Motion passed 7-0.

11B. Williams St. Water Main Loop to Nelson

Jeff Spanel:

There was some recent work that needed to be done to some water taps on Williams St. At that time, it was discovered that there is a 3in. pvc water pipe, extending from the hydrant in front of Magustos, which extends under 1st St (under the trash compactor) and ends at 107 Williams St. This pipe is non-conforming and is considered very suspect to splitting and needs to be addressed. There is also a valve on the line that is not intended to be an underground line (and is corroding). The minimum size pipe for a mainline in Minturn is 6in. The Town is not sure who put the line in (or when), and it's unclear who owns it.

The pipe needs to be replaced and tied in to the mainline. There are multiple service lines tied in to this sub-standard pipe.

This was discovered in the winter, so it could not be dealt with at that time. Town staff is seeking direction for next steps and also how the Town can integrate other necessary improvements that would align with this work. The trash compactor will need to be moved to do this work, and the Town is looking into a possible permanent move and also looking into grant funding to possibly help with that.

Mike S:

Normally a line that serves more than one property would be a Town main (not a service line), but at some point the multi-property service line was installed, and it now needs to be fixed and brought into compliance. Being forward-thinking and getting lines in that can both fix the issue and allow for future development. It's recommended to do it in a way to allow for a looped system. We don't know exactly how it came about, and the Town needs to bring this up to standard. There may be some grounds where the Town can seek some contribution from the neighbors / property owners, and this will be looked into.

Jeff S. also noted that it's being discussed to put in more than the minimum required 6in. pipe, to allow for future growth.

D. Resolution No. 19 - Series 2026, A Resolution Approving an Application for CPW Shooting Range Grant Program

Rob G:

Rob G. went back and reviewed the final report issued by the Keystone Policy Center on the Minturn Shooting Range.

The report recommends maintaining a recreational shooting opportunity in the Minturn area, either through improvements to the existing range, development of an alternative site, or a combination of both. To quote the executive summary it states: **"...they propose that this vision be achieved either by enhancing the range design and management of the Two Elk Target Range, by designating an alternative site for a target range in the area, or by implementing some combination of these two strategies."**

The challenge with option 2 (relocation) is that we would both need a place for it to go, and a champion. If the property is much further from Town, does the Town need to be the champion and how would we do that if it's miles from Town. If we want to adjust this issue in a

reasonable timeframe, the most feasible option seems to be for the Town to enter into a management agreement with the USFS.

The previous recommendations from the Keystone report include:

1. Recreational shooting should continue in the area, either:
 - By improving and managing the existing Two Elk Range,
 - By developing an alternative site, or
 - Through some combination of both
2. The Stakeholder Advisory Group identified that any future approach should improve:
 - Access and opportunity (maintaining a shooting opportunity near Minturn)
 - Safety
 - Wildfire risk
 - Environmental impacts
 - Community stewardship
3. The primary issues identified at the existing range include:
 - Safety
 - Wildfire risk
 - Noise impacts
 - Trash and misuse
 - Environmental concerns
 - Lack of oversight and enforcement

The report also emphasizes the need for a **responsible managing entity** to oversee the site.

In evaluating alternative locations (e.g., Homestake, Wolcott, Camp Hale), the report notes that each presents constraints, including potential wildlife conflicts, access challenges, private land considerations, and competing recreational uses.

Grant Funded Shooting Range Improvements Phase 1

- Improve roadway access and conditions
- Install new signage
- Install cameras and security equipment
- Develop detailed Environmental Management Plan
- Fund a lead remediation project
- Install berms and fencing
- Install fixtures to delineate shooting lanes, new shooting tables and benches
- Improve ADA accessibility for the range and surrounding area

Public Comment:

Rob Davis, 1796 Main St.

Mr. Davis' fear with the Town taking this over is that we would need to move very slowly with the Forest Service, to ensure it's handled properly.

He would like the Town to have the ability to close it / close the gate for fire closures or other safety concerns. The Forest Service uses different standards / guidelines for closures.

He also recommends keeping on the table the idea of finding an alternative site. He thinks this should continue to be explored in the long-term.

Mr. Davis brought up the high pressure gas line in that area, and the risk that poses.

Mr. Davis also mentioned the surrounding area and regulations about firearms in that area (if the range is closed). For example, if the range is closed you can go 50 yards north and you're back on Forest Service land and the rules for firearms are back in play. So he suggested that any type of management plan needs to extend from the bike park all the way down to Cross Creek.

Earle B. also commented on the process for USFS to implement fire restriction closures. It is a long, slow process that has to be approved by multiple people.

Mike S:

The Forest Service cannot legally shut down a shooting range, without having a replacement range (it's a 1 for 1 trade). They have indicated that that is not an option.

The only way the Town can exercise control of whether it's open or not, is to get a management permit to manage the range from the USFS. The Town or the County has the ability to declare emergencies and shut down Forest Service lands. It is a Federal supremacy issue. We do not have the authority to just go and lock the gate on USFS property.

Council noted that they were in favor of the Town taking control of the shooting range.

Motion by Lynn F., second by Tom P., to approve Resolution No. 19 – Series 2026, , A Resolution Approving an Application for CPW Shooting Range Grant Program. Motion Passed 7-0.

11. Discussion / Direction Items

A. Legislative Update

No additional updates from the previous meeting.

C. WTP Financing Timeline of Events / Update

At the previous Council meeting, Council directed staff to continue negotiations with **Alpine Bank and Columbia Bank** as the two leading financing options. A key concern with Alpine Bank at that time was the requirement to **hold \$2 million in Town funds** for the term of the loan. Council provided direction to negotiate more favorable terms, particularly to **eliminate any requirement to hold Town funds on deposit**.

Following the meeting, Alpine Bank provided a revised term sheet with two options:

- **Option 1: Approximately 5.0% interest rate with no deposit requirement**
- **Option 2: Approximately 4.65% interest rate with a \$1,000,000 deposit requirement**

Staff distributed the updated Alpine Bank term sheet, along with Columbia Bank's proposal, to Mayor Bidez and Councilor Kanakis. During review, Councilor Kanakis identified a provision in the Columbia Bank term sheet requiring **minimum monthly draws of \$500,000 during the two-year construction period**. This requirement would effectively obligate the Town to draw the full loan amount within the draw period, reducing the financial flexibility and benefit of phased borrowing.

Based on this information, staff compared the overall cost and structure of **Alpine Bank Option 1 and the Columbia Bank proposal** and found the difference to be minimal. Given the **greater**