TOWN OF GILCREST, COLORADO

PROCLAMATION 2026-04

IN SUPPORT OF TRUTH, CONSTITUTIONAL DUTY, AND RESPONSIBLE GOVERNMENT

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees recognizes the right of citizens to petition for recall and believes that the exercise of this right should be informed by truthful statements, documented facts, and honest public debate; and

WHEREAS, the Board considers the accusations advanced in support of the recall of Mayor Steve Nothem to be vague, unsubstantiated, and contradicted by information presented to the recall hearing, and

WHEREAS, it is the Board's understanding that the recall committee provided no substantive factual defense of these accusations, either in writing or during the municipal hearing, in response to the evidence disputing them; and

WHEREAS, according to the account of the municipal hearing provided to the Board, the presiding judge characterized the recall grounds as political statements and explained that he could not resolve political disputes through that proceeding; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to C.R.S. § 31-4-503(4), once the statutory requirements have been satisfied, the Board of Trustees is required to order and set a date for the recall election; therefore, a Trustee's vote to fulfill that duty does not, by itself, constitute agreement with the grounds stated in the recall petition or endorsement of the Mayor's removal; and

WHEREAS, the Board believes that political statements carry a responsibility for truthfulness and that residents deserve accurate information when evaluating the conduct of their elected officials; and

WHEREAS, the Board is concerned that disputed accusations have been presented to residents as established facts, undermining public confidence and distracting from the work of serving the community; and

WHEREAS, the Board is further concerned by reports of statements advocating disruption of Town government, and condemns any deliberate effort to prevent the Town from paying its lawful obligations, impair essential services, or obstruct lawful enforcement for political advantage; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Trustees are entrusted with honoring their oaths, protecting constitutional rights, and upholding the laws of the Town of Gilcrest and the State of Colorado; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Trustees are entrusted with honoring their oaths, protecting constitutional rights, and upholding the laws of the Town of Gilcrest and the State of Colorado; and

WHEREAS, the people of Gilcrest deserve a functioning, accountable government whose decisions serve the public interest and whose laws are administered fairly and consistently;

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IN SUPPORT OF TRUTH, CONSTITUTIONAL DUTY, AND RESPONSIBLE GOVERNMENT

NOW, THEREFORE, WE, THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE TOWN OF GILCREST, COLORADO, DO HEREBY PROCLAIM:

1. We Stand for Truth.

We condemn the use of false, misleading, or unsubstantiated factual accusations against public officials to aid those engaged in misconduct against the Town and its citizens, or to publicly humiliate public servants who uphold our laws.

2. We Oppose the Recall on the Grounds Presented.

We express our support for Mayor Steve Nothem in the faithful performance of his lawful duties and oppose his removal on the basis of accusations the Board considers unsupported or contradicted by the information presented to it.

3. We Stand for a Functioning Government.

We condemn any deliberate effort to disable Town government, jeopardize payment of lawful bills, interrupt essential services, or shield unlawful activities from fair enforcement. The welfare of Gilcrest residents must remain central to the Town's work.

4. We Honor Our Constitutional Oaths.

We affirm our commitment to the United States Constitution, the Colorado Constitution, and the faithful administration of applicable law. We support public officials and employees who uphold these responsibilities despite political pressure.

5. We Respect the Rights of Every Citizen.

We recognize the lawful rights of residents to speak, petition, disagree, and vote. This proclamation expresses the Board's position and does not alter the recall process or diminish any citizen's rights. Town services and enforcement shall remain impartial.

6. We Serve the People of Gilcrest.

We reaffirm that public office is a public trust. This Board stands for truth, accountability, constitutional liberty, and a government that fulfills its responsibilities to the people it serves.

PROCLAIMED this 14th day of September 2026, by the Board of Trustees of the Town of Gilcrest, Colorado.

Signatures of the Presiding Officials

Laura Fulton

ATTEST:
TOWN CLERK

TOWN OF GILCREST SEAL COLORADO