

Candidate Profile

Candidate: *Chris Eshelman*

Years in Estes Park: 51 years

Prior Experience - Career Information: *Estes Park Lumber 1984-1991 Town of Estes Park Water Division 1991-1994 Owner /Operator A-1 Excavating, Inc, 1994-2011 Town of Estes Park Water Division, 2011-2022 Owner/Operator Fish Creek Storage, LLC, 2019-2026 YMCA of the Rockies 2022-present*

Previous Participation on Town Boards or Committees: *Board of Directors, Upper Thompson Sanitation District 2008-2019, 2022-present*

Educational Background: *Estes Park High School California State University, Sacramento, CA Water Treatment Specialist Certificate – 18 credit hours Colorado Class A Water Treatment License Colorado Class IV Water Distribution License*

Narrative: *

As a long-time resident of Estes Park, I come from the same working-class community that keeps this town running every day. I understand the realities that many of our citizens and taxpayers face—balancing rising costs, navigating seasonal swings, and wanting a local government that truly listens to the people who live and work here. My decision to run for the Town Board comes from a desire to bring that perspective forward and ensure that residents have a steady voice at the table. I believe our local government functions best when it reflects the people who make up the heart of this town.

With major utility decisions approaching, it's more important than ever to have Board members with practical, hands-on experience. My background in utilities, construction and going through a small development project has given me an understanding of zoning, planning, permitting, and the long-term implications of the choices we make. I've seen firsthand how decisions made in a meeting room translate into real-world impacts for homeowners, workers, and small businesses, and I'll try to contribute that insight.

One of the most important issues facing Estes Park is the need to take care of what we have. I believe strongly in maintaining and improving existing infrastructure and improving the Town's water system. It is important to serve future needs of the community as well as our tourism industry, respecting how taxpayer dollars are spent.

Above all, I am committed to representing all Estes Park residents—not just the most outspoken or well connected. I will always try to make the best decision for our town based on the information given. I'm ready to serve with fairness and a practical, common sense approach that respects our community.