



**City of Glenwood Springs**  
101 West 8<sup>th</sup> Street  
Glenwood Springs, CO 81601

---

**Contact:** Jenn Ooton  
Public Information Officer  
970-384-6404 (o)  
970-471-8684 (c)

## **STATEMENT**

May 3, 2017

GLENWOOD SPRINGS, Colo. – The Glenwood Springs Arts Council (GSAC) has made a tremendous impact to the community in terms of providing access to art and dance, and to promote awareness of the arts. While our hearts go out to the families who rely on the center’s programming and the employees of the center, the City believes it is imprudent to risk additional taxpayer funds by subsidizing the organization’s operations during an ongoing police investigation.

The City of Glenwood Springs administration was made aware of a lack of financial oversight within the organization in 2015, and notified the Glenwood Springs Arts Council of the concern at that time. The GSAC Board has complete oversight in the management of the Glenwood Springs Arts Council organization, including its finances and Director. The City did not have any supervisory responsibilities over the Center for the Arts or its Director.

In 2017, when the current City administration and City Council became aware of additional financial concerns, the City immediately pursued an investigation into the matter.

The City has annually committed \$50,000 of Acquisition and Improvement Funds to the Center, in addition to funding the public art program administered by the GSAC. In 2017, the City has continued to provide funding to the Arts Council under the new A & I taxing question. To date in 2017, this funding has amounted to \$18,861 in salary, \$20,000 in direct payments and an additional \$10,000 in public art funding.

The City of Glenwood Springs strongly supports the arts. If the Arts Council is unable to recover, the City of Glenwood Springs is willing to add arts and dance programming to its offerings through the Parks and Recreation Department and to manage the Summer of Music series as a City event.

###