

MONUMENT (Continued from page 18)**Sidewalk work beginning on Baptist Road**

Mayor Pro-Tem Don Wilson reported that work was scheduled to begin soon on medians and a sidewalk on the north side of West Baptist Road from Jackson Creek Parkway at least to Leather Chaps Drive. This project was using the last of the funds generated by the Baptist Road Rural Transportation Authority. See related BRRTA sidewalk photo on the facing page.

Asphalt overlay project

The July 3 BOT meeting was canceled. At a special meeting on July 7, the trustees approved a resolution awarding a \$127,000 contract to Martin Marietta for the 2017 asphalt overlay project. It will include improving sections of Beacon Lite Road and Mitchell Avenue.

Road maintenance plan debated

Bornstein announced that he had attended the July 11 Triview meeting, along with Trustee Dennis Murphy, and that he was told there that Triview would not be doing roads repairs this year.

However, Triview District Manager Valerie Remington spoke up at that point to correct Bornstein, saying the district had allocated \$830,000 for 2017 roads maintenance, the pavement conditions had been evaluated by engineers, and the bids for the work were due by late July. See www.ocn.me/v17n7.htm#tvmd and related July 11 Triview article on page 12.

Checks over \$5,000

On July 7 and 17, the following checks over \$5,000 for were approved as part of the consent agendas:

- Logan and Associates LLC, final 2016 audit billing – \$6,800
- Triview Metro District, sales tax, motor vehicle tax, and regional building tax – \$186,662
- CIRSA Insurance, third-quarter workers comp – \$18,278
- CIRSA Insurance, third-quarter liability – \$29,056
- Lytle Water Solutions LLC, well engineering on five projects – \$8,358
- Applied Ingenuity, emergency repairs to well 8 – \$82,169
- Velocity Plant Services, well 9 treatment modifications – \$64,240
- Mountain States Recreation, fishing dock at Monument Lake – \$23,286
- Blue Line Rental Equipment Sales, walk behind trencher – \$16,395
- Civic Plus Web Design, annual web service – \$7,899

Village Center update

Mayor Jeff Kaiser asked Lowe about the status of the Village Center Metropolitan District's request to meet with the town about its financial situation and how the town could help. Lowe said he had met with them right after the June 5 board meeting but that to his knowledge, they had not taken any action since then and, "the ball is in their court right now." See www.ocn.me/v17n7.htm#mbot.

The meeting adjourned at 8:02 p.m.

Note: Monument Town Manager Chris Lowe is hosting a listening tour, which is designed to allow the public to share concerns, discuss issues, and provide information to help the town learn more about the community it serves. These are intended for individual citizens to have one-on-one conversations with Chris. The following are the tour dates:

- "Early Bird Coffee" will take place at Espresso Americano, 15954 Jackson Creek Parkway, Monument, on Aug. 15 from 7 to 9 a.m.
- "Lunch Break" at Serrano's Coffee, 625 Highway 105, Monument, on Aug. 16 from 1 to 3 p.m.
- "After Hours" at Back East Bar and Grill, 1455 Cipriani Loop, Monument, date and time to be determined. Please check the website for updates: www.townofmonument.org

If you have questions or concerns, please feel free to contact Lowe at clowe@tomgov.org.

The Monument Board of Trustees usually meets at 6:30 p.m. on the first and third Mondays of each month at Monument Town Hall, 645 Beacon Lite Road. The next meeting is scheduled for Aug. 15. Call 884-8014 or see www.townofmonument.org for information about live video streaming. To see upcoming agendas and complete board packets for the Board of Trustees or to download audio recordings of past meetings, see <http://monumenttownco.minuteson-demand.com> and click on Board of Trustees.

Lisa Hatfield can be contacted at lisahatfield@ocn.me.

Palmer Lake Town Council, July 13 and 27

Town ponders ordinances for fire prevention, marijuana businesses

By James Howald

The Palmer Lake Town Council met twice in July: on July 13 and 27. Attorney Christopher Price, of Widner Juran LLP, attended the first meeting in place of Town Attorney Maureen Juran. Juran attended the second meeting.

The council devoted the bulk of both meetings to detailed discussions of two proposed ordinances. The first ordinance attempts to address fire prevention in the Glen, a neighborhood in the west side of Palmer Lake. The second ordinance, which has been discussed at several previous meetings, aims to extend the town's moratorium on marijuana-related businesses.

The council also discussed the town's new purchasing policy and decided to move ahead with the planned upgrade to the audio system in the Town Hall.

Fire prevention concerns spark debate

At the July 13 meeting, resident Gary Faust addressed the council on the topic of fire danger in the Glen, which he argued was extremely high, and requested that the neighborhood be put on permanent stage 2 fire restrictions. Faust said the town's existing ordinances were not clear and were not consistently enforced.

Fire Chief Adam Colvin explained to the council that existing ordinances distinguished between two types of fires: "open burns," which are typically used to maintain a property and require a permit and the presence of Fire Department staff, and "open fires," which are recreational in nature, and are often used for cooking or for religious ceremonies. Open fires require an inspection, but not a permit. Stage 2 restrictions would allow the town to limit both types of fires, Colvin said.

Several other residents echoed Faust's concerns

at the July 13 meeting.

At the July 27 meeting, Town Administrator Cathy Green-Sinnard said she had spoken to the Coalition for the Upper South Platte (CUSP), an organization that has helped the town with its fire mitigation efforts. CUSP said restrictions on a specific neighborhood, rather than on the entire town, would likely require a ballot initiative and a vote by the residents.

Faust spoke again to argue that fire in the Glen would be catastrophic and could impact the town's water supply.

Resident Alex Farr said that permanent fire restrictions in the Glen would take away his property rights.

The council asked Colvin to work on more precise language to define exactly what fell into the category of an open fire, and to present his work at a future meeting.

Council returns to design of marijuana ordinance

At the July 27 meeting, Juran summarized the recent changes she had made to the town's ordinance on marijuana-related businesses. She had consolidated several ordinances into one, with the goal of simplification, and had removed provisions that are regulated by state law. Juran mentioned she had met with owners of the town's two marijuana businesses and had incorporated some of their suggestions. She pointed out that marijuana licenses are granted to a single addressed structure, and said she hoped the council would be ready to move to adoption.

The owners of the town's two existing marijuana-related businesses objected to the adoption of the new ordinance, arguing that it would prevent them from expanding their current businesses. In the case of Premier Organics LLC, owned by the Woodward family, the new ordinance would prohibit them from

expanding into an additional building in the Palmer Lake Technology Center. In the case of Palmer Lake Wellness, owned by Dino Salvatori, the new ordinance could potentially prevent him from using space in his current building that is presently unused.

After a lengthy discussion revolving around the legal definitions of addressed structures, parcels, and lots, the council voted unanimously to table further discussion of the ordinance to allow Juran to draft language that would be more acceptable to the business owners but still meet the requirements of the council.

New purchasing policy exercised to purchase boat

At the July 27 meeting, Green-Sinnard asked the council to approve the payment of an invoice for \$73,000 for a boat with weed-trimming equipment that will be used to remove aquatic weeds from the upper reservoir. The weeds need to be removed so they don't block the water system intake, Green-Sinnard said.

The town's recently-approved purchasing policy allows the Town Administrator to approve budgeted purchases only up to \$15,000.

The council voted unanimously to approve the purchase of the equipment.

Council approves bid for upgrade to audio system

The council voted unanimously to approve a bid of \$16,863 from ListenUp for an upgrade to the microphone and speakers at the Town Hall.

The two meetings for August will be at 6:30 p.m. on Aug. 10 and 24 at Town Hall, 42 Valley Crescent. Meetings are normally held on the second and fourth Thursdays of the month. Information: 481-2953.

James Howald can be reached at jameshowald@ocn.me.

Lewis-Palmer D38 School District, July 18

At hearing, district explains charter waiver request

By Jackie Burhans

Lewis-Palmer School District (LPSD) held a public hearing on July 18 on its request for a waiver from the state Board of Education regarding the deadline for filing a charter school application. The meeting, run by Assistant Superintendent Cheryl Wangeman, was attended by Superintendent Karen Brofft, Secretary to the Superintendent Vicki Wood, board member

Sarah Sampayo, and five members of the public.

Wangeman presented an overview of the waiver request that had been presented by the district Board of Education and reviewed the steps that were taken to notify the public.

District 38 desires to change the charter school application filing deadline from Oct. 1 to April 30 for a charter applicant to be eligible for consideration for

opening in the fall of the following calendar year. The meeting material explained that this would provide the school district with an additional five months to review the application for completeness and to request additional information as may be necessary before officially submitting the application to the local Board of Education. This earlier submittal deadline would provide charter school planning teams