

ing the revision of the town of Monument snow storm traffic regulations. The purpose of the revision was to make it easier for town snowplows (and those in Triview and

Village Center Metro District, which are in the town and therefore fall under town ordinances) to do their work by making sure there were no cars parked on snow routes and residential streets during winter storms. "Certain neighborhoods really are problem areas," Tharnish said.

He said enforcement would be done by the Police Department using warnings, stickers on cars, fines, and towing vehicles away. He said he had talked to nine out of ten homeowner associations in the town about his proposed revisions, and they all supported the concept.

For 45 minutes, the trustees asked questions about the execution of the proposed revisions to the ordinance. Kaiser asked Monument Police Department Lt. Steve Burk for his opinions, and he had several logistical suggestions for Tharnish. During the public hearing, six people spoke up with suggestions and questions about the proposed ordinance.

Shupp suggested Tharnish bring a new draft of the revised ordinance to the next meeting. The trustees voted unanimously to direct staff to develop another draft of the ordinance using clearer language.

**Water rates increase questioned**

Bornstein requested that the board consider a motion re-

questing staff to bring forward an emergency ordinance by the next board meeting regarding the recent water rates increase. His objective would be to remove all the water rates increases implemented by the town on March 7, but then add a \$5 increase to the previous base rate structure for all residents and businesses.

He also said he wanted to have a roundtable meeting as soon as possible in order to determine "what financial increase is truly required" to meet the financial expectations for the town of Monument. He said, "We need to get the numbers defined, what we need and why we need it, and then readjust what that water cost is going to be." He said there was a variance in the numbers showed to the trustees, and no one told the trustees why there was a variance.

See [www.ocn.me/v16n2.htm#mbot0104](http://www.ocn.me/v16n2.htm#mbot0104) and [www.ocn.me/v16n4.htm#mbot0307](http://www.ocn.me/v16n4.htm#mbot0307) for more information about the March 7 water rates increase and the reasons town staff asked for it.

Bornstein referred to the Feb. 22 workshop where public proposals were made for evaluation by town staff, but on March 7, town staff did not present analyzed data on all the proposals. See [www.ocn.me/v16n3.htm#photos](http://www.ocn.me/v16n3.htm#photos).

Kaiser asked Lowe if he had an understanding of what was needed, and Lowe said, "Nope. I cannot figure it out. Ask the town attorney."

Coopman reiterated that the board was directing the town to write an emergency ordinance to reverse the water rates increase and then add a flat \$5 increase to residential and commercial rates using the previous rate structure, "at which point we will reconvene with the residents of this community to discuss all information and share all information and ideas and come up with a more responsible water rate increase."

Shupp asked if there was a motion, a second, and a vote, but Kaiser said no, it was direction from the board to the town staff.

Lowe then recommended just repealing the rates increase and not adding the \$5 "until you figure out what you want to do.... This board does not seem to believe what was done was correct, which is fine, but I would not jumble it up with the \$5 increase."

Bornstein persisted in adding the \$5 to the old rate structure "due to the deficit" in the water enterprise fund. Coopman added that given the financial loss of the wa-

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