



Palmer Lake (Cont. from page 1) related to fires to a minimum of \$1,000.

Board member Mitchell Davis pointed out that a fire near the reservoir could have a catastrophic impact on the town's water supply, and Mayor John Cressman added, "it's almost negligent if we don't close it."

While the town owns the land surrounding the reservoirs, the trail leading

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to the reservoirs is owned by the Forest Service, Green-Sinnard said, adding that she believed the Forest Service would agree to close the trail if the town requested it.

The board discussed communicating the trail closure and fines to the public using signs, the town's website, and social media, and several board members agreed the town Police Department would need to increase the frequency of its patrols of the trail and the reservoirs.

Town Attorney Maureen Juran said the board should consider an ordinance to address the trail closure, and pointed out that the fines would have to be determined at a future board meeting.

Banta made a motion that the trails to both the upper and lower reservoir be closed whenever El Paso County announced stage 1 fire restrictions, or at the discretion of the Palmer Lake mayor, and the motion was approved unanimously.

Board vacates undeveloped road and approves subdivision request

In February, Jim Stiltner of Masterbilt Homes requested that the board vacate Gillia Street, an undeveloped road, and approve a minor subdivision of several lots east of Upper Glenway, so that he could build three houses at that location. The board tabled the requests at the February meeting.

On March 9, the board took up these issues again. The board heard several people from the neighborhood who argued that the vacation and subdivision should not be approved, and that no more than two houses should be built, to maintain the character of the neighborhood.

Stiltner maintained throughout the lengthy discussion that if the vacation and subdivision were not approved, he would be forced to build a road that would be too steep for the town to maintain, and would also build a total of four houses on the property.



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