

codes will ensure a better end product when reviewing developers' final application plans and safeguard smarter growth in Monument. Updating the town code will allow a written comprehensive sustainability plan and transportation plan to be developed, complementing the El Paso County 2018 Master Development Plan and 2016 Major Transportation Corridor Plan. All plans including the town's Integrated Water Resource Plan should be posted online for public viewing.

Second issue: public safety. Protecting life and property, preventing crime and reducing the fear of crime as our community grows, additional police staff and emergency service personnel will be needed. Greater distances between developments and response times validates this necessity. Recruiting and retaining future police and emergency staff personnel through competitive salaries, competitive benefits, non-monetary incentives, and enacting programs to promote a healthy work-life balance will ensure our continued enjoyment of our community.

**Jim Romanello**

The Town of Monument deserves leaders who conduct themselves with professionalism and who seek solutions that are good for all residents. During more than 20 years as a financial services professional and four years as the Vil-

lage Center Metro District president in Monument, I have built relationships with clients and our community that demonstrate my trustworthiness and reliability. I will bring the same traits to citizens and their tax dollars that I bring to my financial clients and their investments.

I hope to continue to serve as an approachable leader, as I did while negotiating the IGA with the town, which resulted in fiscal stability and steadied home values in Village Center Metro District. This was a contentious issue and I helped lead all parties, including the town, to a sustainable outcome for everyone. It is that same spirit of cooperation that is necessary for Monument—with its friendly, small-town feel—to prosper.

We must make sure our town is properly staffed and foster trust between staff, the board, and residents. We must also have a plan for sustainable growth that includes properly maintained infrastructure, provisions for essential public safety functions, and a water plan that safeguards our investments in our homes and the future of our town.

I love our town! I have lived here for 11 years, and I know with proven, trusted leadership, it will continue to be a wonderful place to live for years to come. ■

**Monument Board of Trustees, Sept. 4**

**Interim town manager finalist selected**

*By Allison Robenstein*

The Monument Board of Trustees (BOT) held a regular meeting on Sept. 4 to select an interim town manager. The board also asked for new contracted town legal representation and discussed, but didn't pass, an ordinance for a water projects loan.

**Interim town manager**

The board voted to hire Mike Foreman as interim manager. Treasurer Pamela Smith has been acting town manager since Chris Lowe, the town's previous manager, was put on administrative leave and then fired in May. After a long executive session, the board voted 4-2 to hire Foreman. Trustees Greg Coopman and Laurie Clark voted no with no reason given.

**Town attorney replacement**

The board also requested that Town Human Resources Director Robert Bishop create a request for proposal to hire a contractual attorney because current Town Attorney Alicia Corley will be leaving. No timeline was given for the directive. Corley's position had been precarious since the May 7 meeting when the BOT did not reappoint her position.

Smith's job as treasurer was not reappointed either, but there has been no word on her position. See <https://www.ocn.me/v18n6.htm>.

**Loan fails with water project near completion**

A loan that has been plaguing the board at several of its previous meetings was discussed. At the Aug. 6 meeting, Smith asked the board to approve Key Bank as the lender for a \$1.8 million loan to be used for two water-related projects. When the board was asked to approve the loan to pay for the projects—\$924,500 for a well 4 and 5 upgrade and a booster upgrade project at \$625,000—it was tabled until tonight. During the board's Aug. 20 meeting, Coopman and Clark brought up unresolved issues including:

- A covenant in the Key Bank loan paperwork requires the town to have 125 percent of the loan payment in their Water Fund revenue stream at all times.
- If this amount cannot be maintained, the board is required in the paperwork to increase water rates. This removes the board's authority

*(Continued on page 9)*



**Effective State Legislator—  
15 of her 18 bills passed the legislature this year**

**PRIORITIES:**

- **Transportation—Fighting to stop CDOT from imposing toll roads on our communities**
- **Protect privacy of our data in government databases**
  - **Minimize collection of our data**
  - **Minimize sharing of our data**
  - **Cybersecurity to protect our data**
- **Protect victims of domestic violence and human trafficking**

**State Representative Terri Carver**

*- I ask for your vote!*

[www.TerriCarver.org](http://www.TerriCarver.org)

Paid for by Citizens to Elect Terri Carver for HD 20



**Isn't it time you gave your portfolio a checkup?**

Unbiased, independent advice.

In a global economy, our finances at home can easily be affected by stock performance across the world. As your hometown advisor, *Lang Investment Services* is dedicated to helping protect and grow your assets in all market conditions. If it's been a while since you've had a portfolio review or just want an objective opinion of your current strategy, give us a call.



**Get your complimentary portfolio check-up. Call Matthew Lang at (719) 481-0887.**

Strategic Asset Management • Tax Advantaged Investing • Retirement Planning Insurance • Investment Guidance • Consulting

236 North Washington St., Monument, CO 80132 • [langinvestmentservices.com](http://langinvestmentservices.com)

Securities and advisory services offered through Commonwealth Financial Network, Member FINRA/SIPC, a Registered Investment Adviser. Fixed insurance products and services offered through CES Insurance Agency.

Introducing:



**Convenient. Freshly prepared.**

**Make your life a little easier!**

Choose from 3, 5, or 7 day meal plans. Only \$5.75 per meal delivered to your home at lunchtime by friendly volunteers. To view this month's meal choices and for more information, visit [www.silverkey.org/home-delivered-meals](http://www.silverkey.org/home-delivered-meals).

**Anyone age 60+ can register for Silver Key Home Delivered Meals by calling 719-884-2370.**