

to present themselves and their firms to the board. The town has been without legal counsel since Sept. 4 when then Town Attorney Alicia Corley resigned.

There didn't seem to be a set list of questions each trustee asked of all four candidates, but they did ask about their experience with home rule versus statutory municipal governments, the location of their main office, and which attorney would be attending board meetings. None of the four legal offices is near Monument. Candidate Joseph Rivera suggested he would have office hours in town on meeting days.

The board agreed to mull over the candidates and send their top two choices to Smith. Wilson said the board's top selection should send them their contract for review.

**2019 preliminary budget presented to the board**

As per statute, Smith presented the 2019 draft budget to the board for review. No vote was taken.

Bornstein was concerned that the budget numbers presented didn't match the numbers the board was provided during a Sept. 24 workshop with Public Works and the Police Department. "I'm very bothered by that," he said.

When Smith replied that she

moved a few numbers from one department to another, Bornstein said, "It's not your responsibility to say who gets what money." Smith asserted she has a fiscal responsibility to make sure more money doesn't go out than comes in and said if the trustees had different ideas on where to find the money and where it should be sent, they should bring these ideas to the next workshop.

They continued in this manner back and forth with Smith noting there are more requests than revenue, possibly requiring the town to borrow money. The board set a Nov. 5 date to hold a budget workshop at 6 p.m. in the Monument police conference room.

The meeting adjourned at 8:09 p.m.

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The Monument Board of Trustees usually meets at 6:30 p.m. on the first and third Monday of each month at Monument Town Hall, 645 Beacon Lite Road. The next meeting will be held on Nov 5 and consist of a special meeting and then a budget workshop at the Tri-Lakes Chamber of Commerce, 166 Second St., Monument, 6:00 pm. Call 884-8014 or see [www.townofmonument.org](http://www.townofmonument.org) for information. To see upcoming agendas and complete board packets for the BOT or to download

audio recordings of past meetings, see <http://monumenttownco.minuteson-demand.com> and click on Board of

Trustees.

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**PALMER LAKE (Continued from 1)**

made. If sewer taps are not available, accompanying new water taps cannot be sold. Green-Sinnard said developments that had begun construction by April would be able to get both water and sewer service, but other developments might not get those services.

Remington also said one of the town's two existing wells would need to be redrilled.

Following the presentation of the budget, Trustee Mark Schuler addressed the issue of unplanned growth in Palmer Lake, noting the absence of a comprehensive plan for the town. Schuler argued for more resources to go into planning and for requiring new construction to pay for its impact on the town's infrastructure.

**Debate on lighting ordinance continues**

The council continued work on updating the lighting ordinance, which seeks to reduce the amount of light pollution produced by commercial buildings. The issue under consideration at the Oct. 10 meeting was the precise definitions of shielded and unshielded lighting fixtures.

The board tabled the ordinance until the Nov. 8 meeting to provide time to review similar ordinances from other

towns.

**Homeowner reports damage due to mysterious culvert**

A homeowner told the council that his residence had sustained damage on Aug. 17 from water draining from a culvert that deposited gravel on his property.

In response to a question from Mayor John Cressman, Town Attorney Maureen Juran told the council that the town was not liable for the damage, since the torrential rain on Aug. 17 was a 500-year event.

Town Administrator Cathy Green-Sinnard said she had researched the history of the culvert but could not determine who built it.

Council members Glant Havenar, Paul Banta, and Shuler expressed their opinion that the town had a moral obligation to assist the homeowner. Cressman said the town was working with a drainage consultant who has assessed with situation with the culvert and will make recommendations. In the short term, the town will place boulders at one end of the culvert to try to minimize the impact of future rain, Cressman said.

**PALMER LAKE (Cont. on 9)**



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