

sidering shutting down PLVFD when reserve funds were available. She also questioned how funds from the Vaile House had been used.

Pedestrian bridge planning takes a step forward

At the Sept. 24 meeting, Jeff Hulsmann told the council a pre-construction meeting had been scheduled with SEMA, the company that will install the pedestrian bridge over the railroad tracks. Attendees will include representatives from both railroads, the town engineer, and representatives of Awake the Lake. The bridge is targeted for completion at the end of October or early November, Hulsmann said.

The board unanimously approved a check from Great Outdoors of Colorado funds to be written to Awake the Lake for \$102,000 for work on the bridge.

Estimate to move water pipeline sought

In a previous meeting, it was reported that a water pipeline serving some Palmer Lake businesses is under the approach to the pedestrian bridge, making future repairs difficult to perform. The council voted unanimously to use money from the General Fund to seek estimates to move the pipeline so that it can be more easily maintained in future.

Parks master plan presented; land swap proposed
Reid Wiecks, on behalf of the Parks Committee, reviewed the current state of the parks master plan. The committee was asked to produce a master plan to aid budgeting for parks projects. The committee used plans for other communities as a starting point to produce its plan.

The plan focuses on Glen Park as a starting point; other parks will be added later. The committee created a spreadsheet of items needing attention and prioritized them. The list includes a permanent bathroom at Glen Park and lighting along Lovers Lane. The Parks Committee has recently removed a dangerous slide, installed playground equipment, and done landscaping in Glen Park, Wiecks said.

Resident Dean Couture proposed to the council that he would purchase four lots adjacent to the ten-

nis courts at Glen Park and exchange that land for land the town owns adjacent to property he owns elsewhere in town. Wiecks expressed support for Couture's offer, however, Remington noted that the town's land includes water rights for an alluvial well. The town decided to engage its water lawyer to decide if the town could retain the water rights if it goes forward with the proposed exchange of land.

The council is scheduled to hold meetings on Oct. 10 and 24 at 6 p.m. at Town Hall, 42 Valley Crescent. Meetings are normally held on the second and fourth Thursdays of the month, with the second meeting organized as a working session. Information: 481-2953.

James Howald can be reached at jameshowald@ocn.me. Jackie Burhans can be reached at jackieburhans@ocn.me.

MA (Cont. from 1)

- Stage space for performances.
- Number of seats in the new school and whether there would be new middle school seats.
- Secure entry from school interior to the office area.
- Confusion about MA purchasing land that was supposed to be donated and multiple deeds between various entities.

McWilliams answered that space has been looked at carefully, curriculum is key, and the new school will move 350 middle schoolers to the secondary school and add ninth grade and 60 10th-grade seats. He said there would be 350 elementary seats available but there is not an existing wait-list. He said there would be 450 new seats in K-12, with a total of 800 by the time the project is completed through phase two.

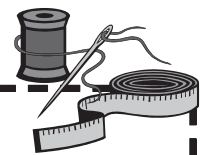
McWilliams emphatically stated that he never said there would be new middle school seats and that space problems at Lewis-Palmer Middle School were not MA's concern. Regarding the land, he indicated that there were a lot of conversations and things were still in flux—he offered that people could meet with the title company to better understand the deeds. While there is no formal stage, MA expects to be able to use risers in a room open to the gym.

Administrative hiring strategies

The board discussed whether to hire a chief operating officer (COO) or chief academic officer (CAO) first. McWilliams said the deans requested the board focus first on the COO in order to get the new school completed. Parents suggested that an academic officer was needed soon so that eighth-graders could make decisions about continuing with the school. After considering whether one person could fulfill both roles, the board unanimously agreed to begin the process of hiring a COO, immediately followed by a CAO. Two board members will look at all the applications and bring them forward to the nominating committee, which comprises the deans, teachers' representatives, two parents, and a board member.

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