

were to take place.

Banta told the council he felt the town's water attorney and water engineer had both raised red flags about the water rights issues. He also said he was generally opposed to the town giving away land and that the proposed exchange provided little benefit to the town.

Trustee Gary Faust pointed out that the alluvial well, if drilled, has the potential to supply 100 gallons per minute and argued that amount of water justified further examination by the town's water attorney and water engineer to resolve any disagreements.

Remington suggested having the water lawyer and water engineer attend the council's first meeting in November to investigate the issue further.

**Drainage study reviewed**

At the Oct. 24 meeting, Remington reviewed for the council the drainage study that was prompted by torrential rains the town experienced in the spring. The study covered only one of the town's four drainage basins, Remington said, adding that implementation of the recommendations was not included in the study.

Mayor John Cressman said implementation would cost \$1 million, and those funds were not available. Cressman pointed out that easements to address drainage problems were not in place and that the project would require the use of eminent domain.

Remington said matching grants might be available from Colorado Department of Local Affairs to work on drainage issues but that those grants would require a storm water drainage fee to be assessed on the town's residents.

The council decided to set up a workshop to continue the discussion.

**Town may need additional well**

In his comments at the Oct. 24 meeting, Banta expressed concern that the town may need to find \$700,000 for an additional well. Schuler said that amount would have a "big impact" on the town's finances. Banta asked Remington if it would be possible to use a bond to meet this need, and finance it by raising water fees.

Remington said she was looking at potential loans.

In response to a question from Banta, Town Attorney Maureen Juran said water fees could be raised at a Town Council meeting without the need to put the issue to the voters.

**Bid approved to move water line**

At a previous meeting, the council learned that a water line supplying some Palmer Lake businesses was underneath the proposed location of the pedestrian bridge that will connect the town to the lake. The council thought moving the pipeline could cost up to \$75,000.

At the Oct. 24 meeting, the council approved a bid from Bradley Excavation for \$16,997 to move the pipeline. Remington said the bid was lower than expected because the company was already working on a project nearby and would spend less to move the equipment needed to the work site.

The council voted unanimously to approve the bid.

**Potential donation of property requires due diligence**

Remington told the council that Living Word Chapel had proposed donating six acres of land near Highway 105 to the town. The land contained two structures, Remington said. She asked for direction from

the council on this, and for funds to be allocated for due diligence on the donation.

The council asked Remington to get an offer in writing before proceeding.

**Budget work session scheduled**

At the Oct. 10 meeting, the council decided to hold a budget workshop on Oct. 22. Remington told the council that not all the financial data was available but that there was enough information to begin a discussion.

**Update of town code underway**

The council worked on updating the town's codes at both the October meetings. The council is updating the code one chapter at a time and will vote to approve the entire code once the process is complete. Where the town's code conflicts with state law, state law takes precedence, Juran said.

At the Oct. 24 meeting, the council changed the code to specify that mayors will serve for four years instead of two.

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The council is scheduled to hold two meetings in November, on Nov. 11 and 25, 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. In-

formation: 481-2953.

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**What's Happening**  
**Volunteer to Ring the Bell!**  
 for Salvation Army—starts Nov. 29<sup>th</sup>  
**North Pole @ Tri-Lakes Craft Fair**  
 Grace Best—Dec. 7<sup>th</sup>, 9 am-4 pm

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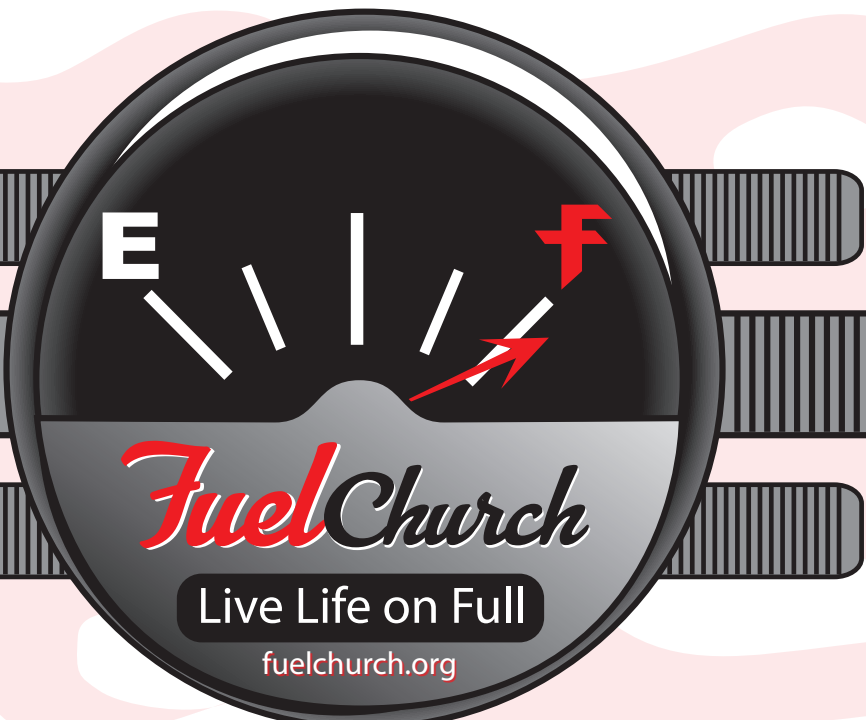
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