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Forest Lakes Phase II town's water rights

The board went into executive session at 8:26 p.m. to receive legal advice regarding litigation between the town and Forest Lakes. Forest Lakes

Phase 2 planned unit development (PUD) is under review by the county Planning Commission and the BOCC. The town has subsurface water rights in Forest Lakes. This lawsuit came to the board's attention at the Feb. 4 meeting when Rivera said he had to quickly object to the development moving forward until the res-

ervation of water rights was accomplished. This is the third executive session the board has held on this topic. See related county Planning Commission and BOCC articles on pages 1 and 6. <https://ocn.me/v19n3.htm#mbot0219>.

Upon completion of the executive session, no votes were taken and the board ad-

joined.

The Monument Board of Trustees usually meets at 6:30 pm on the first and third Monday of each month at Monument Town Hall, 645 Beacon Lite Road. The next meeting is scheduled for May 6. Call 884-8014 or see 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.minutesondemand.com> and click on Board of Trustees.

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Palmer Lake Town Council, April 11 and April 25

Further study of drainage issues recommended

By James Howald and Jackie Burhans

In April, the Palmer Lake Town Council met twice. The monthly council meeting was held on April 11, and on April 25 it held a work session.

On April 11, in its role as Palmer Lake Liquor Licensing Authority, the council made a final decision on a request to transfer a liquor license to Greg Duncan, owner of Dex's

Depot. The resignation of council member Mitchell Davis was announced, and it was also noted that the meeting was the last to be attended by Town Manager Cathy Green-Sinnard. The council heard the results of a drainage study and a presentation on behalf of the Palmer Lake Historical Society on the topic of obtaining a historic building designation for Palmer Lake's Town Hall.

Finally, at this meeting, the council took up a number of resolutions and ordinances, including a conditional use permit for RAD Extraction, a CBD extraction business that has been operating in the town for more than a year, and a resolution increasing water fees as suggested by the water rate consultant hired to review the town's rates.

At the April 25 work ses-

sion, the council granted special event permits for two races and heard presentations from David R. Frisch of GMS Consulting Engineers, from resident Judith Harrington and Michelle Connelly, a for-ester with the Coalition of the Upper South Platte (CUSP), and from Reid Wiecks on his efforts to organize a chipping day and to install playground equipment on behalf of the Parks Committee.

Council and administrative staff to change

Mayor John Cressman announced at the April 11 meeting that Davis had resigned from the council, citing health reasons. Cressman said the council would consider applications from residents who wish to take Davis's seat. Applicants must have resided in Palmer Lake for a year to be eligible, and whoever is appointed would serve until the next general election, Cressman said.

Cressman also highlighted the fact that the April 11 meeting was Green-Sinnard's last. Town Clerk Verla Bruner commended Green-Sinnard for her contributions to the town and presented her with an award.

Council finds no affordable solutions to drainage problems

At the April 25 work session, David R. Frisch, an engineer with GMS Consulting Engi-

neers, gave the council the results of the drainage study he has been developing as part of the town's response to a torrential rainstorm last year that flooded streets and homes and impacted the town's sewer system.

Frisch told the council he had studied only a small portion of the town's drainage basins, the portion that drains down High Street and then to the south. Frisch said he started with that drainage basin because town Road Supervisor Jason Dosch identified High Street as the location most frequently needing repairs after rain.

Frisch emphasized he had examined only one drainage basin and that the town would have to analyze all its drainages to completely understand the problem. He said a more complete study could cost the town \$30,000, and he could not estimate the cost of implementing solutions based on the study.

Frisch suggested the town could use a water enterprise fund—essentially a tax on storm water, to fund improvements to drainage.

Council member Glant Havenar asked how the town's residents could be expected to pay for issues that result primarily from growth of the community. Council members Gary Faust and Paul Banta both asked what would happen if the town took no action on drainage. Cressman pointed out the connection between drainage and the town's overloaded sewer system, and said it was imperative not to soil Monument Creek, the ultimate destination of the town's storm water run-off.

In the end, the council took no action on Frisch's report.

Historic building designation requested for Town Hall

Jack Anthony, speaking on behalf of the Palmer Lake Historical Society, told the council about the society's efforts to have the Town Hall designated as a historical building. Anthony said the History Colorado Center agreed the Town Hall should be considered for the designation due to its association with the town's Yule Log tradition and as an example of the Craftsman style.

Anthony asked the council to help him with the paperwork required by the application.



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