

PALMER LAKE (Cont. from 18)

and her cousin Tyson Reese with a street sign that will mark the corner of Prairie and Spring Streets as French's Hill.

2020 audit documents progress

David Green said his audit of the town's 2020 finances led to an unmodified clean opinion. The town's financial controls are improving, he said, with only two areas of minor concern: some record-keeping issues and segregation of duties. Both are common in small organizations, and steps have been taken to correct those issues, leaving the town in a better position for reporting and safeguarding assets, he said.

Elite Cranes move delayed again

At the Sept. 9 meeting, Bruno Furrer, the current owner of the property occupied by Elite Cranes, told the board that Elite Cranes was scheduled to close on its new property in a week and would then need two to three weeks to prepare the ground at the new property to receive the cranes. Local builder Kurt Ehrhardt said the town was being taken advantage of by the repeated failure of Elite Cranes to meet its self-imposed deadlines for vacating its current location and suggested Elite Cranes make a financial donation to the town. The discussion at the Sept. 9 meeting ended with board members observing that Elite Cranes would have missed another deadline to vacate its current location by the board's next meeting, and that they would decide their next step at the Sept. 23 meeting.

At the Sept. 23 meeting, Sam Lawry, owner of Elite Cranes, told the board that progress had been made although he had not yet closed on the purchase of his new property. He said he expected to close within a week. He was preparing the new location by removing trees and surveying, he said. Hauling dirt to the new location would take three weeks.

Trustee Glant Havenar was skeptical about Lawry's new timeline and pointed out that there had been many missed deadlines and that Sept. 15 had been a "drop-dead" date for the move. Trustee Karen Stuth said she believed the time had come to begin fining Elite Cranes for its repeated failures to keep its agreements with the town. Lawry responded he was preparing litigation for that eventuality and cited several justifications for the missed deadlines.

In the end, Lawry would not commit to another deadline to leave his current location. Bass made a motion to give Elite Cranes until Oct. 31 to vacate. The motion passed with Bass, Trustees Darin Dawson, Jessica Farr, and Sam Padgett voting in favor and Trustees Nicole Currier, Havenar and Stuth voting against.

Lindsey Leiker appointed to the Parks Commission

Resolution 41-2021, appointing Lindsey Leiker to a vacant seat on the Parks Commission, was passed as part of the consent agenda at the Sept. 9 meeting.

Fence location debated

At the Sept. 9 meeting, Town Administrator Dawn Collins told the board the agreement between BNSF Railway and the Town of Palmer Lake obligates the town to build a fence to prevent people from crossing the railroad tracks to reach the lake from the town. Collins said the town should have the area surveyed to help determine the placement of the fence. Awake the Lake planned to fund the fence construction, Collins said.

Town Attorney Matt Krob commented that either the town would build the fence or the railroad would build it and bill the town for the cost, adding the railroad seemed to be more concerned with having the fence built as specified in the contract than with the optimal placement of the fence.

Bass instructed the town staff to have the area surveyed and to reach out to the railroad to discuss placement.

Board acts on property management issues

The board took the following steps regarding property issues:

- The board voted unanimously to approve Resolution 43-2021, which authorizes the town to grant well agreements for E-Rock LLC at the old fee of \$50 per well.
- The board held a public hearing on and voted to approve Resolution 48-2021, which grants a conditional use permit to Craig and Anna Barragry to convert a commercial property at 11 Highway 105 to a residential duplex. Havenar and Padgett voted no; Bass, Currier, Dawson, Farr and Stuth voted in favor.
- The board voted unanimously in favor of Resolution 49-2021, which approves a minor subdivision at 32 Pineview St. that allows the owner to add a residence for his aging parents.
- The board voted unanimously to approve Resolutions 45-2021 and 46-2021, which formalize drainage easement agreements with Palmer Lake Elementary School and Nikki and William McDonald, respectively.
- The board voted unanimously to approve Resolution 47-2021, which authorizes the town to purchase 4.5 acres of land adjacent to Upper Glenway Street for no more than \$9,500. The property is not suitable for a residence, Collins said, but might serve as a site

for a water storage tank.

Castle Rock to maintain fire trucks

Fire Chief Kevin McCarthy shared with the board the difficulties he has had finding reliable service for the Fire Department's heavy equipment, including fire trucks. He asked the board to approve Resolution 44-2021, which establishes an IGA allowing the Castle Rock Fire Department to service Palmer Lake's equipment. McCarthy said the agreement would allow Palmer Lake to use other service companies if appropriate.

The board voted unanimously to approve Resolution 44-2021.

Special events approved

The board granted a special event permit for the Seventh Annual Palmer Lake .5K Run, scheduled for Sunday Oct. 10 from 9 a.m. until noon. The event is a fundraiser for Awake the Lake, event organizer Cindy Kuchinsky said, and the route was changed this year to begin on the east side of the lake and incorporate the pedestrian bridge.

The race will begin at 10:30 a.m., Kuchinsky said, and there will be a donut station midway on the course. Beer and root beer will be served at the finish line.

Kuchinsky asked the board to waive the usual special event fee.

The board voted to approve the permit. Currier and Dawson abstained, as they serve on the Awake the Lake committee.

At the Sept. 23 meeting, the board reviewed a special event permit for the YMCA Creepy Crawl, to be held on Oct. 30 beginning at 7 a.m. The event includes a 5K run for adults and a Kids Fun Run. Runners are encouraged to come in costume, event organizer Pat McDonough said.

The board voted unanimously to approve the event permit.

The Board of Trustees is scheduled to hold three meetings in October, a regular meeting on Oct. 14 and a workshop and regular meeting on Oct. 28. See the town's website at www.townofpalmerlake.com to confirm times, dates, and locations. While the Town Hall is being repaired, evening meetings will be held at the Palmer Lake Elementary School Library at 115 Upper Glenway and daytime meetings will be held at the Tri-Lakes Chamber Community Meeting House at 300 Highway 105. Meeting times may change. Meetings are normally held on the second and fourth Thursdays of the month. Information: 481-2953.

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10 running for three Academy School District 20 Board of Education seats

By Helen Walklett

Three Academy School District 20 (ASD20) Board of Education (BOE) seats are up for election on the Nov. 2 ballot. Citizens who are registered to vote and live within the ASD20 boundary will have an official ASD20 BOE question on their November election ballot.

Ten candidates are campaigning for the three open seats. Current board member Thomas LaValley is seeking re-election; the other nine candidates are not currently board members. Each position has a four-year term that begins on Jan.

1, 2022.

The candidates are:

- Tiana Clark: (TianaClark4BOE@gmail.com; tianaclark.org/)
- Brian Coram: (BrianForD20Board@gmail.com; CoramForD20Kids.com)
- Nathan Johnson: (NathanJohnsonD20Board@gmail.com; NathanJohnsonD20Board.com)
- Nicole Konz: (ElectNicoleKonz@gmail.com; ElectNicoleKonz.com)
- Thomas LaValley: (tnlavalley@gmail.com)
- Jackie Lesh: (elect@jackieleeshforD20.org; JackieLeshForD20.org)
- Lindsay A. Moore: (LindsayMooreForD20@protonmail.com; LindsayMooreForD20.com)
- Michael Riffle: (SchoolBoardMike@gmail.com)
- Aaron Salt: (me@aaronsalt.org; www.aaronsalt.org)
- Jason Silva: (jsilva3071@protonmail.com)

There will be two BOE Candidate Forums ahead

of the election to provide the community an opportunity to meet candidates, hear about their positions, and ask questions.

Forum 1

Tuesday, Oct. 5
Eagleview Middle School, Wing Space
1325 Vindicator Drive, Colorado Springs
6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Forum 2

Thursday, Oct. 14
ASD20 Education and Administration Center, Atrium
1110 Chapel Hills Drive, Colorado Springs
6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Board elections occur every two years, and board members can serve a total of two terms.

Further information can be found on the ASD 20 website: <https://www.asd20.org/announcements/2021-board-of-education-elections/>

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