

terstate south of County Line Road. Rivera explained that preliminary findings found the annexation justified. Trustee LaKind asked if rezoning would be required, and Rivera explained that zoning would have to be assigned when annexing. Trustee Schoening asked if the board would be able to restrict multifamily housing from the rezoning, and Foreman said yes.

Tabled discussions: signs, construction noise, schools

In the Sept. 6 meeting, Trustee Schoening asked for clarification on what the sign placement rules were for the town. Rivera explained that a town may remove signs from public rights-of-way for aesthetic or traffic reasons but may not remove signs to regulate content. Schoening claimed that the current town code was unclear. Both Foreman and Hemingway agreed that enforcement does not have a clear directive to remove signs or not. After the sign ordinance was read aloud, Schoening suggested trustees strike the ordinance altogether, but Wilson instead asked the town manager to refrain from pulling any signs until later clarification of the ordinance. Review of the current sign code is set for discussion on Nov. 9.

During public comment, Ken Kemple complained that construction crews were making noise late into the evening in developments throughout Monument, a violation of code 8-20-050. He claimed to have emailed the town and even called the police, but no enforcement

mechanism seems to be in place to stop the noise. Ramos asked if there were fines for such disturbances, and Hemmingway said enforcement always seeks compliance first. Crews have consistently complied when challenged.

D38 Superintendent KC Somers asked the trustees to help make the upcoming mill levy override proposal a key discussion point in future meetings. Somers explained how Monument—despite its wealthy neighborhoods and excellent educational success—has not passed a levy since 1999. The last proposed levy which failed sought upgrades for all employees, but the upcoming ballot initiative is specifically for teachers. “Teachers have done the hero’s work,” Somers said. He compared the lack of teacher retention to the lack of police retention in the past, and D38 loses good teachers more than most districts in our region. Wilson asked Foreman to schedule a time for a lengthier discussion about Somers’s comments.

The Monument Board of Trustees usually meets at 6:30 p.m. on the first and third Mondays of each month at Monument Town Hall, 645 Beacon Lite Road. The Oct. 3 meeting has been canceled; the next meeting is scheduled for Monday, Oct. 17. Call 719-884-8014 or see www.townofmonument.org for information. To see upcoming agendas and complete board packets or to

download audio recordings of past meetings, see <http://monumenttownco.minutesondemand.com> and click on Board of Trustees.

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Editor’s Note

On Sept. 26, OCN received a copy of a letter Classic Homes sent to the town clarifying Classic’s position. That letter is posted at www.ocn.me/pdf/v22n10classicletter.pdf.

MA (Cont. from 1)

on [a] specific personnel matter and to receive legal advice regarding [a] confidential HR matter.” After an hour and a half, the board reconvened and board member Danny O’Brien announced that the board had finished a challenging executive session, saying that on Sept. 9 it had received Holmes’ resignation letter. O’Brien said the board accepted that resignation and recognized Holmes’ efforts on behalf of MA. The board looks forward to partnering with administrative staff and teachers to ensure a successful school year, he noted. The board unanimously voted to accept Holmes’ resignation and declare a vacancy for the COO position effective immediately.

The board then unanimously voted to appoint a board subcommittee comprising Lindsay Clinton and Ryan Graham to develop a process for seeking a new COO, working with Chief Financial Officer Marc Brocklehurst and Chief People Officer Krista Pelley. The subcommittee was also authorized to make financial decisions related to interim roles and to approve a separation package for Holmes. The subcommittee will report to the board at the next regular meeting with a proposal for the COO search process.

Holmes was selected as COO on May 28, 2021, after the one-year seven-month tenure of Christianna Herrera, which in turn followed the ousting of former Executive Director Don Griffin in June 2019. Holmes answered questions about terminations from previous positions at a community meeting on May 17 ahead of his appointment. Holmes started as COO on July 1, 2021. See <https://www.ocn.me/v21n6.htm#ma> for more information.

In December 2021 (<https://www.ocn.me/v22n1.htm#ma>), the board held a six-hour executive session

and a well-attended regular board meeting discussing administrative leadership and organizational structure, noting the district had had three leaders over the last 2½ years. The board unanimously agreed at that time to hire an executive coach for Holmes and to perform a work

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