



**Above:** Deputy Town Clerk Tina Erickson gave the oath of office to two new Monument Town Council members at the council meeting on Feb. 21. (L to R) Marco Fiorito and Laura Kronick were sworn in to fill two vacancies caused by the resignation of Redmond Ramos and the promotion of Mitch LaKind to mayor. *Photo by Michael Weinfeld.*

vides equipment-moving services to companies throughout Colorado.” The land use would consist of F-150s and small trucks.

Questions from the council led to a disagreement over trees. King asked, “How can we save the trees?” and referenced the town municipal code to give Director Sheila Booth the authority to approve or deny removal of the trees. Kimple added concerns for trees being removed along Interstate 25. LaKind countered, “I’m more concerned about the residents on the west side than what the view is by people driving by at 75 miles per hour on the east side.” He added, “If [the applicant] goes commercial [with the county], they’d be able to take all the trees down.” Kimple did not reply.

Before voting, King explained, “In fairness to the last applicant [Beacon Lite LLC], I am in favor of this project [XL3 Rigging] as it sits in front of us, which is the reason I am voting yes, in that those trees get saved.” The ordinance passed unanimously.

**Discussion of state control of local zoning**

The council discussed concern over a proposed state initiative to take control of zoning decisions from local municipalities like Monument. King brought up the issue. “There is an agenda from the current governor that wants to increase high-density housing. The biggest problem is [the state] changing the zoning requirements that takes away our local control. We believe in local control, but we need participation from our local community to write letters and push back.”

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unanimously approved the rezoning of Light Industrial and the staff approved. Brett Leveque of XL3 Rigging explained to the board that the company consisted of six employees with an expected traffic of 30 trips per day. The rigging “pro-

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