

request from Chen and Zang Inc., doing business as Sakura Sushi and Asian Cuisine, for a temporary liquor license at 562 W. Highway 105 in the Safeway shopping center. Also requested was a liquor license transfer from the previous occupant, Spicy Basil restaurant. The regular hearing for the transfer of license was scheduled for the regular Oct. 1 board meeting.

Financial reports

The board unanimously approved one disbursement over \$5,000: \$15,213 to the Pikes Peak Regional Water Authority for 2012 annual dues (\$2,950) and revised operation and maintenance costs for the gauging stations of the Transit Loss Model (\$12,263.) The Transit Loss Model measures and records flows throughout the Monument/Fountain Creek watershed to document evaporation rates, wa-

ter rights compliance, and water rights lease transactions.

Town Treasurer Pamela Smith said the town's net sales tax revenues through June, after deducting Triview Metropolitan District's share, were \$99,000 (8.0 percent) more than in 2011.

General fund revenues in July were \$367,000 (9.8 percent) more than budgeted, while expenditures were \$13,000 (0.9 percent) less than budgeted. Water fund revenues in July were \$99,000 (8.7 percent) more than budgeted, while expenditures were \$241,000 (15.5 percent) less than budgeted. Net town water revenue was \$313,000 for July.

However, the town did not receive \$135,000 from Triview Metropolitan District to pay for town water employees now that Triview once again is running its own water treatment program after the cancellation of the

intergovernmental agreements that had the town staff operating Triview's district public works functions under contract. The five town employees that became Triview employees earlier this year are no longer being paid from this \$135,000.

Green advised the board that it should expect requests in 2013 and 2014 for "very large match amounts" for Colorado Department of Transportation grants. Smith added that the staff would also be proposing large expenditures for purchases of renewable water rights.

Green and Smith also noted that the staff had received only one general pay increase in the past three years, for 1 percent. Total revenues are expected to be stable. Green will schedule a 2013 budget preparation workshop.

The board unanimously ap-

proved the financial reports.

The meeting adjourned at 7:27 p.m.

Jim Kendrick can be reached at jimkendrick@ocn.net

Monument Board of Trustees, Sept. 17

Water rate increase options proposed

By Jim Kendrick

On Sept. 17, Public Works Director Tom Tharnish presented his first draft of options for the Monument Board of Trustees to analyze and comment on increases in town water rates. The town has been selling drinking water at a substantial loss. The amount of current water fee revenue does not cover the town's cost for water treatment, distribution, administration, and maintenance, which has drained the water enterprise fund's cash reserve to near zero.

Trustee Stan Gingrich was absent from the meeting.

Water rate increase options

Tharnish noted that the "Town of Monument Water Department has had a history of insufficient funding." His research showed that the current water rate structure has been in place since 1998, "if not many years prior to 1998." He proposed three options for a tiered water use rate structure to make the Water

Department self-sufficient, with each considering the effects on low- and high-use customers. The stated goal was a water rate structure that would sustain the department up to 10 years as operational costs continue to rise due to increased regulation. Tharnish noted that he had made comparisons of water rates in nearby towns and water districts. In each option the monthly base service fee for the various sizes of water taps and the base use rate for the first 6,000 gallons of water used remains unchanged. Monthly service fees are set by a town ordinance, based on tap size, from \$8.80 for a three-fourths-inch tap to \$35.70 for a 6-inch tap. No change is being proposed in the monthly service charge.

The current water use fee structure is:

- 0 to 6,000 gallons — \$4.99
- 6,001 to 10,000 gallons — \$4.99 per 1,000 gallons
- 10,001 to 20,000 gallons — \$5.99 per 1,000 gallons
- 20,001 to 30,000 gallons — \$5.99 per 1,000 gallons
- 30,001 to 40,000 gallons — \$5.99 per 1,000 gallons
- 40,001 to 50,000 gallons — \$5.99 per 1,000 gallons
- Above 50,000 gallons — \$5.99 per 1,000 gallons

per 1000 gallons (331 accounts, 36 percent)

- 6,001 to 10,000 gallons — \$4.99 per 1,000 gallons (133 accounts, 14.5 percent)
- 10,001 to 20,000 gallons — \$5.99 per 1,000 gallons (280 accounts, 30.4 percent)
- 20,001 to 30,000 gallons — \$5.99 per 1,000 gallons (109 accounts, 11.8 percent)
- 30,001 to 40,000 gallons — \$5.99 per 1,000 gallons (260 accounts, 2.8 percent)
- 40,001 to 50,000 gallons — \$5.99 per 1,000 gallons (12 accounts, 1.3 percent)
- Above 50,000 gallons — \$5.99 per 1,000 gallons (29 accounts, 3.2 percent)

Proposal 1

- 0 to 6,000 gallons — \$4.99 per 1,000 gallons
- 6,001 to 10,000 gallons — \$5.99 per 1,000 gallons
- 10,001 to 20,000 gal-

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