

that led to two arrests, and some property was recovered. The investigation of the town burglaries has concluded. Further investigation of other burglaries by the arrested individuals continues.

Shirk thanked the Colorado Mounted Rangers (www.coloradoranger.org) for its support of Monument Police Department during the Tri-Lakes Monument Fire Protection District Labor Day unity parade and the Tri-Lakes Chamber of Commerce Street Fair.

Green reported that two bids of about \$13,000 to \$16,000 had been received for having a contractor temporarily install about 150 "warm" white LED Christ-

mas lights on each of the 43 new 12-foot pine trees being installed on Second Street—or 17 strands per tree. Leases can run from one year to five years, with annual renewal options.

Direct purchase of lights by the town would cost \$25,000 to \$35,000. Extension cords, timers, and replacements would also have to be purchased, and a second bucket truck would be needed to have staff install the lights. Installation of the lights by the staff to avoid contractor costs would take at least two weeks.

Neither option was included in the 2012 budget. Green said she wanted to

have the lights installed before the annual Small Town Christmas event, after the conclusion of Daylight Saving Time. After a lengthy discussion of various alternative options from the basic proposals received, the board asked Green to provide specific written proposals at the Oct. 1 board meeting.

Public comments

Eric Marter and Brianna McCuen of the Palmer Ridge High School Student Council said they will participate at board meetings as nonvoting members over the next two semesters—Marter in the fall and McCuen in the spring.

The meeting adjourned at 7:

30 p.m.

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Monument Board of Trustees, Oct. 1

2012 budget restatement approved

By Jim Kendrick

On Oct. 1, the Monument Board of Trustees unanimously approved a restatement of the 2012 budget that accounts for real-world financial changes that have occurred during the first nine months of this year. The board also approved an amended appropriation that corresponds to the changes in funding in the budget restatement. There was no public comment on the budget or appropriation changes during the public hearings on each document.

Treasurer Pamela Smith listed 46 changes in a two-page summary sheet that increases spending for 2012 by about \$600,000, resulting from additional revenues and expenditure savings to date.

A separate line item will be established to segregate the funds required for a TABOR reserve.

Trustee Rick Squires was absent from the meeting. Eric Marter of the Palmer Ridge High School Student Council is participating in board meetings as a nonvoting member during the fall semester.

Trustees' comments

Mayor Travis Easton confirmed that the consensus of the board continues to be not taking any positions to endorse or oppose any initiatives on the November ballot.

Public comments

Former Mayor Pro-tem Rafael Dominguez, a director of the Tri-Lakes Economic Development Corp., had a half-hour conversation with board members about what the EDC had accomplished in the past year and to solicit direction from the town on what targeted industries his group should pursue. His organization has met with the Palmer Lake Town Council and will meet with the Historic Monument Merchants Association and the Woodmoor Improvement Association.

The EDC website will be re-organized and feature a complete list of commercial properties

and undeveloped land that may be available after contacting all the property owners to determine if they have a desire to sell. Specialty and surgical clinics and small-scale manufacturing are being targeted for local development. Trustees offered comments and asked questions about specific issues such as the higher than average cost of doing business within the town's boundaries.

David Metzler of the Health Advocacy Partnership also spoke to the board about his organizations goals, objectives, and current and future services the members hope to meet unfulfilled needs for regional health and for seniors.

Temporary uses code amendment approved

The board unanimously approved an amendment to update the zoning regulations on mobile vendors, mobile food carts, and parking lot kiosk businesses. For details, see the Sept. 12 Planning Commission article on page 22.

Water rate increase options discussed again

Public Works Director Tom Tharnish responded to numerous board questions on the water rate increase options he had presented on Sept. 17. Tharnish said he

would provide an updated Master Water Supply Plan to the board. For details, see the Sept. 17 board meeting article on page 19.

Other matters

The board approved by consensus a proposal to buy each trustee an iPad to greatly reduce the amount of paper used for hard copies of board documents. The computer system installed in the board room has proven to be unusable for meetings of the board and Planning Commission, and the iPads will provide a lower cost alternative for electronic documentation needed as reference material during board meetings. The cost for the transition will be about \$4,000, which is expected to be recovered in paper and staff time savings in less than one year.

The board unanimously accepted the sales tax and financial reports that Smith had presented at the Sept. 17 board meeting. For details, see the Sept. 17 board meeting article on page 19.

The board unanimously approved the transfer of the liquor license formerly held by Spicy Basil Restaurant at 562 W. Highway 105 to Chen and Zhang Inc., the owners of the new Sakura Sushi and Asian Cuisine restaurant that is operating at this location now. A condition of approval

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