

no negative consequences.

Trustee Rafael Dominguez recommended that the staff take another look at the \$1 per year lease agreement the town has with the Tri-Lakes Monument Fire Protection District. He stated that the fire district should help pay for costly planned building maintenance and renovations such as the new roof and new meeting room carpeting in the old town hall. Smith said she had discussed sharing the carpeting expense but not the roofing expense.

Kaiser and Trustee Stan Gingrich asked for justification for the two new employees added to the staff. Smith said one employee was for additional work to be performed by the Public Works Department and the other is the administrative assistant for Smith who will also be the town's grant writer.

Mayor Easton noted that the Tri-Lakes Monument Fire District lease was originally set so low to help pre-

vent property tax increases. Since then, district voters have elected to increase the fire district mill levy. Easton asked for a long-term plan for town road maintenance and capital improvements at the Nov. 4 workshop. He asked that Harder and Smith ensure there is some money added to the 2014 budget for the town's potential obligations to the regional stormwater project.

Smith said she would provide Easton with the results of her ongoing survey of 32 municipalities regarding pay and benefits policies and programs.

Financial reports

The board unanimously approved three disbursements over \$5,000:

- \$141,373 to Triview Metro District for August sales tax (\$134,571), September motor vehicle tax (\$6,692), and September Pikes Peak Regional Building Department sales tax (\$111)
- \$172,412 to Triview Metro District for Triview's share of property tax
- \$12,990 to Forsgren Associates Inc. for the town's water master plan



Above: On Oct. 21, Officer Gregory Melikian was sworn in at the Monument Board of Trustees meeting by Monument Police Chief Jacob Shirk. His new badge was pinned on by his wife Jenarae. *Photo by Jim Kendrick.*

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- \$8,085 to Jacobs Engineering Group Inc. for the Monument Sidewalk Project

Harder also distributed copies of the August sales tax report as an information item. Net collections were 8 percent or \$93,000 more than the amount budgeted.

Staff reports

Public Works Director Tom Tharnish reported that a large tree in Limbach Park sustained damage from high wind. He outlined steps the town has taken to mitigate potential danger to the public and further injury to the tree. Tharnish also described the town's response to a water main break Oct. 14.

Chief Shirk advised the board that the Monument Police Department received an award from the Palmer Ridge High School student body for the department's response to the Black Forest Fire. Chief Shirk stated that the department has been doing tactical training in conjunction with the Fountain Police Department and that has been a success. Chief Shirk, Lt. Steve Burk, and Officer Robert Steine are obtaining certifications to teach school safety classes.

Smith reported that the town's first Business Breakfast at Town Hall on Oct. 9 was a great success, including the initial presentation on the town's new community development programs.

Board of Trustees comments

Trustee John Howe congratulated The Love Shop for being in business in Monument for nine years and La Casa Fiesta Restaurant having completed 17 years of operation.

Trustee Kaiser noted that he and Mayor Easton attended the latest Regional Stormwater Taskforce meeting. He discussed some of the similarities and differences in the county's and Colorado Springs Mayor Bach's proposals, such as how to finance stormwater capital projects. The county proposed a new stormwater tax, while Bach proposed using city staff and current funding for up to three years.

Mayor Easton encouraged the staff to contact Planning Commissioner John Dick to firm up Dick's reappointment to the Citizens Advisory Committee.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

The next meeting will be held at 6:30 p.m. on Nov. 4 in Town Hall, 645 Beacon Lite Road. Meetings are normally held on the first and third Monday of the month. Information: 884-8017 or www.townofmonument.org/meetings/.
Jim Kendrick can be reached at jimkendrick@ocn.me.

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