

on a statewide resolution by the Fire and Police Pension Association of Colorado (FPPA) to increase the amount withheld from employees' checks by 0.5 percent each year for eight years, increasing their potential contribution from 8 percent to 12 percent by 2022, while employer funding would remain at 8 percent. The next step is for 50 percent of all FPPA employers statewide (represented by boards) to approve the resolution before it could be enacted.

Lance asked how local TLMFPD employees voted when polled about the possible change. As a local group, the FPPA report stated that the vote was 45 percent in favor and 55 percent opposed to taking an additional 4 percent out of their current paychecks to add to the pension funds for the future. (The official statewide employee vote found 68 percent in favor).

Engineer Jody Thorpe told the board, "We didn't want to sign on to additional money coming out of our check until we knew where we were on benefits."

In response to Treasurer Hildebrandt's question about the health of the FPPA pension fund, Secretary Mike Smaldino told the board that he thought the pension was somewhere between 98 and 102 percent funded, and that future cost of living increases were being considered.

Lance said that since the TLMFPD board represents "these people here, we should support how our local people voted." The board voted unanimously to reject the statewide resolution on behalf of TLMFPD.

Capt. Mace retires

Capt. Tom Mace retired after 19 years of service to TLMFPD. He joined what was then called the Tri-Lakes Fire Protection District as a volunteer in June 1995, and by 1998 he was hired in one of the first paid positions. Lance presented Mace with several plaques commemorating his outstanding service and commitment to the community of the Tri-Lakes region. "Time flies when you're having fun," Mace said to the applauding audience. "It's been an honor for me to work for Tri-Lakes ... and a privilege to work with all of you, and I'm going to miss you."

At 7:59, the board went into executive session for the purpose of discussing personnel matters pursuant to Colorado Revised Statutes Section 24-6-402(4)(f). They did not expect to make any announcements after the executive session.

The next meeting will be held at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Aug. 27, in the Administration Center at 166 Second St. in Monument. For additional information, contact the district Fire Administration Office at 719-484-0911.



Above: Capt. Tom Mace, right, retired from Tri-Lakes Monument Fire Protection District (TLMFPD) after 19 years of service. On July 23, TLMFPD Vice President Roger Lance presented Mace with several plaques commemorating his outstanding service and commitment to the community of the Tri-Lakes region. Photo by Lisa Hatfield.

Lisa Hatfield would like to personally thank the TLMFPD crews that helped her family so professionally on the morning after this TLMFPD meeting. She can be reached at lisahatfield@ocn.me.

Palmer Lake Volunteer Fire Department Future Committee, July 19

Panel favors ballot issue on fire protection

By Lisa Hatfield, Alex Curnell, and Ben Curnell
The Palmer Lake Volunteer Fire Department (PLVFD) Future Committee decided July 19 to seek a community vote on increasing funding for fire protection on the November ballot. The panel discussed PLVFD's options and made the decision at a community meeting.

Fire Trustee Rich Kuehster said two issues have instigated these discussions: "a really bad budget" precluding the possibility of building improvements while paying ongoing operations costs, and the request from the Tri-Lakes Monument Fire Protection District (TLMFPD) for the town to begin contributing money for ambulance service overhead costs.

Kuehster, PLVFD Capt. Abby Vierling, TLMFPD Chief Chris Truty, and Jane Garbrandt and

Cindy Powell, members of the Future Committee, were the main speakers. Fire Chief Margo Humes was unable to attend the community meeting. About 20 residents and town officials added their input throughout the emotional 2 1/2-hour meeting.

The consensus, determined by a majority straw poll, was that the committee recommend that the Palmer Lake Town Council should have the town clerk notify the El Paso County clerk by the July 25 deadline that Palmer Lake will place a question on the November ballot. The precise wording of the question posed to Palmer Lake voters basically will ask if the town should, or should not, increase funding and keep the PLVFD independent.

Three issues, three options

Three issues that have precipitated the need to make decisions about PLVFD's future were discussed:

1. TLMFPD says the Town of Palmer Lake needs to start reimbursing it for providing ambulance service

Reese's MONUMENT MOTORS.COM
465 Hwy 105 Monument, CO 80132
719-481-9900

We specialize in SUBARUS!

- Competitive Pricing
- Full Coverage Warranties
- Family Owned & Operated

View our inventory at www.MonumentMotors.com

Skunks-Coons-Squirrels-Snakes-Woodpeckers

ANIMAL MOVERS

Matt Penfound (OWNER) (303) 660-4816
Professional Trapper (719) 570-1757

Monument native and Lewis-Palmer graduate.

Chad Carubia D.D.S.

Now working out of Dr. David Jones' dental office on Fridays. To schedule an appointment, please call

(719) 488-2375

18925 Base Camp Rd, Monument, CO 80132

KW KELLERWILLIAMS REALTY
www.LivingInColoradoRealEstate.com

Terriann Snediker Realtor
kw.TA.Snediker@gmail.com

719-640-9791 Call
719-535-0355 Office

Academy Overhead Door Repair
locally owned

**Broken Springs Repaired
New Door
New Openers
Doors off track**

Tri-Lakes Chamber of Commerce Member

See our showroom at
628 Hwy 105
in the Illumination Point Building
www.academyoverheaddoor.com
719-209-1107

\$35 Off Service

HOLY TRINITY ANGLICAN CHURCH
exists to worship God and go ever deeper with Him, fervently love one another, and take Living Water to the world.

SUNDAY WORSHIP
8:30 AM: FIRST WORSHIP SERVICE
10:00 AM: TEACHING & COMMUNITY TIME (all ages, preschool - adult)
10:45 AM: FAMILY SERVICE WITH CHILDREN'S CHURCH
**nursery is available all morning*

13990 Gleneagle Drive 80921
719-505-8021
Holy Trinity Anglican Church
www.HolyTrinityAnglicanChurch.org