

Trustees' comments

- Kaiser asked Lowe about the status of legal advice on the town's six-month moratorium on clinics initiated Aug. 24. "The clock is ticking," he said. See www.ocn.me/v15n9.htm#mbot0824.
- Trustee John Howe congratulated the town and Community Liaison Madeline VanDenHoek on the Dec. 5 tree lighting program in Limbach Park, which about 400 people attended. It included caroling and a visit from Santa Claus.
- Kaiser thanked the Public Works Department for the lights on the trees in downtown Monument.

Public comments

- Allison Catalano of Grow Smart Monument asked if the trustees were aware of an auto dealership intended to be built at crest of Monument Hill, which is in El Paso County, not the town of Monument. She encouraged the town and county to work together. Note: To see upcoming Board of County Commissioner agendas, see <http://bcc.elpasoco.com/Pages/TuesdayCurrentAgenda.aspx>. Also check for "Thursday" agendas.
- Catalano also asked for citizens to attend the Dec. 14 Land Use Committee at YMCA. See related article on page 6.
- Lisa Hatfield asked for Tri-Lakes citizens to be volunteer "stranded motorists" to help the county exercise called Operation Deep Freeze on Jan. 9. This blizzard scenario will include nine participating first

responder agencies and hundreds of volunteers.

- Resident Michele Mills thanked Public Works Director Tom Tharnish for listening to her "ranting and raving" about why the town wants to increase water rates. She hoped that more public input on why such a drastic increase could be heard.

Town Manager Lowe said the water rates issue would be discussed again at the Jan. 4 Board of Trustees meeting but would not yet be an action item then. Note: The topic was discussed at length at the Oct. 5 meeting—see www.ocn.me/v15n11.htm#mbot1005.

- Mills asked if it was the developers or the taxpayers who were in charge of fixing Jackson Creek Parkway where it is narrow and bumpy north of Baptist Road.

Lowe explained that maintenance of that section of Jackson Creek Parkway south of Higby Road is not under town maintenance but is under the purview of Triview Metropolitan District, which provides roads, water, and sanitation to Jackson Creek, Promontory Pointe, and soon Sanctuary Pointe.

He said developers do pay impact fees to either Triview or the town, depending on the jurisdiction, which help pay for road widening if that is indicated by traffic studies.

The meeting adjourned at 8:12 p.m.

The Monument Board of Trustees usually meets at 6:30 p.m. on the first and third Mondays of each month at Monument Town Hall, 645 Beacon Lite Road. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, Jan. 19. Call 884-8017 or see

www.townofmonument.org for information.

To see upcoming agendas and complete board packets for the Monument Board of Trustees, see <http://monumenttownco.minutesondemand.com> and click on Board of Trustees.

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Monument Board of Trustees, Jan. 4

Water rate increases discussed



Left: Town Manager Chris Lowe, left, and water engineer Will Koger of Forsgren Associates presented a new water rates increase plan for consideration at the Jan. 4 Monument Board of Trustees meeting. The trustees plan to vote on the proposal at the Tuesday, Jan. 19 meeting. It could include an 8 percent increase each year for the next six years, and it is designed to make the water enterprise fund solvent again and build reserves for necessary capital improvements. See the upcoming Feb. 6, 2016 issue of OCN for the details on both meetings. *Photo by Lisa Hatfield.*

Triview Metropolitan District, Dec. 8

Snowplowing discussed; 2016 budget and water rates increase approved

By Lisa Hatfield

At the Dec. 8 meeting of Triview Metropolitan District, the directors worked on a Winter Roads Standards description to help residents understand what to expect from road maintenance crews during blizzards. They also approved the 2016 budget, voted on a water rates increase, and heard about a crime spike in Monument.

President Robert Fisher and Vice President Reid Bolander were excused.

Triview is a Title 32 special district within the town of Monument that provides roads maintenance, open space maintenance, water, and sanitation services to the residents of Jackson Creek, Promontory Pointe, and Sanctuary Pointe.

Snowplowing information for residents

During a recent blizzard, a Promontory Pointe resident actually jumped in front of a moving snowplow to complain, and it was lucky he was not killed, District Manager Valerie Remington told the board.

Because so many district residents have unrealistic expectations of what it is like to live on the Palmer Divide, with its unique weather conditions at 7,100 feet elevation, the board began discussing the first draft of the Winter Roads Standards, which will be designed to help residents understand what service levels are reasonable or possible during various levels of severity of winter events. The goal is to reduce the number of angry phone calls to the district by educating the public ahead of time.

The final version of these Triview standards will explain how "snow plowing" is not the same as "snow removal," for example. And it will describe road categories including primary streets (arterial and connector streets), and secondary streets (residential).

The standards will answer frequently asked questions such as who is responsible for clearing sidewalks (Answer: residents, according to a Town of Monument ordinance), what to do when a snowplow pushes snow into your driveway or sidewalk, and what to do in a medical emergency where you have to get out even though the snow might be blowing horizontally.

The board will continue to work on the document in January.

2016 budget approved

The directors held a public hearing for 2016 proposed

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