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friendly tables and charts.

- Public workshops and open houses will be held to discuss this process. The first one is expected to be in January 2020.

Citizens are encouraged to check online for updates. Further information for this project is available from the town's website www.townofmonument.org/478/Land-Development-Code-Project.

Meeting information, including an in-depth packet, can be found at monumenttownco.documents-on-demand.com/. All commission meetings

are recorded. Recordings are available on the town's YouTube channel at www.youtube.com/channel/UCdFL08UcqZfFdkio5jT6GDA.

Commission meetings are generally held at 6:30 p.m. on the second Wednesday of the month at 645 Beacon Lite Rd. For more information: call 884-8017 or go to www.townofmonument.org/meetings/.

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Palmer Lake Town Council, November 14

Council hears update on bridge

Above: The pedestrian bridge for Palmer Lake arrived on November 20 in two pieces. Workers and cranes positioned the parts to be ready for installation. The supports are being installed while the town waits for the railroad's permission to finish the project. The group hoped to have the bridge up by Thanksgiving or Christmas. Awake Palmer Lake raised over \$35,000 for the bridge with the .5k event. The group is responsible for achieving the Go Colorado (GoCo) 50% matching grant and they still have much fundraising to do. The town is responsible for administering the funds. GOCO is funded by lotto ticket sales, 50% of sales support GOCO projects. To support the project, contact them at <http://awakepalmerlake.org> or call (719) 924-5332. *Photo by Janet Sellers*

By James Howald and Jackie Burhans

The Palmer Lake Town council met once in November. The December work session was cancelled in light of the Thanksgiving holiday.

On Nov. 14, the council heard an update from Awake the Lake on the status of the pedestrian bridge, voted on a potential land donation that could affect the town's water rights, held a public hearing on the town's 2020 budget, and, acting as the Palmer Lake Liquor Licensing Authority, granted a liquor license to a new local restaurant.

Bridge project advances

Speaking on behalf of the Awake the Lake (ATL) committee, Derek Austin gave the council an update covering tax issues ATL had recently addressed, progress made to complete the pedestrian bridge installation, and a fundraising effort to raise money to complete the installation.

Austin said an issue with the committee's Employer Identification Number (EIN) had been resolved. The committee's taxes for 2018 have been submitted under a new EIN, he said, and the commit-

tee would also use that new EIN for its 2019 tax filing. The committee's status as a non-profit was also confirmed, he said.

Austin told the council that delivery of the bridge was expected on Nov. 16 and work was being done to prepare for the bridge's installation. He said the railroad had not yet granted a right of way for the bridge, but that was expected to be resolved soon. Town Manager Valerie Remington said the town's engineer gave the delivery date of the bridge as Nov. 20.

Austin outlined a fundraising effort that would let donors buy an image of a train car—an engine, tanker, or caboose—inscribed with their business or family name, which would then be attached to the inside of the enclosed bridge walkway. The train cars would be made by Monument artist Jody Bliss, Austin said, and would range from \$2,000 to \$2,500 to purchase. The money raised through these purchases would be used to finance the bridge, he said.

Proposed land donation voted down

At a town council meeting in September, resident Dean Couture proposed exchanging four lots he would purchase for a piece of land owned by the town adjacent to his property. The land Couture would provide to the town would become part of Glen Park. This exchange was also discussed at the town council meeting in October.

The town council's examination of the proposed exchange brought to light some issues related to the town's water rights, as the land Couture would take ownership of included water rights for an alluvial well. The well has not yet been drilled.

At the November meeting, Steve Jeffers, the town's water attorney, told the council that to move the well location more than 200 feet, which might be required by the proposed land exchange, would mean the town would have to open its water decree and go to water court, both costly undertakings. Jeffers recommended not moving the well location. Steve Orcutt, the town's water engineer, expressed concern that the land exchange might lead to an abandonment of a portion of the town's water rights.

Couture said he was willing to give the town an easement so that, if the town chose to drill the well in to future, the needed access would be in place.

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