

stantial compliance and set the hearing for May 7 to determine if the area is eligible for annexation and could be considered for annexation in the future. Annexation of land must satisfy the requirements and limitations of both CRS § 31-12-104 and CRS § 31-12-105.

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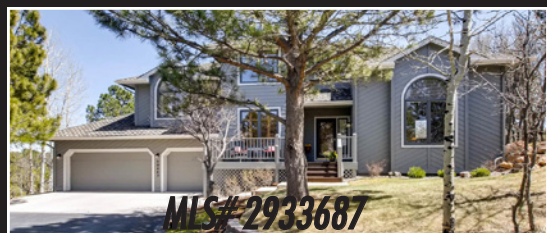
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Several trustees began asking Jones detailed questions that pertained to the future zoning and sketch plans, but these were continued until the actual annexation hearing occurs sometime in late summer. Bornstein opposed the idea of annexation, but the resolution setting forth findings of facts and conclusions concerning the proposed annexation passed 5-1.

### Increase in crime complexity described, water restrictions begun

Police Chief Jake Shirk described an increase in "felony-based crime and mental health types of calls" in Monument in the last several years. He said it is still a safe place to live and work, but the police force is short-staffed, will be losing several more officers soon, and is now doing forced overtime to cover immediate patrol needs. This puts criminal investigations, traffic complaints, commercial vehicle inspections, and community resource officer programs on the back burner, he said.

"We are in a critical situation. It may take longer to investigate criminal cases, but we have to staff patrol," Shirk said.

Public Works Director Tom Tharnish talked about a pre-arranged agreement with Tri-Lakes Monument Fire Protection District to be able to use local bodies of water for wildland firefighting and said that town water customers west of I-25 were now on outdoor watering restrictions. See <http://www.townofmonument.org/157/Water-Restrictions>.



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Planning Director Larry Manning and Smith also reported to the trustees on progress in their departments. Their reports can be read in the board packet available to the public online.

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### Property decision made but not revealed

The May 7 meeting went into executive session to discuss the purchase, acquisition, lease, transfer, or sale of any real, personal, or other property. Corley told OCN that when the meeting returned to open session, the decision was approved unanimously. However, during the final minutes of the meeting, it was not disclosed to which property this pertained.

Allison Robenstein can be reached at [allisonrobenstein@ocn.me](mailto:allisonrobenstein@ocn.me).

### Monument Board of Trustees cancelled special meetings, May 14 and May 16

## Special meetings yield criticism but no results

By Allison Robenstein

Two attempts to hold a Monument Board of Trustees special meeting related to the town staff appointments failed due to a lack of quorum. Trustees Jeff Bornstein, Greg Coopman, and Laurie Clark were absent for both.

A special meeting was posted for May 14, and the agenda for that meeting was to have included several items: an executive session to receive legal advice from Marni Kloster of CIRSA, one resolution to appoint the town clerk, attorney, and treasurer in one motion, and three separate appointment resolutions dealing with those same three staff members. But this meeting was canceled since it was known beforehand that a quorum of four trustees would not be reached.

A special meeting was held briefly on May 16 at the District 38 Administrative building. The agenda included five separate executive sessions. The first was for the purpose of "receiving legal advice on specific legal questions related to Town Ordinances and state statute and potential claims related to investigation." The agenda included four additional executive session requests relating to personnel matters for the town manager, clerk, attorney, and treasurer, requir-

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