

Avenue plus two parcels of land that total about .25 acre to BSLC Monument LLC, the owner of Bethesda Senior Living Center.

The center will use the land to expand parking. At one time, Lincoln was supposed to extend east, but that never occurred.

Layne-Christensen to re-drill well 3

Public Works Director Tom Tharnish said well 3 became faulty last summer. During an investigation, large cracks were found that indicate the end of the well's life. A new re-drilled well will be installed near the current well. The existing pump and motor that were replaced last summer will be reused. Layne-Christensen has been selected to drill the well for \$407,575. It should be operational in early summer.

The project requires drilling a borehole for the surface casting, then drilling the borehole for the well and geologically logging the layers. This project is part of the \$22 million bond approved by the board.

Discussion to discontinue emergency declaration

On March 23, 2020, the board declared a local disaster emergency when the COVID-19 pandemic began. Tonight, the board discussed removing this or-

dinance. According to Town Attorney Andrew Richie and Romero, the town isn't ready to remove it because it still offers benefits. Parts to the ordinance that are still required include:

- Establishes a policy for remote attendance at both the Board of Trustees and the Planning Commission meetings that didn't previously exist.
- Permits electronic signatures rather than in-person signatures that are required by the town code.
- Requests reimbursements for emergency expenses from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and distribute Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) act funds.
- Allows for participation in regional emergency management groups.

Trustee Mitch LaKind asked, "Who is holding us hostage ... in order for us to attend an emergency management meeting ... that we have to have a declaration of our own emergency?"

Romero said the emergency management teams have been a great resource when it comes to applying for grants and requesting reimbursements. The town is expecting \$36,000 in emer-

gency repayments. Richie said that to get the next round of money from the federal government, he suspects there will be a need for the declaration.

LaKind continued, saying remote attendance, working from home, is a thing that happened before COVID as were electronic signatures. However, Richie said, "Remote attendance for trustees is possible should the board pass and set up rules for remote attendance not premised on an emergency." Mayor Pro Tem Kelly Elliott said she has attended remotely during the pandemic while on business trips that wouldn't have allowed her to be present if she had to be at the meeting in person.

Mayor Don Wilson said, "I think board members should be required to make town meetings, and if citizens want to speak at town meetings, they should come to town meetings." Foreman reminded the board to consider the costs of the Webex system used for remote access when deciding any new remote attendance rules. No decisions were made.

Public comments

Resident Cheri Hysell told the board the accusations that were made about former Treasurer Pamela Smith, implying there was embezzlement and fraud, were found to be unsubstantiated. Hysell said those accusing her,

"mainly Laurie Clark who happens to be still a town trustee as well as Anne Howe ... and Coopman and Bornstein ... who stood behind that without any evidence." Hysell said no one has apologized to those who lost their jobs.

The meeting adjourned at 8:01 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 regular meeting is scheduled for April 5. Call 719-884-8014 or see www.townofmonument.org for information. To see upcoming agendas and complete board packets for BOT or to download audio recordings of past meetings, see <http://monumenttown-co.minutesondemand.com> and click on Board of Trustees.

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Palmer Lake Board of Trustees, March 11 and 25

Parking strategy takes shape; water debate continues

By James Howald and Jackie Burhans
The Palmer Lake Board of Trustees (PLBOT) met three times in March. On March 11, the first of two regular meetings was held. On March 25, the board held both a workshop meeting and the second regular meeting.

The workshop addressed two parking issues that the previous board had debated several times: parking on city streets and parking at the reservoir trailhead. At the regular board meeting following the workshop, Mayor Bill Bass set a direction on street parking and the board voted to acquire a parking kiosk machine to manage parking at the reservoir trailhead. Water issues were addressed with the board awarding a contract to redrill one of the town's wells, discussing how to manage the water level in Palmer Lake, and amending the ordinance that governs stormwater requirements.

The board heard two presentations from guest speakers: the first on the status of the I-25 South Gap Project and the second on the role of the Tri-Lakes Chamber of Commerce. Five resolutions were passed, and two public hearings were scheduled. The board heard a proposal to create a wildlife conservation zone as an Eagle Scout project. Finally, the board heard operational reports from staff.

Parking to be allowed on some streets

At the March 25 workshop, Public Works Supervisor Jason Dosch provided the staff's recommendations for where to allow and where to forbid street parking, based on an effort Dosch, Chief of Police Jason Vanderpool, and Fire Chief Kevin McCarthy made to inspect all streets. Dosch said it was easiest to list the streets where parking would be allowed since there were fewer than streets where parking would not be allowed.

Dosch used South Valley Road as a dividing line and listed these streets where parking would be allowed in the north half of the town:

- South Valley Road
- Lower and Middle Glenway Streets

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