

Monument Board of Trustees, April 19

# Board repeals emergency pandemic declaration

By Allison Robenstein

On April 19, the Monument Board of Trustees (BOT) voted to repeal the emergency pandemic declaration it had approved in March 2020. A water-related contract was approved, and two special workshops were set for May 3 and 17.

Trustee Jim Romanello was noted absent.

### COVID-19 pandemic resolution repealed

In March 2020, just as the COVID-19 pandemic was beginning, the BOT declared a local disaster for the town. This allowed for the recovery of any financial aid and assistance and provided the town manager with special authorities, including the ability to “appropriate and expend funds, execute contracts, authorize acquisition of goods and services without the strict compliance with the town’s procurement regulations.”

The board discussed repealing this resolution during its March 15 meeting. Town Attorney Andrew Richey said the review demonstrated the town has used relatively few of the powers entrusted within the resolution. See Vol. 21 No. 4 - April 3, 2021 (ocn.me).

The repeal does not dissuade local businesses from taking pan-

demetic precautions as they see fit. The possibility of trustees attending meetings remotely may still be an option if the board passes the necessary resolutions. Trustee Ron Stephens asked about grant availability should the repeal be approved. Town Manager Mike Foreman said grants are not affected by this change.

With few questions from the board members, the request passed 6-0.

### Water treatment plant 3/9 to get addition

Public Works Director Tom Tharnish asked the board to approve a contract with Lefever Building Systems to supply construction materials for a pre-engineered metal building addition to the 3/9 water treatment plant. This portion of the building will be used as a laboratory.

This project is part of the \$22 million bond. The intent is to allow the contractor to procure the materials. Five companies were interested during the request for proposal process, three considered bidding, but only Lefever ended up bidding on the project.

Mayor Don Wilson asked if this building expansion would encompass office space too, but Tharnish

said offices will now be in the Code One building at 259 Beacon Lite Road purchased in February. See Vol. 21 No. 3 - March 6, 2021 (ocn.me).

The request was approved unanimously.

### Public comments

A resident suggested to the board that Monument become a sanctuary city from more government overreach. Although he didn’t specify from what the town should seek refuge status, he listed the Second Amendment, mask mandates, and the Equality Act.

### Other important notes

There will be two public workshops held in May. On May 3, the board and the Planning Commission will hold a joint workshop at 5:30 p.m. before the regular BOT meeting. On May 17, the BOT will discuss fee schedule revisions, TABOR issues, and home rule initiation. That meeting is also scheduled for 5:30 p.m. before the regular board meeting.

Foreman said the town will have several surveys available in the next few months, including one for police funding and another regarding home rule. Look for those on the town’s website, <http://www.townofmonument.org>.

The meeting adjourned at 7:02 p.m.

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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 May 3. Call 719-884-8014 or see [www.townofmonument.org](http://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://monumenttownco.minutesondemand.com> and click on Board of Trustees.

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

### Palmer Lake Board of Trustees, April 8 and 22

# Board continues to seek fair plan for street parking

By James Howald and Jackie Burhans

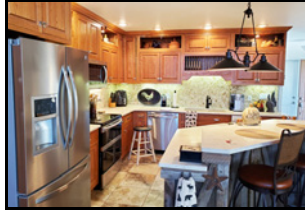
The Palmer Lake Board of Trustees (PLBOT) met three times in April. On April 8, the first of two regular meetings was held. On April 22, the board held both a workshop meeting and the second regular meeting.

In April, the board returned to its efforts to design a comprehensive and fair policy governing parking on town streets, this time

taking into consideration the feedback from residents in response to the plan presented by town staff at its meeting in March. Water issues were also on the agenda, with the board hearing a report on the status of the town’s residential wells and debating how to address the low water level in Palmer Lake. The board debated updating the town’s noise

PLBOT (Cont. on 16)

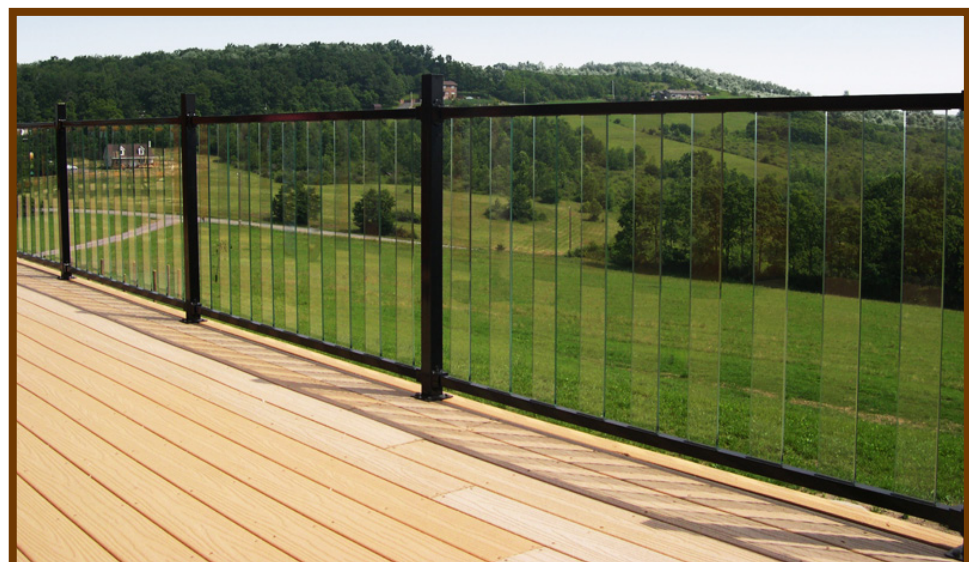
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