Monument Board of Trustees, March 17

Five continuing engineering services contracts approved

By Lisa Hatfield and Jim Kendrick

At the March 17 meeting, the Monument Board of Trustees

approved continuing services agreements with five engineering contractors, revised the town fee schedule, and applauded a

presentation of thanks to Savannah Bornstein for her generosity to the town and Cops for Kids.

Continuing services agreements approved

The trustees approved resolutions renewing agreements with four engineering consultants who do work as needed by the town. A new continuing services agreement for a fifth consultant was approved since the previous agreement had inadvertently been allowed to expire, according to Director of Development Services Tom Kassawara.

The renewal agreement

with J3 Engineering Consultants Inc. was approved 7-0 and expires April 1, 2016. J3 may provide consulting engineering services presently planned to consist of preparation of design drawings and construction documents, project management for public works projects, water distribution system inventory and updating of system mapping, assistance in the review of subdivision plans, traffic engineering studies, assistance with on-site inspections of site-related development, development of a GIS mapping system, and other related services.

The renewal agreement with NV5 Inc. (formerly Nolte Associates Inc.), which expires April 1, 2015, was approved 6-0-1. Mayor Travis Easton abstained due to being an employee of NV5. The company is working with the town on developing a GIS system and on a small project for the Public Works Department, and also has an on-call agreement to provide plat review services for development applications.

The renewal agreement with Jacobs Engineering Group Inc. was approved 7-0 and expires April 1, 2015. Jacobs is currently acting as the design engineer for the Downtown Sidewalks project and performing traffic engineering consulting services. Jacobs has the resources and capabilities to assist the town in a variety of engineering functions, including water and wastewater, roadways, and drainage.

The renewal agreement with Forsgren Associates Inc. was approved 7-0 and expires April 1, 2015. During the past two years, Forsgren has completed a number of projects for the Public Works Department and is engaged in several other critical projects.

A new agreement with URS Inc. was approved 6-0-1 and expires April 1, 2015. Trustee Stan Gingrich abstained due to being an employee of URS. The town had not entered into any standard project agreements or task orders for engineering work during the initial contract period.

Fee schedule revised

The board approved a revision to the fee schedule by a vote of 6-1, with Gingrich opposed. Trustee Jeff Kaiser asked about the process of water shut-offs due to non-payment and Gingrich asked why the late fee was being raised from \$10 to \$12.50. Some of the comments made by Tom Tharnish, director of Public Works, were:

- There has been an increase in the number of late water bill payments.
- The increased fee is to cover the cost of postage for late notices.
- The town wants to encourage residents not to wait until the last minute to pay their bills.
- Usually 40 to 50 customers a month receive shutoff notices, and one or two of these actually has their water shut
- He will not be able to say whether the increased number of late payments was due to the rate increase for water until a year and half has passed since the rate increase.
- Customers will be notified of the fee changes in a letter enclosed in the next water bill, and the fee changes will also be listed on the town website.

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Health Advocacy Partnership (HAP) is partnering with UCCS/Beth-El College of Nursing and Health Sciences to bring the Tri-Lakes area the 2014 Community Health Fair.

This fair will offer a variety of free and low cost health and medical services, screenings and consultations.

For detailed information and for a current list of health and medical offerings at this year's health fair, please visit our web site at...

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