Tharnish said he would give more details at the Oct. 17 meeting. However, he explained briefly that the town has been working with Forsezen Associates on plans for dilution using water from Well 8, and an “HMO” chemical treatment to remove the radium from the groundwater in Well 9. He said the town is applying for a grant from the Colorado Rural Water Association to help pay for the HMO treatment process. See related Oct. 17 Monument Board of Trustees article on page 6.

Town Manager Chris Lowe said that in addition to the one sampling site required by local, state, and federal law, the town has also been sampling further down the distribution system. “We are absolutely certain that the radium levels were always under 5 picocuries” by the time it was delivered to customers, he said. “Everyone was safe during that monitoring period.”

Mayor Pro Tem Don Wilson asked if the radium present in some of the groundwater would cause a problem if the town were doing water reuse. Tharnish said with reuse, the town would be mixing groundwater originally produced from wells and diluting it with the surface water in Monument Creek, and it would also undergo “environmental scrubbing” in the creek.

Trustee Kelly Elliott asked Tharnish several questions about the difference between Triview Metropolitan District and the town’s water system management and the level of standards required to make sure Triview had the right infrastructure in place. Tharnish said there were differences between the two organizations and that the request for help never came (during the Triview water leak in June and July).

Elliott accused Triview of incompetence and carrying too much debt and worried about the possibility that the town was considering an emergency water connection with them. See related comments by Triview President Reid Bolander at the Oct. 17, 2023 Monument Board of Trustees meeting in the BOT article on page 6.

Town Treasurer Pamela Smith said that the town could make capital recommendations to Triview, and that someday, when Triview’s large debt is paid off, it would be able to absorb the town. See related comments by Triview President Reid Bolander at the Oct. 17, 2023 Monument Board of Trustees meeting in the BOT article on page 6.

Triview has provided a will-serve letter for water and sewer service to this project. A separate tract on the property for drainage, open space, a trail, and utilities will be maintained by Triview.

Both the final PD site plan and the final plat were approved unanimously.

Note: Jackson Creek Senior Living Center will be the second senior living facility coming to Monument. The first, Bethesda Gardens Monument, is under construction on Beacon Lite Road south of Second Street. See www.ocn.me/v16n10.htm#mpc.

The board went into executive session at 9:05 p.m. to discuss the purchase, acquisition, lease, transfer, or sale of any real, personal, or other property interest, with respect to the water system.

Town Clerk Cynthia Sirochman told OCN that no votes or announcements were made during the executive session, and the meeting adjourned at 9:52 p.m.

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