By James Howald

The Palmer Lake Town Council met only once in August, on Aug. 24. At that meeting, the trustees took a final vote on the ordinance governing the cultivation and sale of marijuana, heard a report on the 2016 audit, continued work on an ordinance restricting certain types of fires, and began discussing a moratorium on new building permits.

Council approves marijuana ordinance

Before the vote on the proposed marijuana ordinance, Town Administrator Kathy Green-Sinnard summarized the previous discussion of the ordinance. The town initially had several ordinances relating to marijuana businesses within the town’s boundaries, she said, and the first goal was to consolidate them into a single ordinance and resolve any contradictions. Smaller new issues were addressed, such as a ban on clubs where marijuana could be consumed. Throughout the drafting of the new ordinance, the town sought to hold two existing marijuana businesses harmless, but also to prevent any new marijuana businesses from opening, Green-Sinnard said.

Because the language of the ordinance defined a business as having a single address, an issue arose with the plans one of the existing businesses had to a business as having a single address, an issue arose with the plans one of the existing businesses had to expand operations to a second building, with its own address, on the same property. According to Green-Sinnard, the latest draft of the ordinance addressed this issue.

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