They did request a public budget workshop with Smith and Lowe soon so they could ask detailed questions about it. The final budget will be presented at the Dec. 7 Board of Trustees meeting. The public is welcome to inspect the preliminary budget before then by visiting the Town Hall or by contacting Pamela Smith, interim town treasurer, at (719) 884-8045 or pamsmith@tomgov.org.

Checks over $5,000
The trustees unanimously approved the following disbursements over $5,000 as part of the consent agenda:
- Forsgren Associates Inc., Distribution line R&M − $6,504
- Forsgren Associates Inc., Water Rates Study − $7,913
- Martin Marietta Materials, 1.5-inch overlay on Beach Lane Road by Town Hall and Jackson Creek Parkway between Highby Road and YMCA − $43,644
- CIRSA Insurance, fourth-quarter workers comp − $14,238
- CIRSA Insurance, fourth-quarter liability insurance − $23,920
- Tri-Lakes Chamber of Commerce, fourth-quarter installment of Chamber support − $5,900

Williams saves the day
Mayor Rafael Domínguez read a thank-you letter from a stranded motorist who had been assisted by Town Gardener Sharon Williams. She used water from the tank on her town gardening ATV to prevent the overheated brakes on the man’s truck from catching fire, and then she directed him to follow her as she drove to the nearest repair shop. “She didn’t judge me even though I was wearing tattoos and camo. She was a magnificent heaven-sent angel,” the motorist wrote. Domínguez asked the trustees to approve an increase in Williams’ water allowance, and the audience applauded the suggestion.

Executive session
Before the executive session, Interim Town Treasurer Pamela Smith asked if she would be permitted to attend the executive session. Town Attorney Gary Shupp said it was up to the board. Trustee Jeff Smith said he thought it would be inappropriate, and there was no other discussion. At 8:45 p.m., the board went into executive session for negotiations, instructing negotiators, and determining positions relative to matters that may be subject to negotiations.

After the meeting, Town Clerk Cynthia Sirochman informed OCN that the board decided to delay a decision on the town treasurer contract with Pamela Smith until the next regular board meeting on Oct. 19.

The meeting adjourned at 9:52 p.m.

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Lisa Hatfield can be reached at lisa@hatfield@ocn.me.