Catalano and Trustee Jeff Bornstein asked about the possibility of enacting a moratorium on development until the Monument comprehensive plan is updated. Town Attorney Gary Shupp said it might be possible, but only for a very limited time under specific circumstances so the town did not get into a reverse con-demnation situation. Bornstein said then it would be important not to have land use issues coming in “at the last minute and under lots of pressure.”

Monument Cemetery help needed
Trustee John Howe explained how he and several other volunteers have been working with historic documents in an attempt to find the names of “Unknown” people buried in the cemetery. In the early 1900s, some people who died in one of two major train wrecks or the influenza epidemic were buried without headstones. He said there are 189 “Unknowns” now, many discovered with ground-penetrating radar “done years ago,” and the temporary plaster grave markers made recently are crumbling and becoming covered with dirt and grass.

Howe and his co-volunteers have found a way to have new “Unknown” granite markers with copper plates for $17 each, but for 189 of them, “that’s a lot of money.” Any person or group who would like to help with this project can contact him at Howewt@tomgov.org or call at (719) 884-8017.

Financial report
Interim Treasurer Pamela Smith’s report noted that sales tax revenues earned through August were 5 percent over budget, and were also slightly ahead of sales tax collected by same time in 2014.

Checks over $5,000
- Triview Metro District, sales tax − $167,276
- Triview Metro District, annual property tax assessment − $183,440

All were accepted unanimously as part of the consent agenda.

At 7:17 p.m., the meeting went into executive session for developing strategy for negotiations, instructing negotiators, and determining positions relative to matters that may be subject to negotiations. Town Clerk Cynthia Sirochman told OCN that Pamela Smith’s new town manager contract was approved during the executive session and she would be sworn in again as town treasurer at the Nov. 2 meeting.

After the meeting, Rachel Beck, Policy and Communication manager, Pikes Peak Area Council of Governments, shared a Colorado Department of Transportation memo with OCN. On Oct. 1, Ajin Hu, acting regional transportation director, requested that the Colorado Transportation Commission use $11.43 million of Transportation contingency funds to reimburse the Baptist Road Rural Transportation Authority for the remaining construction cost on the I-25/Baptist Road interchange.

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. For more information, join the Grow Smart Monument group on Facebook. Photo by Lisa Hatfield.