Serving El Paso, Teller, and Douglas Counties

The minutes from the Oct. 14 Planning Commission meeting and board meetings.

I hope the trustees all did their own research on this (Monument Height) topic.

Rafael Dominguez voted no.

Pro-Tem Jeff Kaiser, and Mayor John Howe, Jeff Smith, Mayor.

The trustees voted 0-5 on the land-use decision.

The board meetings are set annually. The Board of Trustees is not online yet, so we don't know what was heard at www.ocn.me/v15n11.htm.

The trustees voted 0-5 on the ordinance regarding the rezoning, and since it failed, they did not vote on the PD Sketch Plan.

At 7:26 p.m., the board went into executive session developing strategy for negotiations, instructing negotiators, and determining positions relative to matters that may be subject to negotiations (water operator agreement).

Several audience members had questions about the communication process with the public about development plans in progress.

Where are town government meetings set?

All of the agendas for public review.

When is town government meeting dates set?

Answer: Shupp said they are set annually. The Board of Trustees usually meets on the first and third Mondays, and Planning Commission on second Wednesday.

The board meetings are set annually.

• Where can we find the proposed park plans on the town website?

Answer: http://www.townofmonumentco.departments/parks-and-recreation-plans/. Trustee Tooley said that several open houses were publicized and held this year to collect public input, but participation from people was "not overwhelming." She said the budget for 2016 is very strict, and the parks plan needs funding ideas and conceptual ideas from the public.

An answer.

• Several audience members questioned about development applicants do have neighborhood meetings before the public hearings, but unless a decision is formally "continued," public hearings are always done in one hearing. Otherwise, their decision could be overturned in district court. He said this was the first time in 15 years he could remember a zoning issue being continued like Monument Heights.

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Please ask questions about the land-use decision communication.

Several audience members had questions about the communication process with the public about development plans in progress.

Their comments (and the answers) included:

Where are town government meetings set?

Answer: Shupp said they are set annually. The Board of Trustees usually meets on the first and third Mondays, and Planning Commission on second Wednesday.

We need to have notification of the agendas for public review.

Complete agendas and board packets are always posted by Town Clerk Cynthia Sirochman before each meeting. See http://monumenttownco.minuteendon-demand.com/ and click on Board of Trustees or Planning Commission to download the PDF files.

A lot of people in Monument do not have online access, and so other methods of communication should be used.

There is also a mailed town newsletter. See related Nov. 12 Monument Planning Commission article on page 13 for information about "opting-in" to the mailed and emailed town newsletter.

The minutes from the Oct. 14 Planning Commission and the Nov. 2 Board of Trustees are not online yet, so we don't know what was discussed at those meetings if we were not able to attend the meetings.

The board meeting packets posted ahead of time include minutes from the previous Planning Commission and board meetings.

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Future development needs to include affordable housing and good jobs so we can convince our children to move back here.

Earlier in the meeting, Bornstein had commented that he accompanied Town Manager Chris Lowe to the Tri-Lakes Economic Development Corp. luncheon on Nov. 12 and reported that there is basically 0 percent unemployment in El Paso County. Employers say there is a shortage of people for both vocational and professional work.

Resident Cheri Hysell said, "We do also have to take responsibility. I am here tonight because a year ago something happened in my neighborhood, and it is just being resolved, but now my neighbor and I try to come to 100 percent of these meetings. It is our responsibility to be here."

Checks over $5,000.

The trustees unanimously approved the consent agenda, which included these checks over $5,000.

• Triview Metropolitan District, sales tax and motor vehicle tax for September – $151,166.

• Mayflower Transit LLC, moving bid for town manager relocation, – $10,510.

• Kaiser thanked Pamela Smith and Code Enforcement Officer Laura Hogan for working on the tax collection problem with the Baptist Road Rural Transportation Association.

At 7:26 p.m., the board went into executive session developing strategy for negotiations, instructing negotiators, and determining positions relative to matters that may be subject to negotiations (water operator agreement).

Sirochman and Code Enforcement Officer Laura Hogan reported that the board did not make any announcements after the executive session, and the meeting adjourned at 8:43 p.m.

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Saturday, December 7, 2015

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Interested people should write to brooke@tomgov.org or jhowe@tomgov.org.

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Saturday, December 19th

WESCOTT & D PRESENTS SANTA PATROL

Come out and meet Santa when he trades his sleigh for a fire truck and brings holiday cheer to our district with the Wescott Firefighters.

10:00 Antelope Trails Elem.
10:40 Big R
11:10 Ridge Pointe Apts.
11:40 Bella Springs Apts.
12:10 Angel Mist Park in Flying Horse

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