

Highlights of Town Council Meeting – August 15, 2006

Jean Tew, Lincoln County Public Health Nurse presented a resolution encouraging local planning and preparation for an avian influenza pandemic. The resolution received unanimous approval of the Town Council.

Councilman Harker reported on preliminary results of the Special Census. The preliminary total population was reported as being 1,455, with total habitable housing units being reported at 863. The total cost-to-date of the Special United States Census stood at \$60,969.

The Town is continuing discussions with Lincoln County in an effort to clarify and declare that all roads within the boundaries of Star Valley Ranch are public roads.

Town Roads Superintendent, Warren Webb is in the process of mowing vegetation alongside the Town's roadways. The SVRA was thanked for making the equipment available that the Town was leasing for this purpose.

The purchase of a used Wyoming Department of Transportation snow plow/sander truck is being considered by the Town. An expenditure of funds was approved for purchase of the truck if it meets the approval of the Town's Roads Superintendent. (The Autocar four wheel drive, diesel, snow plow truck with front blade, side wing, sand bed and spreader has since been purchased for \$2,190)

A request for bids for snow removal has been issued. The bids will be unsealed on September 6, 2006.

\$40,000 had been approved in Appropriations Ordinance 2006-03 for fiscal year 2006/2007 for Fire and EMS Protection. The Town of Thayne is requiring \$50,000 for these services so a resolution was approved reducing the amount of approved funds in several other categories to provide the additional \$10,000 for the Thayne Volunteer Fire Department and Emergency Medical Services.

Alan Spencer of the Thayne Ambulance Service was in attendance and explained their EMT recruitment efforts and the cost of training these volunteers. His department is seeking 7 new volunteers, creating a financial demand of over \$35,000 for training alone. Mr. Spencer stressed the importance of people continuing to make voluntary donations to these services as they depend on these donations for continuing education and equipment.

A Community Assessment was conducted by the Wyoming Rural Development Council on July 10 through 12. Over 100 persons from the community participated in several listening sessions. A final report will be presented to the community on September 18 at the SVRA Silo/Barn.

Resolution No. 06-08-15-002, Joint Resolution / Statement of Responsibilities was approved. The purpose of this document is an attempt to define the roles of the entities and help eliminate confusion about the future direction of each.

Resolution No. 06-08-15-003 was approved to initiate a Wyoming Water Development Council Level II Study for drilling test wells with the intent of providing additional water to Town residents.

Beginning with the 2007 tax year, the Town of Star Valley Ranch will request an additional 8 mil levy on property taxes from all property owners within the Town. In order to receive grants and low cost loans from the State of Wyoming and other resources the Town is required to collect a maximum 8 mil levy to demonstrate that we are doing our share to collect revenues for improvements. The 8 mil levy will result in an additional tax to property owners of approximately \$80 for every \$100,000 of market value. There are eight other established municipalities in Lincoln County and all of them levy the maximum 8 mil.