

BLM Public Hearing Meeting Highlights by Councilman Warren

A **Public Hearing** for the purposes of discussion of the Town's BLM Parcel and the plans for its future use was held on Wednesday, August 29, 2007 at Town Hall. It is estimated that twenty people including members of the Town Council were in attendance.

Mayor Siddoway clarified that the Public Hearing was designed for the purposes of determining the final long-term recommendations from the planning committee and discussion from Town residents as it relates to the BLM land.

Mayor Siddoway introduced Steve Ashworth and thanked him for volunteering his time and expertise in leading the BLM Parcel Planning Committee. *Mayor Siddoway turned the meeting over to Mr. Ashworth.*

Mr. Ashworth summarized the process thus far outlining that the primary goal was to determine both the short and long term projected needs based upon the build out of the Town of Star Valley Ranch.

Mr. Ashworth noted several public meetings and workshops had been held since the process started in March 2007. Mr. Ashworth and the committee have also met with the BLM. The overall topic for discussion throughout all the meetings and workshops has been to determine what the Town's needs are for the BLM property. Mr. Ashworth added that there had been ongoing input from the Town Council with regard to public works and infrastructure needs.

Mr. Ashworth utilized visual aids to provide four separate concepts outlining the development of the land to include building location, parking lot location, vehicle circulation and various options for roadway access to the property.

Mayor Siddoway noted that there was a *great deal of flexibility* with the proposed plans, and that flexibility was of critical importance for the future of the Town.

Mayor Siddoway advised that if the Town moved ahead and committed plans to the BLM it would involve two years of planning and five years of development for a total of a seven year plan. The Mayor made it clear that his *intent* was that any development on the BLM land would be *esthetically pleasing* to all residents.

Mayor Siddoway and Mr. Ashworth discussed the challenges and costs of the proposed facilities as described in the body of these minutes.

Mayor Siddoway clearly stated that if the BLM *gives* the Town the land, at no time can the Town charge any fees for service or use.