

The Town of
Star Valley Ranch, Wyoming

Public Hearing - Minutes

BLM Parcel – Planning and Development

June 20, 2007

5:30 PM

Town Hall

Present: Boyd Siddoway, Mayor
Kent Harker, Councilman
Carol Warren, Councilman
Jim Wheeler, Councilman

Away: Al Redlin, Councilman

The **Town of Star Valley Ranch Town Council** held a **Public Hearing** on June 20, 2007 at **Town Hall**. Thirty citizens and residents were present. Councilman Al Redlin was away. Other Town personnel present at the hearing were **Town Clerk Andy Moffett** and **Road Superintendent Warren Webb**.

Resident **Steve Ashworth** of **Teton County Parks & Recreation**, the volunteer overseeing the planning effort for potential development of the **BLM Parcel** just west of **Plat 18**, was also in attendance.

A list of attendees (sign-in sheet) is on file and available for examination at the Town Clerk's Office.

After welcoming everyone and declaring that a quorum was present, Mayor Siddoway called the Public Hearing to order at 5:30 p.m.

Commencement of Public Hearing: The Mayor reminded everyone at the Hearing that the May 31, 2007 culinary water transfer agreements had yielded a parcel, maintenance building and part of the airstrip apron that the Town had leased and would utilize for the purposes of serving as locations for Town roads and water utility equipment and materials. Mayor Siddoway explained that most of the Town's equipment and materials that had been located at the **Town Yard** (*situated on the Town's October 27, 2006 BLM Right-Of-Way Grant area*) had been moved to the new location, but added that if the Town were to be operating equipment like a large roller in the southern part of Town, the Town Yard would be utilized for overnight parking in lieu of returning the full distance northward to the new facility. The Mayor also explained that the coming winter would find all snow removal equipment located at the Town's new facility. "The only things that will be down at the BLM parcel this winter will be those pieces of equipment that we are not using, and they will be stored behind a berm so they should not be as visible," he remarked. The Mayor reminded all that financial constraints on the municipal treasury would play a major role in the Town's options and decision making for all aspects of planning & development of the BLM Parcel.

BLM Parcel Planning & Development – Steve Ashworth: Volunteer and Town resident **Steve Ashworth, Teton County Parks and Recreation**, was introduced by the Mayor. As he stood before several schematic portrayals of potential plans, layouts and configurations for the future public use of the BLM Parcel, Mr. Ashworth recounted what planning activities had occurred prior to the evening's Hearing. Steve had worked with the Town Council and Roads Department on the public work facility needs and aspects of the planning process. The present development of the Town's Master Plan had been discussed and would incorporate several aspects of this. The need for a Town Hall was also raised. Programs and facilities for the community's recreational needs were also considered for areas of the BLM Parcel not set aside for public works. "We are going to try to get something that works for everybody," Mr. Ashworth said.

Public Comment: **Chuck Hewins** asked questions about distances, size of facilities, and visibility of building materials from outside the parcel. **Robin Barnes** posed several questions during the Hearing about many aspects of the Town's plans for the BLM Parcel. **Jo Smith** inquired about access roads. **Russell Storbo** also asked several questions of Mr. Ashworth and the Council, and contributed opinions and recommendations regarding the BLM Parcel planning process. **Bob Palmquist** expressed concern that the location of the BLM Parcel is well out of the current circulation pattern of traffic flow of the majority of Town residents. An unidentified citizen briefly raised the possibility of the parcel being a suitable venue for a station for emergency and fire suppression equipment.

Robin Barnes stated that she endorsed delaying Town action on many of these decisions until a master plan had been further developed. The Mayor conducted an informal poll of meeting attendees and found most citizens seemed to agree with delaying things while plans could develop more and incorporate more public input and participation in the process. John Daulton stated he felt the process was not moving quickly enough, and encouraged present action as long as BLM rules were followed in the process.

Ann Blakley offered an opinion that the subject of a Town Hall was not being discussed as much as she would have liked. The importance of this was based upon her contention that Town Meetings "never have enough places to sit and it's an uncomfortable environment to be in."

Adjournment: **Councilman Harker** moved the meeting be adjourned. **Councilman Warren** seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

The Public Hearing was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Boyd Siddoway, Mayor

Date

ATTEST:

Andy Moffett, Clerk

Date