

The Town of  
***Star Valley Ranch, Wyoming***

**ORDINANCE: 2008-01**  
**(This ordinance replaces ordinance 2007-02 in its entirety)**

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE TOWN OF STAR  
VALLEY RANCH, WYOMING

**Chapter 4 – Utilities – Culinary Water**

**Section 4-1: Management and Control.**

The Town shall have exclusive control and management of the Town's culinary water system, and shall have exclusive management and control of the supply and distribution of water to all users within the corporate limits and to those that receive water from the Town that are outside of the corporate limits. The Town shall from time to time make such rules and regulations as are necessary for the complete management, control, expansion, improvement, distribution, and supplying of culinary water to the users.

**Section 4-2: Definitions.**

Water Service Line. The line running from the Town's water main to the structure or property to be served.

Water Utility. All water and water rights, waterworks and appurtenances thereto, machinery, equipment and supplies used by the Town to supply consumers with water; provided, that the water service line from the meter or curb stop to the structure or property served shall be regarded the property of the owner of such structure or property owned.

**Section 4-3: Reservation of Rights by the Town.**

The use of water under the provisions of this chapter shall not constitute or be deemed to be a relinquishment of any water or water right by the Town, and the Town reserves the full right to determine all matters in connection with the control and use of such water.

**Section 4-4: Agreement to Rules and Regulations Prerequisite to Commencement of Services.**

No person may be served with water from the water utility unless they agree to all the rules and regulations of the Town pertaining to the use of such water. Use of the water from the water utility shall constitute acceptance of the rules and regulations.

**Section 4-5: Town Not Liable for Damages.**

The Town shall not be liable to the users for any damages caused by interruptions of water supply, scarcity of water, water quality, accidents to works or mains, or during time of alterations, additions, or repairs, or for any other avoidable or unavoidable causes.

**Section 4-6: Damaging Utilities Property or Equipment.**

No person shall in any way damage any property, equipment or appliance constituting or being a part of the water utility

**Section 4-7: Trespass or Interference with Water Utility's Property.**

No person, other than those authorized by the Town, shall trespass upon the property of the Water Utility or tap any water mains or make connections therewith or in any way interfere with the Water Utility or the property, equipment, pipes, valves or other appliances of the Water Utility or change or alter the position of any valve or appliance regulating the flow of water in any pipeline.

**Section 4-8: Water Conservation, Waste Prohibited and Restrictions on Use.**

- (a) All water users shall keep their service pipes, connections, and other apparatus in good repair at their own expense and in such condition that they will not waste or permit the waste of water.
- (b) No person will use water from their water service on property not connected to the Town Water Utility.
- (c) In time of scarcity or when the Town is unable to furnish a sufficient supply of water for all purposes, the Mayor may, place restrictions on the use of water to such an extent as may be necessary for the public good.

**Section 4-9: Discontinuance of Service-Failure to Comply with Regulations or Pay Charges.**

- (a) If any water user fails to comply with the provisions of this ordinance, the Town may discontinue water service until the water user is in

compliance and has paid any and all costs incurred because of the non-compliance.

- (b) In case any water user shall fail to pay all charges as prescribed by this ordinance, the Town shall shut off water to the premises, building, house or lot, and water shall not be turned on again until all charges, including all penalties and interest, have been paid, provided, that the Town shall not shut off the water until the owner and/or occupant shall have been given ten (10) calendar days' notice in writing of the Town's intent to shut off the water. The ten (10) days notice shall be deemed to have been given ten (10) days after the notice has been mailed by first class mail to the mailing address as shown on the records of the Water Utility.
- (c) Payment in full, for reinstatement of water service, must be by cash, or certified funds. After receipt of payment by the Town, the water service will be turned back on at as mutually agreeable time.

**Section 4-10: Water Service Connections.**

- (a) Any person desiring a water service connection shall make a written request to the Town to provide the connection.
- (b) The fee charged by the Town to provide the connection shall accompany a request for a water service connection. The amount of the fee for providing a water service connection will be established by separate ordinance and shall include the connection, water service line from the main to the meter and the Town's water meter.
- (c) Except in case of an emergency, no person other than those authorized by the Town shall turn the water on or off water to any premises. Water will not be turned on to a residence unless an occupant or authorized agent is present. Authorized persons are identified as Town of Star Valley Ranch Water Utility employees, or the person(s) properly designated by a signed and dated Designation of Authorized Agent and Waiver form, completed by the homeowner and filed with the Town.

**Section 4-11: Maintenance.**

The owner of any property connecting to the Water Utility shall be responsible for the maintenance of the water service line from the meter or stop and waste valve to the structure being served and shall keep his line in good condition at his expense so as to prevent waste of water. All Water Utility water meters and stop and waste valves will be maintained by the water utility. The

cost of repairs resulting from damage, neglect or abuse by the water user shall be paid for by the user.

**Section 4-12: Disconnecting Service from Premises.**

When a water user desires to disconnect his premises from the Water Utility, the user shall not be permitted to take up that portion of the line between the main and the meter and all appliances from the water main, to and including the meter and stop and waste valve, shall remain in the ground and in undisturbed condition. Any damage to the meter, stop and waste valve or other property of the water utility or violation of these requirements will result in fees being assessed to the property owner for the actual cost of replacement or repair of damaged or missing items and a fine not to exceed \$250.00.

**Section 4-13: Tampering or Interfering.**

It shall be unlawful for any water user or for any other person to tamper or interfere with any meter or meter seal or to so arrange his water service or piping so that the use of water will not actuate the meter.

**Section 4-14: Shutting Water off at Street Mains.**

Water may be shut off from any street main when necessary to make repairs or to make connections or extensions of the mains or to perform any other work necessary to maintain the water utility. Such shut offs may only be performed by employees of the Town.

**Section 4-15: Water Service Fees.**

An annual, quarterly or monthly water service fee will be charged for each water connection. The water service fee charged for use outside of the corporate limits will be 1 1/4 times the rate charged within the corporate limits. The fee schedule will be established by separate ordinance.

**Section 4-16: Billing and Payment.**

- (a) An account shall be established for each water connection. All accounts shall be carried in the names and addresses of the property owner, agent, tenant, purchaser or lessee of each such parcel having the water connection.
- (b) At least once a year and not more than once a month, a statement of each account, shall be prepared and sent to the name and mailing address appearing on the account. Nothing shall prevent accounts from being divided into groups with different billing dates for the purpose of establishing convenient billing cycles.

- (c) Statements shall be due and payable at the office of the Town (Town Hall) immediately upon receipt of the statement, and shall be delinquent if not paid in accordance with the fee schedule found in Ordinance 2008-03. Payments may be made in person or by U.S. mail and may be tendered in the form of cash, cashier's check, money order or personal check. Payment may also be made via the online bill-pay function of the water user's checking account.
- (d) Property owners or the owner, agent, tenant, purchaser, or lessee of each property for which the water connection is made shall, each and all, be jointly and severally liable for each payment of charges and fees. Failure to pay any charges when due shall constitute a violation of the provisions of this ordinance. Collection of charges and fees under this ordinance when delinquent may be enforced by civil action brought by the Town for the Town in any court of competent jurisdiction, and this remedy is cumulative and not exclusive and shall be in addition to all penalties provided by the ordinance for any violation of any provisions hereof. No change of ownership or occupation shall affect the application of this section.

**Section 4-17: Appointment of Special Municipal Officers.**

The Mayor may appoint special Municipal officers, who are not certified peace officers, acting under the terms of their appointment under W.S. 15-1-103 (a) (1) with authority to issue citations to individuals for the purpose of enforcing this ordinance.

**PASSED ON FIRST READING THIS 11<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF March, 2008**

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Boyd Siddoway , Mayor

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Brenda Bauer, Town Clerk

**PASSED ON SECOND READING THIS 15<sup>th</sup> DAY OF APRIL, 2008**

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Boyd Siddoway, Mayor

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Brenda Bauer, Town Clerk

**PASSED ON THIRD READING THIS 13th DAY OF MAY, 2008**

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Boyd Siddoway, Mayor

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Brenda Bauer, Town Clerk