



## *TSVR Newsletter – February 2020*



Dear Citizens,

While most of us are snug in our beds, our Town snowplow operators are working to keep our roads safe. The first two weeks of January our Town received 50 + inches of snow and our plow operators were working nights, holidays and weekends. Many days they started at 2am and did not get home until late the next day. Leaving their kids to wake up and go to bed without seeing their Dad.

I recently had the opportunity to ride along with one of our Town operators on his snowplow route through the Town. While I was riding with this very skilled operator, I made a few observations. First it is extremely difficult to see when you are plowing snow. You cannot see a citizen who is at the end of their driveway with a snow blower. You cannot see a car that does not have their headlights on. Keep in mind that they cannot see you when you are walking in the street. Second was the number of times that he had to slow down, stop plowing and move around garbage cans in the road and cars parked on the road. If it is garbage day do not put your garbage can on the road right of way, if it is not garbage day put your can away. The last thing I observed was the amount of maneuvering that takes place to avoid cars, clean intersections, clean corners and fire hydrants all while keeping total focus on their surroundings.

As the winter storms continue to ravage our Town, please do me a favor and help our operators out. Turn your car lights on and when meeting a plow slow down and move to the right as far as you feel safe. Be aware when walking and moving snow by the road, the plow operator cannot see you. Don't tail gate the plow truck, if you cannot see the plows mirrors the operator cannot see you.

While you are cozy in your home our Town operators are working. It is a dangerous job requiring grueling hours – but it should not be a thankless job. Please join me in showing appreciation to all those people working in all kinds of weather clearing the way for the rest of us.

Kathleen Buyers, Mayor – Town of Star Valley Ranch

# Town Council – Goals and Objectives for 2020

## Councilman Lee Hansen

1. Liaison to the Natural Resources Board (NRB) – Attend the NRB meetings and be involved in the activities of the NRB and the sub-committees (Trails, Parks and Landscaping) when possible. These activities include Arbor Day (June 13<sup>th</sup>) and Tree City, USA Re-certification, Trails Committee work including clean-up of existing trails and new development, garage sale for Trails (August 8<sup>th</sup>), War on Weeds, Firewise including re-certification, Vegetation Management including Spring and Fall clean-up of Town entrance, Public Safety Day (June 27<sup>th</sup>) and Star Valley Ranch Garden Tour.

2. Liaison to the Investment Board – Attend all Investment Board meetings and communicate all recommendations to the Town Council. Finalize our investment strategy.

3. Codification – Provide front line support and communication along with the Mayor to the group reviewing and codifying our ordinances.

4. Title 15 – Services. Develop and gain consensus for an Ordinance for Short-Term Rentals.

5. Attend WAM conference February 25-28.

6. Shared Objectives – 2020 Census sign-up effort, Move to the Old/New Town Hall, Complete involvement in 2020-2021 Budget

7. Improve my understanding of roads and road projects including the surface water study and road study and establish a Roads Board.

## Councilman Marty Occhi

- Continue as Councils representative to the Water Board
- Revise title 4 to simplify the water rates, remove redundancies between chapters
- Fully implement budget procedures, including cost-based fee approvals as part of the process.
- Participant in the Strategic/Master planning process
- Continue with efforts for the Town Hall.
- Continue to pursue a unique zip code and USPS presence in the Town
- Title 15, Services; Business License Ordinance.
- Process Review

## Councilman Sue Abrams

(did not submit)

## Councilman Don Baillie

- 2020 Census
- Planning and Zoning Board
  - Review application process from receiving of building permits application to close out of the application.
  - Finding and implementing a program for tracking inspections of building permits.
- Public Safety
- Mid Valley Fire District
- Volunteered for a committee to secure signatures to put the Mid Valley Fire District on a ballot for residents of the district to vote on.
- Thayne EMS
- Lincoln County Sheriff
- Special Municipal Officer
- Town of Star Valley Ranch Emergency Operations Manual
- Continue to learn more about the Town's day-to-day operations.