



# TSVR Newsletter – April 2022

## Mayor's Corner...

### Roads Improvements – 2022

At the April regular Town Council Meeting the Town Council will begin the three-month process of approving the 2022-23 budget.



The Town Council has set aside 1.3 million for road rehabilitation and if the Council agrees, the Town will contract to add maintenance layers on 4.5 miles of chip seal road, double chip all of plat 4 and 5, the upper portion of Hardman, a portion of Middle Branch, a portion of Last Chance and replace the Middle Branch culvert over Cedar Creek with a Bridge.

The Council has also been saving money in reserves to pave Vista East and Vista West. This summer we have two projects in the Vista East and Vista West portion of Town. The current water project, WIP 2021, will be working on Vista Court and Redwood Circle and the Town staff will complete a large surface water/drainage project on Redwood, Vista East, and a portion of Vista West. The paving of Vista East and Vista West is now scheduled for 2023 when these two projects are completed. These two roads cannot be chip sealed due to their steep grades.

A reminder to all citizens the Town cannot grade roads until they are dry. Pot holes must be removed and then filled and graded.

### Water Projects – 2022/23



Water Improvement Project 2021 will start again in May and should be completed in 2023. Included in the contract with Johansen, roads will be graded and repaired after the completion of the water lines.

Water Improvement Project 2022 was applied for in 2021 but the funding was not available. We have submitted a new application for WIP 2022 which would be our final PVC pipe and fire hydrant project.

Just a reminder, if you need your water turned on or off at the meter you **must** contact the Town Water Utility at 307-880-9283 or 880-9287.

#### Scheduled Meetings

Town Council Meeting  
April 20<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm

Planning & Zoning Board  
April 13<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>rd</sup> at 5 pm

Natural Resource Board  
April 7<sup>th</sup> at 2 pm

Economic Dev. Board  
April 19<sup>th</sup> at 2 pm

Coffee with the Mayor  
April 18<sup>th</sup> at 10 am

Town Hall Hours  
8 am to 6 pm  
Monday thru Thursday

#### Contacts

Town Hall  
307-883-8696  
[clerk@starvalleyranchwy.org](mailto:clerk@starvalleyranchwy.org)

Special Municipal Officer  
307-880-2666

# Water Utility Board - 2022 Goals

Plan Aggressively; Implement Conservatively



## Goals

- A) Ensure high quality water supply
- B) Ensure adequate capability for emergency residential fire suppression
- C) Ensure a long-term, financial soundness and sustainability of the Utility
- D) Protect the quality and integrity of the overall system's infrastructure
- E) Focus on minimizing the financial impact on users

## Objectives

### **1<sup>st</sup> Council Recommendations / Requests**

Our prime objective is to support our Town's Council in managing the Water Utility's business.

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Rates**

We will continue to balance the rates to generate adequate revenues to meet the requirements of the Water Utility, with the promise to minimize the increase to our users.

### **3<sup>rd</sup> SCADA**

We have been unsuccessful in obtaining useful, historical data. Once we break the availability barrier, we will use the data to monitor trends for potential problems, make predictions of major component replacement or expansion and finally managing the rate process to minimize any "one-year" major increases.

**Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA)** systems are used for controlling, monitoring, and analyzing industrial devices and processes such as our Water System from wells to meters.

### **4<sup>th</sup> Water Utility Budget (/Processes)**

Our involvement is to provide advice and recommendations to the Council regarding Rate Generated Revenues and the expenses that are affected by Reserves and major expenditures that affect future budgets.

### **5<sup>th</sup> Training (Board Members)**

Continued education for our Board's Members, with the underlining belief that the more knowledgeable the individuals; the better decisions.

### **6<sup>th</sup> Communications with Customers**

Although 6<sup>th</sup> in priorities, this Objective has the most items. The message is to provide our customers with "More information, more often and with more transparency". We will try to have a meaningful page in each TVSR Newsletter.

**Your input is always welcome!**

## Road Delineation

The road crew will be working to mark road edges with delineators (small posts) in the coming months. This will help with plowing and road maintenance year-round. These delineators *do not* mark property lines or the right-of-way, they only mark the edge of the road surface. Please do not move or remove any posts placed by Town personnel or you could be subject to a citation.

## Resident Survey Data Summary Report Update

The Town of Star Valley Ranch Survey Committee is excited to announce that Dr. Val Smith has tabulated and analyzed the TVSR survey data. He presented the results to the mayor and town council on March 3. Currently, the TVSR Survey Committee members and are moving quickly ensure the residents can participate in Zoom presentations of the data analysis results from the 600+ surveys that were returned to the town offices.



Three dates and times will be selected in early April and emailed to town residents with accompanying registration links for those individuals who wish to attend the presentations. The number of attendees will be limited to 100 per presentation. A summary report of the data findings will be posted on the town website during the same period as the presentations so that those individuals who wish to have access to the summary report are able to do so. The Survey Committee looks forward to sharing what we have learned from those of you who took the time to participate. They genuinely appreciate your commitment to the future of our town.

## Arbor Day Donations 2022



Once again, the Town of Star Valley Ranch will be celebrating Arbor Day at 10 am on June 11<sup>th</sup> at Fox Run Park. The Natural Resource Board is collecting donations for trees and donations of \$50 or more will have the donors name or in memory of an individual on a plaque in Town Hall. See page 5 for how to make your donation. Thanks for your support!

## TVSR Firewise Program

As we head into another summer in the Star Valley, we are also entering into another wildfire season. Protecting yourself and your property from wildfire is important and the Town of Star Valley Ranch wants to work with you.



You can become a member of the TVSR Firewise program by filling out an application at Town Hall. We will then make arrangements for a residential wildland fire assessment to be conducted. This evaluation will give you an outline of the work to be completed to make your home firesafe.

A benefit of the Firewise program is that brush or slash cut can be placed on the edge of the town roadway and our town crew will collect it during the week of July 25<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

## Call for Volunteers!

Call for volunteers...want to help our Town? The Town's Finance Advisory Board ("FAB") advises the Town Council regarding financial matters and makes recommendations to the Mayor and Council. We are seeking a new member to join this board. Experience in finance, accounting, banking, general management, and governmental funding/revenue are especially needed. If interested, please contact the FAB chairman, Dave Sankaran at [daveclphx@google.com](mailto:daveclphx@google.com)



## Star Valley Ranch Community Garden (Crop Circles)

The Star Valley Ranch community garden aka Crop Circles will be growing for a second season! After some successful fund-raising last fall, we are adding garden tanks this season and we have gardeners for all of them.

When you go out for a walk in Fox Run Park stroll down north of Canine Commons and have a look at the Crop Circles. If you are inspired to grow for your family you can apply for a garden tank in November for next year's growing season, 2023. If we have more applicants than available garden tanks we draw names, lottery style. For inquiries email: [svrcommunitygarden@gmail.com](mailto:svrcommunitygarden@gmail.com).



## Deer Feeding and Deer Mortality

Just a reminder that it is **unlawful to feed deer or other wild mammals** within the Town of Star Valley Ranch. Feeding causes deer to depend less on their natural environment and more on humans and they lose their fear of humans and become habituated to feeding sites. Feeding sites attract predators and increase risk of death by coyotes, mountain lions or domestic dogs. Feeding deer also increases the chance of spreading disease. Deer receive little nutritional value from a new food source for about two weeks of feeding, since stomach microorganisms must adjust to the diet change. Ironically, while well-intentioned people try to help the deer by feeding, they may be harming them due to the time and energy needed to convert the microorganisms.



At this time of year our deer should be up on the south facing slopes of the Salt River Range as vegetation starts to green up. They should naturally follow the "green wave" of spring.

**If you do find a dead deer on your property, what should you do?** You basically have two options. Option one is to move the deer to a wild and undeveloped portion of your property and allow nature to take its course. The carcass will be rapidly consumed by birds and other animals.

The second option would be to transport the carcass to the Thayne Landfill at 945 Strawberry Creek Road south of Thayne. They will take the carcass for disposal in the landfill.

Note: Wyoming Game & Fish department no longer picks up deer carcasses.

## Arbor Day 2022

The Town of Star Valley Ranch will be celebrating our 12<sup>th</sup> annual Arbor Day on Saturday, June 11<sup>th</sup>, 2022. We will be planting additional trees in Fox Run Park. The Town of Star Valley Ranch will also be recognized as a Tree City for our 11<sup>th</sup> consecutive year!

The Town of Star Valley Ranch has established a fund for the purchase of trees and supplies for the 2022 Arbor Day and other natural resources work. Donations can be dropped off or mailed to the Town Clerk, Kristin Gray, at Town Hall. The Natural Resource Board will add the names to our recognition plaque which is displayed at Town Hall. The minimum donation for displaying the names of donors or remembrances is \$50. Donations received after May 11<sup>th</sup> will be recorded on the plaque in 2023.



### **Natural Resource Board**

#### ***Donation for Trees - Arbor Day 2022***

***\$50.00 Donation will entitle you to have a name engraved on the plaque which is displayed in our Town Hall. Donations must be received by May 11<sup>th</sup> for Arbor Day June 11<sup>th</sup>, 2022 (If not received by May 11<sup>th</sup>, donations will be applied to the 2023 celebration).***



Donor's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Donation Amount \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Do you want a name on the plaque?      Yes \_\_\_\_\_      No \_\_\_\_\_

Is this donation in memory of an individual?      Yes \_\_\_\_\_      No \_\_\_\_\_

If **Yes** to the above, please print the name you want engraved on the plaque:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Return to Town Clerk, Kristin Gray at Town Hall or mail to:

**Arbor Day and Natural Resource Donation**

**Town of Star Valley Ranch**

**171 Vista Drive #7007**

**Star Valley Ranch, WY 83127**