



The Ranch News

TSVR FARMERS MARKET NEWS

SEPT 2ND IS THE FINAL REGULAR SEASON FARMERS MARKET DATE



It has been a terrific inaugural season for the TSVR Farmers Market! Each successive market date has seen an ever-increasing assortment of locally and regionally sourced products to include cheeses, yogurt and produce.

While this Saturday, September 2nd, will be the last scheduled Farmers Market of the season, there is some chatter about a potential pop-up Market or two during the fall or even perhaps during the winter seasons. Stay tuned!

In the meantime, for all of you local Ranch gardeners, remember you can still bring any extra produce you have to the **Market Basket** tables this Saturday to share and sell. The **Market Basket** has a pretty good track record of selling out this season!

Have questions about the TSVR Farmers Market or are you interested in participating either as a vendor or as part of the **Market Basket** tables? Then, please contact Council Member Merrill (kmerrill@starvalleyranchwy.org) or Council Member Rok (rrok@starvalleyranchwy.org) for more information.

We'll look forward to seeing you this Saturday, September 2nd from 8am to 11am at the TSVR Farmers Market located at the First Response Center on Vista Drive (across from Town Hall).

CALENDAR ITEMS

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Water Utility Board

September 11th at 1pm

Coffee with the Mayor

September 12th at 10am

Town Council Workshop

September 12th at 2pm

Town Council Meeting

September 12th at 7pm

Planning & Zoning Board

September 13th at 5pm

September 27th at 5pm

NUMBERS YOU NEED

CONTACTS

Town Hall

(307) 883-8696

clerk@starvalleyranchwy.org

Special Municipal Officer

(307) 880-2666

smo@starvalleyranchwy.org

A couple of photos from last month's Natural Resources Board (NRB) "Garage Sale for Trails & Parks". See the article on page 5 for more on the success of this event!



MAYOR'S MEMO

A FEW WORDS FROM KATHY BUYERS

Hello everyone,

I certainly hope you are enjoying this beautiful early fall weather. There is a lot happening in Star Valley Ranch so let's get started. On October 10th the Town Council will introduce the first reading of changes to the Water Rates Ordinance. Please look for more communication from the Town Council regarding water rates.

The Town Council has begun the process of clarifying the language in the Nuisance Ordinance, Short-Term Rental Ordinance, Land and Buildings Ordinances.

At the Town Council meeting on September 12, 2023, the Council will begin the process of approving a Travel and Tourism Board. This is a unique board that will be set up to receive lodging tax dollars. To date the County has already collected \$36,000 on our behalf. The Wyoming State Statutes have given the municipalities very clear direction as to the board procedures. We will be looking for four volunteers to serve on the board that have in the past or currently worked in the travel or tourism industry. The board may be finalized at the November Town Council meeting.

The Town staff has recently completed training in the field of communication skills and conflict resolution. The Town continues to prioritize training for all staff members and look forward to additional supervisory training, roads, water, project management and government accounting just to name a few continued education classes for our staff.

We will again have a very busy summer with the water project on Vista. Please be courteous to our construction workers and staff. They work hard to make our community a better place to live.

Thank You,

Kathleen Buyers, Mayor

REMINDER!

RECREATIONAL VEHICLES, BOATS & TRAILERS PLACEMENT ON YOUR PROPERTY

Recreational vehicles, boats and trailers placement, and use of recreational vehicles, motor homes, boats and trailers on your Town of Star Valley Ranch property is particularly important. [Ordinance §154.075, Temporary Dwellings](#) explains the Town's requirements:



(A) No person shall use or permit the use of any temporary dwelling, motor home or trailer as defined in this chapter as a principal or seasonal dwelling on any site, lot, field or tract of land.

(B) Storage of temporary dwellings, recreational vehicles, motor homes, trailers, boats and the like shall:

(1) Only be on a lot where a principal dwelling currently exists; and be inside a building or stored in the rear or side yard of the owner's dwelling; and

(2) Be set back the required distance for the respective zoning district.

(C) Un-occupied parking or storage of temporary dwellings (including trailers and motor homes) on a street or front yard is prohibited. (Prior Code, § 9.05.150)

Thanks for your cooperation!

COUNCIL CORNER

A FEW WORDS FROM COUNCILMAN DENNEY

This summer, I have attended Town Council joint meetings with each of the TSVR boards, one “Coffee with the Mayor” session, all meetings held by the Water Utility Board (to which I am the assigned as Council liaison), and all Council workshops and monthly meetings. To follow are some observations regarding effective interaction between the Town Council and residents.

The Town Council revised its monthly agenda to include time for residents to voice concerns or raise topics at the beginning of each meeting. A number of residents have taken advantage of this opportunity. The Council established a [Citizen Participation Policy](#) for this discussion time and residents should become familiar with it to manage expectations for all.

The best way for issues to be brought to the Town Council is either through the informal “Coffee with the Mayor” sessions or by asking the Mayor to place the topic on an upcoming Town Council workshop agenda. In addition, the topic may be more appropriately brought to one of the TSVR boards by contacting the respective board chairman and requesting the topic be added to the next board meeting agenda. Wyoming State Law requires agendas for Council and board workshops be developed and published *before* each meeting.

I have also observed that regulatory ordinances passed by the Town are usually reactive to actions being taken, (or not taken) by residents. Of major significance to the Town is the large number of short-term rental (STR) properties being offered by TSVR homeowners. The Town first enacted an ordinance in March 2022 requiring STR owners obtain an annual permit along with requirements to notify neighbors of their intent and to provide a local contact who could take action if the renters are being unduly obnoxious or violating other Town ordinances. [This ordinance *did not* authorize the presence of the STR properties as the latter is considered the right of the property owner.]

Unfortunately, the Town has continued to receive complaints about the actions of some STR patrons, some of which the Town has no ability to regulate (i.e., flying drones). The impact of STR properties continues to be a topic in nearly all workshops wherein the Council tries to identify further actions that can be taken.

Ron Denney

CONTACT YOUR COUNCIL

COUNCILMAN ELLIS

tellis@starvalleyranchwy.org

COUNCILMAN DENNEY

rdenney@starvalleyranchwy.org

COUNCILWOMEN MERRILL

kmerrill@starvalleyranchwy.org

COUNCILWOMEN ROK

rrok@starvalleyranchwy.org



Have questions, comments or just thoughts to share about our Town?

Please email the

Ranch News
editor at

newsletter@starvalleyranchwy.org

and we'll do our best to answer your query, publish your letter, or pass along your comments in a future newsletter.

Thank you!

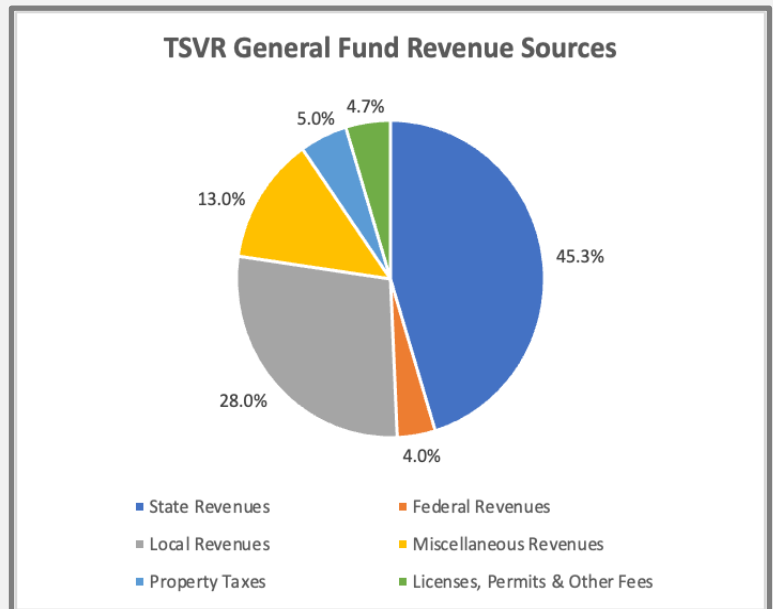
WHERE DOES THE REVENUE COME FROM?

MUNICIPAL FINANCE

WHERE TOWN GENERAL FUND MONEY COMES FROM

Understanding municipal finance is complex and oftentimes unique to the community. Wyoming municipalities are statutorily bound to the revenues they receive and may generate. Moreover, municipalities are statutorily required to maintain balanced budgets. This is challenging when revenue streams are unpredictable and expenses ever-increasing. This only refers to General Fund revenue streams since Enterprise Funds (self-sustaining user fee programs like our water department) vary dramatically.

The smaller the population the fewer locally generated revenue options and thus more dependence on State-shared distributions. Wyoming municipalities are heavily dependent on revenues from the State, both shared and appropriated. To follow is a look at the sources that make up the General Fund revenues for our Town.



STATE REVENUES - Approximately 45.3% comes from state revenues which includes state sales and use tax (which is distributed by population based on the Census), State-aid from severance tax, State grants and loans, also included in State revenue is shared tax on cigarettes, gasoline, and diesel fuels. Cigarette tax is distributed by point of sale.

FEDERAL REVENUES - Approximately 4% represents federal funding through loans and grants.

LOCAL REVENUES - Local Government revenues are approximately 28% which includes the 5th penny sales tax which is distributed by population based on the Census.

MISCELLANEOUS REVENUES - This represents approximately 13% of revenues from Lottery, pari-mutuel betting and other revenues that do not fit into another category.

PROPERTY TAXES - At approximately 5%, this represents the revenues from property tax generated from not more than 8 mills.

LICENSES, PERMITS, AND OTHER FEES - this represents locally generated revenue from licenses, permits and franchise fees which is approximately 4.7%.

Have questions? Please contact the Town Clerk by email at clerk@starvalleyranchwy.org or give Town Hall a call at (307) 883-8696.

NEWS & NOTES FROM THE NATURAL RESOURCES BOARD (NRB)

**Trails & Parks 2023****GARAGE SALE A BIG SUCCESS!**

OVER \$11,000 RAISED FOR RANCH TRAILS & PARKS

I'm writing this article to thank the dozens of volunteers who helped with our "Garage Sales for Trails & Parks" last month on August 18th and 19th. The Trails Committee had a very successful event raising money via donations from many persons here in Star Valley Ranch (SVR). The money raised will be used for replacing tools as needed, wood for trailhead signs and signs along the trails

(and as you know the price of lumber is high), spraying weeds, and many other Natural Resources Board (NRB) efforts to include paying for our most costly larger signs that must comply with Forest Service requirements.

A big "Thank You" to all who volunteered throughout the event from drop-off days (on Monday through Thursday before the sale), setup, sales, and clean-up. Thanks to Paul Bordwell and Lloyd Funk (NRB/Trails Volunteers) for the use of their trailers to pick up and deliver items. Some items that did not sell were sent by trailer to Deseret Industries in Idaho Falls.

Thank you to Deb Adler for providing lunch to the volunteers on Friday and to Tootsie's mom for lunch on Saturday.

Thanks to the SVR Association for use of the tents for storage. Those tents saved a lot during the "monsoon rainfall" on Thursday evening!

Just so you know the NRB gets about 25% of the total Garage Sale annual funds raised from ongoing internet and social media marketing sales that occur throughout the year. Thus, if anyone has higher value items they wish to donate (at any time), we can gladly take them and market them as an online sale item to benefit our Trails and Parks fund.

Again, thank you to the dozens of volunteers who helped with this event and for all the donations and support of this primary annual NRB fundraiser. With gratitude,

Victor Padilla

NRB Chairman
tangentvp@gmail.com
 (714) 334-6616

Craig Adler

SVR Trails Committee Chairman
svrtrails@gmail.com
 (307) 883-9520 (home)
 (513) 324-4197 (cell)

**COMMUNITY GARDEN NEWS**

UPDATES FROM OUR CROP CIRCLES COMMUNITY GARDEN

Happy September fellow gardeners. Hoping to hear you've begun to harvest your hard-earned garden produce and to hear there have been no further losses of squash, peas and the like. The nights are cooler now as are the days but we have lovely things on our vines! Our potato patch had a bit of a rough spot but now they're looking pretty good. My plan is to harvest all at once and then donate to the Thayne Food Bank. At that time if you have any extra produce you'd like to donate I'll be glad to take that too. Watch for a date and time re the latter. Many thanks for your support and keep growing!

Deb Johnson

SVR Community Garden Coordinator
svrcommunitygarden@gmail.com

RULES OF THE ROAD

FOR WALKERS AND BICYCLE RIDERS

The Wyoming Department of Transportation makes these recommendations for pedestrians and bicyclists as part of their "[Rules of the Road](#)" Driver License Manual.

- Pedestrians

By Statute, drivers in Wyoming are required to give the right of way or yield to a pedestrian. If you must walk where there are no sidewalks, *walk on the left side of the road facing traffic*. At night, wear light-colored clothing to help others see you.

- Bicyclists

Bicyclists have the right to use all public roadways, and share rights and duties applicable to all drivers of any vehicle. But, unlike motor vehicles, bicyclists must share their lane of traffic. *Bicyclists must ride as close to the right side of pavement as is practical and safe*. Any bicycle used after dark must have a front light and rear reflectors, to help alert vehicle drivers to their presence.

Stay safe out there!

MEET YOUR TOWN EMPLOYEES

JAMIE NEUENSCHWANDER, TSVR BILLING CLERK

"I have been working for the Town of Star Valley Ranch for a year and three months now. As the Town Billing Clerk, I have a wide variety of tasks I am responsible for within billing. Some of my responsibilities include following up on outstanding payments and answering customer questions, monitoring all payments and preparing monthly collection reports, managing account balances and resolving inconsistencies, updating customers account information, and creating statement files for customer bills. I also schedule and coordinate work orders, do meter reads every month with the help of our water operator, send bills to our bill processing company (before the first of every month), and enter payments as they come in.

In my spare time I like to ride horses, hiking, paddle boarding, and really anything outside where I can involve my dog. I was born and raised in the south end of Star Valley Wyoming where most of my family still lives."

Ranch News

Here's a look at what's coming up in future issues!



Our latest photo call is still open! We're looking for images that capture

"The Change of Seasons"

for use in the October newsletter.

Please send us your best change of season fall photos!



Email photos to

newsletter@starvalleyranchwy.org

and we'll publish them in October!



Look for an article in an upcoming newsletter issue about the Town's new Short-Term Rental monitoring service and when residents can expect this service to be fully online.

LINCOLN COUNTY SHERIFF DISPATCH REPORT

AKA - THE RANCH BLOTTER

The Lincoln County Sheriff's Office provided the following TSVR dispatch report for 1 - 31 July 2023:

Citations	0
Warnings	0
CFS/Law Incidents	62
Special Patrol	9

Animal Problem	1	Abandoned Vehicle	1	Agency Assist	2
Alarm	1	Alcohol Problem	1	Auto Accident	1
Burglary		Citizen Assist	3	Citizen Dispute	
Civil Standby	1	Controlled Burn	1	Child Abuse	
Alcohol Problem		Controlled Substance		Disturbance	
Court		Domestic Violence	2	Dead body	
Elderly Abuse		e911	13	Harassing	
Intoxication		Fire / Fireworks	1/2	Fraud	1
Littering		Information	1	Lost/Found Property	
Juvenile Problem	1	Mental subject	3	Message Delivery	1
Game & Fish		Protection Order		Medical	5
Missing person		Ordinance Violation	1	Reckless Driving	3
Public Relations	1	Suspicious	3	Theft	
Threatening		Traffic	1	VIN Inspection	5
Welfare Check	3	Trespassing	2	Utility Problem	1

FROM THE SPECIAL MUNICIPAL OFFICER

NOTES FROM JIM ROGERS, SMO

A few items for residents to keep in mind.

- Visibility of address signage continues to be a problem. Remember, if the Sheriff or an EMT can't see it, it may take them longer to get to you if you've called for assistance.
[Refer to Ordinance [§71.06 OTHER STREET ISSUES](#).]
- Construction permits must be posted and visible from the roadway.
[Refer to Ordinance [§150.019\(B\) ACTION REQUIRING A PERMIT](#).]
- Dogs and cats must be licensed by the town and dogs must be leashed.
[Refer to Ordinance [§90.04 DOG OR CAT LICENSING; REGISTRATION](#) & [§90.05\(E\) PROHIBITED ACTIVITIES](#).]

Thanks for your cooperation. Please contact Jim with questions at: smo@starvalleyranchwy.org

LETTERS, ORDINANCE UPDATES & OTHER PUBLIC NOTICES

LETTERS

FROM OUR TOWN RESIDENTS

No letters this month, but please don't be shy - let us know what's on your mind and we'll publish your thoughts and concerns in an upcoming issue.



ORDINANCES

PENDING ORDINANCES OR UPDATES

The following ordinance updates were approved during the August 8th Town Council meeting. Ordinance updates become effective 10 days after the third reading.

ORDINANCE 2023-07 [THIRD READING] TITLE III ADMINISTRATION CHAPTER 33 TOWN ORGANIZATIONS

This Ordinance is an update to board organization to have consistency of form and language and to dissolve the Economic Development Board and reserve the subsection for future use.

ORDINANCE 2023-08 [SECOND READING] TITLE III ADMINISTRATION CHAPTER 33 TOWN ORGANIZATIONS

This Ordinance is for the creation of a Roads Advisory Board and outlines the procedures in accordance with existing boards.

THIRD READING PLANNED FOR 12 SEPTEMBER TOWN COUNCIL MEETING.

The complete text of all ordinance updates can be found on the Town website under Government > Ordinances > and then by using the "Current Proposed Ordinance up for Reading" drop-down.

Or [click here](#). Questions or comments on proposed ordinances or ordinance updates can be emailed to: clerk@starvalleyranchwy.org



PUBLIC NOTICE

TSVR SEEKS PROPOSALS FOR SNOW REMOVAL SERVICES

On August 30th TSVR published a Request for Proposal to obtain snow removal services for several areas within the municipality during the upcoming 2023-2024 winter season. These contracted snow removal services are intended to augment overall snow removal services conducted by the Town Public Works Department. The Public Notice will be published on again on September 6th and 13th before bids are accepted at the end of the month. You can read the Public Notice here and also find the RFP on the Town website by clicking here.



MORE NEWS IN BRIEF

QUICK NOTES ON TOWN OPERATIONS AS OF 31 AUGUST

- Due to continued need for repairs, the Town will obtain a new roller from Caterpillar, Inc.
- The Town Public Works Department was a little short-handed in August due to staffing shortages and some necessary medical leaves. We appreciate your patience as the PWD Staff works to catch-up on road work and other tasks during the month of in September. Thank you!



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