

WHAT'S UP WHEATLAND!

Town of Wheatland, Wyoming

Joe Fabian, Mayor
Jeff Wilhelm, Councilman
Brandon Graves, Councilman
Alan Madsen, Councilman
Bill Britz, Councilman

Staff

Doug Wiggins, Clerk/Treasurer
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The Wheatland Town Council held their regular meeting on July 13th in the Council Chambers. Vouchers in the amount of \$756,815.21 were approved for payment.

Connie Thomas attended the meeting to request permission to allow a fireworks display at this year's Carrie Jo Memorial Softball Tournament. The tournament has been held for seven years and, as a result, \$100,000 in scholarship monies have been awarded. The fireworks will be provided by the Wheatland Jaycees in celebration of what would have been Carrie Jo's 30th birthday. The request was approved for a fireworks display at this year's tournament on August 7th and 8th.

Richard Kuebel, owner of TC's West Wind Cycle, was on hand to request assistance with water drainage from the street into his shop. Mayor Fabian asked Richard to get some estimates and bring that information back to the council for further review.

Discussion was held about Ordinance No. 790 (an amendment to Ordinance No. 776) establishing new rates for electrical services. Councilman Britz requested information about how rates are determined for businesses, i.e. "large commercial vs. commercial." Clerk/Treasurer Doug Wiggins will further research the rate schedules and bring information back to the next meeting. The motion to approve Ordinance No. 790 was approved. If passed the new rates will go into effect this October 1st.

A budget amendment which would allow for the purchase of four radios for Platte County Communication was approved in the amount of \$28,269.60.

Mayor Fabian reported that the towns of Lusk and Manville appreciated Wheatland's efforts to assist them as they recover from recent floods. The town of Wheatland provided supplies to Lusk which helped get their electrical systems up and running.

Three individuals applied for an opening on the Platte County Lodging Tax Board. Mayor Fabian interviewed each person and made the recommendation that Jeannie Mitchell be appointed to the board. The council approved the appointment.

It's Platte County Fair time! Good luck to all the participants! Don't forget the free pancake breakfast in downtown Wheatland on Saturday, August 1st. Merchants and vendors will be on hand for the annual Crazy Daze from 8 a.m. to noon that day.



Good Things Happening

It's hard to imagine that the annual Farmer's Market has started already. Growers and vendors will be in the **Pocket Park** each Saturday for several weeks.

Congratulations to **Trent and Leslie Corn** on the birth of their baby girl, Remington. Born on June 17th! Trent works in the town's electrical department.

Mike Taylor, head of the town's electrical department, said staff is busy working with contractors on laying power lines for the new *Platte County Nursing Home*.

Next month will find **Trent Corn** and **Michaela Kreycik** at the Cody Hotline School where they will continue to improve their skills required to keep a constant flow of electrical power to our consumers. The school is sponsored by Wyoming Rural Development and the City of Cody.

We're pleased to introduce you to our summer workers. They are **Javier A. Dominguez, Jacob Ward, Salvador Jimenez, Shannon Stockwell, Gerald Nash, Brock Fuessley and Hannah Battershell**. They're busy helping out at the parks, the cemetery, in town hall, and anywhere else they are needed. We appreciate the extra help!

Marty Shepherd will spend some time in Torrington on behalf of the Department of Environmental Quality, where he will discuss Wheatland's lagoon system, considered to be one of the best systems in the state.

The town is currently accepting bids for the new transfer station, and Mayor Fabian said the response is encouraging. He also



notes that land acquisition for the Airport should be finalized by the end of this year.

We wish police officer **William Houchin** good luck in his new adventures. With his resignation we are now short two police officers. Mayor Fabian said they have increased the starting salary for entry level positions to try and attract qualified candidates.

Congratulations to **CME, Inc.** on their recent open house. If you haven't had a chance to visit them they are located at 2556 South Street. We're proud to have them as a part of the Wheatland business community.

The **Verizon** store recently relocated to 813 9th Street. Stop by and visit them soon. We wish them well in their new store. And, congratulations to **Alfredo Contreras** who recently opened BaJangles Consignment Store at 715th 9th.

Last, but certainly not least, we thank **Doug Wiggins** for his quick thinking when **Hersh Pruitt** had a heart attack outside the furniture store last week. We're thankful for how it all turned out, and Hersh is recovering nicely.

Mayor's Musings by Mayor Joe Fabian

We are in the process of trimming the trees along our electric utility lines. This is a reminder to those who live close to our power lines that there needs to be a 15 ft. clearance between the power lines and the trees. We did have one outage already caused by a tree branch so please insure that you keep the trees close to our power lines clear. It could save us from having a power outage.

In other news we have decided to move the garbage truck garage location from our 16th street property to our new transfer station property just north of the current land fill site. We have had some concerns about the 16th street location and believe the transfer station site would be a more appropriate place to house or vehicles. The transfer station is out for bid and construction may start as early as September.

Councilman's Corner by Jeff Wilhelm

Citizens often, incorrectly, assume they cannot impact the decisions of their locally elected leaders. Recently, the Town of Wheatland let bids for a new storage facility as part of its upgrades and changes within the Town's Sanitation Department. The original plan was to place the building east of our 15th Street shop. Several neighbors raised concerns about the about the smell and potential insect infestations that might occur. The comments were also echoed by several Town employees during the monthly department meetings. As a result, at the last Town Council meeting, the governing body decided to move the building to the site of the proposed transfer station located to the north and east of the current landfill. This situation reiterates the idea Wheatland's municipal government will and does listen to what its constituents have to say.