

## Thayne Town Council Work Session Meeting

July 11, 2018

Council in attendance: Mayor Lainhart, Councilman Heward, Councilman Wicks, Councilman Woolley and Clerk Hillstead. Council not in attendance: Councilman Schwab  
Audience Attendance: Debbie Merica, Brett Merica, Kevin Paul, Jimmy Stoker

Welcome: Mayor A.D. Lainhart

Pledge of Allegiance: Councilman Heward

Adoption of Agenda as finalized.

**Motion**-Councilman Woolley  
**Seconded**-Councilman Heward  
**Motion Carried**

### Franklin Street Improvements

Mayor Lainhart welcomed those in attendance and stated that Debbie Merica had asked for this Work Session to discuss her concerns regarding Franklin and Wright Street and the spring that is preventing the roads to be completed.

Debbie Merica stated that a lot of money was spent in engineering fees in the beginning of the land development. At first the Merica and Stoker families wanted to install a cull-de-sack but Don Aullman, the Thayne Mayor at the time, would not approve the plan and stated that Franklin needed to be a through street to Wright Street. Debbie mentioned that at the time she knew about the high ground water but the spring was not known about and the issues that it would cause. Due to the spring Brett and Debbie Merica have not paved the portion that they had agreed to and now the cost has increased significantly since the original estimate.

Kevin Paul was in attendance and stated that he feels that it is only fair that the Lincoln County School District pave their half of Wright Street. Councilman Heward agreed with Kevin and added that only paving half of a road will not work with snow removal and that the Town of Thayne will not accept a road that is half paved as a town road. Kevin proposed the idea that the Town of Thayne creates a Town pond with the spring water.

Councilman Woolley added that he agrees there is a major issue with the spring but he believes that the water belongs to the State of Wyoming. If the water does belong to the State, maybe they would be willing to cover some of the cost that would be associated in correcting the problem. Councilman Woolley mentioned that the water used to run through the ditches and it wasn't a huge problem but now most of the ditches are gone which then gives the ground water nowhere to run to. Woolley stated that possibly moving the road would be the least expensive solution. Brett Merica agreed and presented the idea of possibly buying Jimmy Stoker's most northern lot and moving the current road south to miss the spring completely. Jimmy Stoker added that his lots are currently listed for sale at the price of \$55,000 per lot. Brett added that Sunrise Engineering was the engineer of the project working

for the Town of Thayne and that this is the Town's problem; no one should have to pay to correct the problem but the Town.

Councilman Lorell Woolley stated that the Merica and Stoker families can block off public access due to the Town of Thayne not yet taking responsibly of the road. Brett Merica added that they were told that there were to be absolutely no private roads within the Town of Thayne limits by Don Aullman and the only way for the subdivision to be approved was if Franklin and Wright Streets became a City block.

Councilman Heward asked if it was an option to continue the road north past the spring onto Kevin Paul's lot. Heward stated that the Town would be willing to work with moving the current road but he doesn't know why the Town of Thayne would be responsible for purchasing the lot.

Kevin Paul suggested that a special tax district be created to help pay for the road paving. Kevin also mentioned that he could possibly make a donation to the Town of Thayne to build a park/pond to help store the spring water.

Councilman Heward asked if anyone present had spoken to Kilroy Construction or any other construction business to see if there is a simple solution such as installing a culvert. Councilman Woolley agreed and asked if the Town could have permission to pursue.

The Town of Thayne, Brett and Debbie Merica, Jimmy Stoker and Kevin Paul agreed to have a contractor look at the spring and start moving towards solution.

Motion to Adjourn

**Motion-** Councilman Woolley

**Seconded-** Councilman Wicks

**Motion Carried**

Meeting Adjourned at 6:35 p.m.