



# MILLS

## NEWSLETTER

March 2020

### Upcoming Town Meetings

#### Work Sessions:

March 9th at 9am

10th & 24th at 6pm

April 13th at 9am

14th & 28th at 6 pm

May 11th at 9am

12th & 26th at 6pm

#### Council Meetings:

March 10th & 24th at 7pm

April 14th & 28th at 7pm

May 12th & 26th at 7pm

**Meetings held at Mills Court House until further notice while the ramp is being replaced at Town Hall.**

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Dear Resident,

As the United States 2020 Census count quickly approaches, we'd like to remind you of its importance and why the Town of Mills relies on your answers to the Census questionnaire.

The Town of Mills receives approximately \$1,200 per year, per resident from various tax revenues that are allocated proportional to a municipality's population. These "general tax revenues" are used to fund police, fire, streets, parks and every other function of the Town other than water, sewer, and sanitation, which are funded through user fees.

The Town of Mills has grown considerably since the last Census which was officially completed in 2010. However, other communities in our area are receiving one cent sales tax dollars which should be coming to the Town of Mills for projects such as infrastructure improvements, parks, and community spaces. They are also receiving the general fund revenues that fund our police and fire departments and pay to maintain our streets among many other functions of the Town.

The Census **does not** increase taxes for individuals or businesses, but it does redistribute taxes already collected proportional to Mills' current population. As of the 2010 Census, Mills is calculated at approximately 4.5% of Natrona County's population. Since the last Census, Mills has grown to approximately 5.7% of the Natrona County population. This means other municipal entities in Natrona County currently receive over one million dollars annually that should be allocated to our town to provide for the services we all expect. **As a more accurate Census count is received, we can expect to receive funding at a higher level due to the increase of population.**

You will receive an invitation around the second or third week of March 2020 inviting you to participate in the Census data collection either online, by phone or by mail. With the online data collection period opening March 20, 2020, we will have public computers set up in the Mills Library to assist anyone interested in completing the data online. The online and paper questionnaires will only be available for approximately six weeks, at which time, the Census office will send a Census worker to your house, in person, to collect data; which means, you have six weeks, beginning March 20<sup>th</sup>, to self-report.

Please take part in this important questionnaire so the Town of Mills' count can be as accurate as possible. To learn more about the 2020 Census and how it affects our Town, Natrona County and State of Wyoming, log on to <https://2020census.gov/>, or visit us at Town Hall for a printed copy of Census topics.

### Business Highlight—Wyoming Honey Co.

The bees may not be buzzing around in this cold weather but that doesn't mean that local honey is hard to come by. The Wyoming Honey Co. has been producing honey from their hives and selling their product to Mills and Casper-area folks year-round for nearly 50 years.

The small operation, run by the Opitz family, distributes local honey from of their Mills shop and at farmers' markets throughout Casper and have become a familiar, trusted face in the honey-making business.

It's no doubt that local honey tastes better than mass produced honey but it also comes with benefits like reducing regional allergies and soothing sore throats. A single hive can produce nearly 50 pounds of honey per year and with a business as well-versed in the industry as Wyoming Honey Co., you can guarantee that they have perfected the trade and produce enough to supply each farmers' market they attend.

Year after year, the Opitz's have proven that they have what it takes to thrive in this industry to provide an excellent product with great customer service. Ready to get your hands on this, local sweet nectar? Check out the Wyoming Honey Co. to see what the buzz is all about.

### Contact Us

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[www.millswy.gov](http://www.millswy.gov)

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[www.xpressbillpay.com](http://www.xpressbillpay.com)

work has begun on the new entrance into Town Hall! We hope to have Town Hall re-opened to the public around the first part of April. The Library being open to the public will coincide with Town Hall being re-opened. Watch for more information on our website and our Facebook page toward the end of March for more a more definitive date. We are looking forward to resuming normal functions and business hours back in the main Town Hall building. Thank you all for your patience!

## Watch for upcoming events!



First Street Park celebration

July 25th — Third Annual Mills Summer-fest

April 4th—Third Annual Mills Easter Egg Hunt



More information to follow, watch our website and Facebook page for details