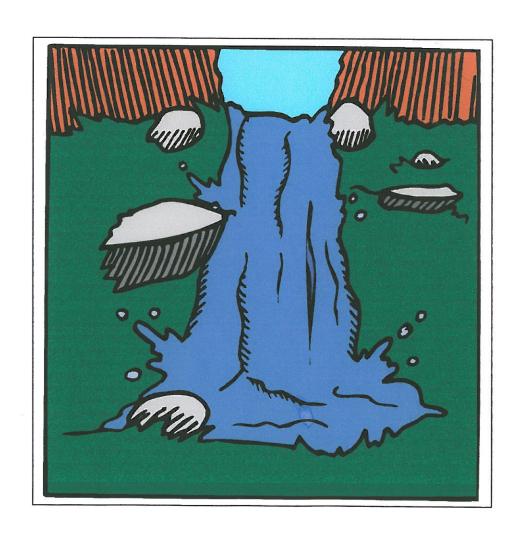
## CITY OF THOMPSON FALLS

# LOCAL GOVERNMENT STUDY COMMISSION

## FINAL REPORT



#### City of Thompson Falls City Study Commission

#### **Final Report**

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#### Letter to the Citizens of Thompson Falls, Montana

July 18, 2005

To the Citizens of Thompson Falls:

The Thompson Falls Study Commission elected by the voters on Nov. 2, 2004 present this preliminary report to you the citizens of Thompson Falls.

The purpose of the study commission as defined in state laws is to "study the existing form and powers of a local government and procedures for delivery of local government services and to compare them with other forms available under the laws of the state." After completing these two phases of the study it is the responsibility of the study commission to submit a final report recommending no change, or propose an amendment to the existing form of government or offer an alternative form of government to the qualified electors.

In every phase of this review this study commission sought advice and information from many different people in the city. Opinions and recommendations were solicited from local government officials and citizens. All meetings of the study commission were open to the public. Public hearings were held and a survey of citizens' attitudes was made.

Our recommendations reflect the thoughts and opinions of those who participated in the public hearings and responded to a survey in addition to the independent efforts of this study commission.

In this final report we present our recommendations for a change in the form of government to non-partisan elections that we feel will provide what has been requested by both local government officials and the citizens of Thompson Falls.

The question of adopting this alternative form of government will be placed on the ballot Nov. 8, 2005.

Respectfully submitted

Bina Eggensperger

Kathy Denke

3

Sammi Holstin (ex officio)

City of Thompson Falls Study Commission

#### Report Summary

The City of Thompson Falls having studied our present form of city government and the alternative forms available under state law and having considered the needs of the city recommends the following:

The question of whether or not elections shall be conducted on a partisan or non-partisan basis shall be submitted to the voters of the city in the next general election.

#### Findings of the Study Commission:

The commission studied the various issues, surveyed current city council members, the mayor and department heads and conducted a public opinion survey, which generated a high response rate.

We found that with one exception the city government form was working well. The city council members saw the most important issues presently confronting the government were providing services at the lowest tax burden, conditions of streets and lack of adequate funding, the water supply and quality, growth of the city limits and sufficient revenues to meet infrastructure needs.

They felt the current government form was working well but there was unanimous agreement that the elections should be changed to non-partisan.

Other suggestions were to get self-governing powers for more flexibility, a change to either full time mayor or administrative assistant, revenue sharing with outlying feeder communities, eliminating double taxation for city/county residents and implementation of a city code workbook.

Those citizens responding to the survey (210 out of approx. 850 mailed surveys) gave a majority of good or adequate marks to all areas of service with the exception of streets and roads, which the majority felt needed improvement.

The majority also felt the mayor and council would listen to their concerns and treat them fairly. Most would prefer the city return to the non-partisan elections they held in the past and also would prefer and open election with residents voting for candidates in all wards.

## CITY OF THOMPSON FALLS COMPARISON OF SPECIFIC CHARACTERISTICS OF THE MAYOR-COUNCIL AND AMENDED MAYOR COUNCIL FORM OF GOVERNMENT

CHARACTERISTIC	PRESENT FORM OF GOVERNMENT	PROPOSED FORM OF GOVERNMENT	COMMENTS
FORM OF GOVERNMENT	MAYOR-COUNCIL Elected council performs policy making functions. Elected mayor administers government with the advise and consent of the council.	AMENDED MAYOR-COUNCIL Elected council performs policy making functions. Elected mayor administers government with the advise and consent of the council.	No change.
POWERS	General government powers	General government powers	No change.
GOVERNING BODY	Council and mayor responsible for all legislative, executive and administrative functions.	Council and mayor responsible for all legislative, executive and administrative functions.	No change.
Size	6 council members and mayor elected from wards in partisan elections.	6 council members and mayor elected at large in nonpartisan elections.	Council members to be elected in non partisan elections.
Term	Four year overlapping terms	Same	No change.
Presiding Officer	Mayor	Mayor	No change.
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER	The mayor elected on a partisan basis administers the government on a part time basis.	The mayor elected on a non partisan basis administers the government on a part time basis.	Mayor to be elected on a nonpartisan basis.
Powers and Duties	The mayor carries out the policies of the council, advises the council, executes the budget, and enforces laws, ordinances and resolutions.	The mayor carries out the policies of the council, advises the council, executes the budget, and enforces laws, ordinances and resolutions.	No change.
Appointment Powers	The mayor appoints department heads and members of boards and commissions with the consent of the council.	The mayor appoints department heads including the clerk-treasurer, and members of boards and commissions with the consent of the council.	No change.
Budget Preparation	Mayor prepares budget in cooperation with council and department heads.	Mayor prepares budget in cooperation with council and department heads.	No change.

#### APPENDIX A

#### CERTIFICATE

#### ESTABLISHING THE EXISTING PLAN OF GOVERNMENT

#### FOR

#### CITY OF THOMPSON FALLS

If retained by the voters, the government of the City of Thompson Falls shall be organized under the following provisions of MCA 7-3-113 which authorizes the municipal council-mayor form of government;

7-3-113 Statutory basis for municipal council-mayor government. (1) For the purpose of determining the statutory basis of existing units of local government, each unit of local government organized under the general statutes authorizing the municipal council-mayor form of government, which does not adopt a new form, shall be governed after May 2, 1977 by the following sections:

```
(a) 7-3-201;
(b) 7-3-202(1);
(c) 7-3-203;
(d) 7-3-212(2);
(e) 7-3-213(3);
(f) 7-3-214(2);
(g) 7-3-215(2);
(h) 7-3-216(2);
(i) 7-3-217(2);
                    Appointed per 7-4-4102, MCA.
(i) 7-3-218(2);
(k) 7-3-219(1)
(1) 7-3-220(1);
(m) 7-3-221(3);
(n) 7-3-222(2);
(o) 7-3-223(2);
```

(2) This form has terms of 4 years for all elected officials. The size of the commission shall be six members.

These sections establish the following form of government, which shall be called the COUNCIL-MAYOR FORM.

7-3-201. Council mayor form. The council-mayor form consists of an elected council and one elected mayor who is elected at large.

7-3-202. Nature of government. The plan of government submitted to the qualified electors shall determine the powers of the local government unit by authorizing:

(1) general government powers.

#### 7-3-203. Duties of mayor. The mayor shall;

- (1) enforce laws, ordinances, and resolutions;
- (2) perform duties required of him by law, ordinance, or resolution;
- (3) administer affairs of the local government;
- (4) carry out policies established by the council;
- (5) recommend measures to the council;
- (6) report to the council on the affairs and financial condition of the local government;
- (7) execute bonds, notes, contracts, and written obligations of the council, subject to the approval of the commission;
- (8) report to the council as the council may require;
- (9) attend council meetings and may take part in discussion;
- (10) execute the budget adopted by the council;
- (11) appoint, with the consent of the council, all members of boards; except the mayor may appoint without the consent of the council temporary advisory committees established by the mayor.

#### 7-3-204. through 7-3-210 reserved.

7-3-211. Structural suboptions. The plan of government submitted to the qualified electors shall further define the structural characteristics of the form by including one item from each of the choices listed in 7-3-212 through 7-3-224.

#### 7-3-212. Administrative assistants. The executive:

(2) may appoint one or more administrative assistants to assist him in the supervision and operation of the local government, and such administrative assistants shall be answerable solely to the executive.

#### 7-3-213. Supervision of personnel. The executive may:

(3) appoint, with the consent of the council, all department heads and remove department heads and may appoint and remove all other department employees.

#### 7-3-214 Veto power. The executive may:

(2) veto ordinances and resolution, subject to override by a two-thirds vote of the council.

#### 7-3-215 Preparation of budget. The executive may:

(2) prepare the budget in consultation with the council and department heads.

#### 7-3-216 Administrative supervision and control. The executive may:

(2) exercise control and supervision of the administration of all departments and boards to the degree authorized by ordinance of the council.

- **7-3-217** Financial officer. A financial officer (who may be called the treasurer): (2) shall be appointed by the executive with consent of the commission..
- 7-3-218 Selection of council members. The council shall be:
- (2) elected by districts in which candidates must reside and which are apportioned by population.
  - **7-3-219 Type of election.** Local government elections shall be conducted on a: (1) partisan basis.
  - 7-3-220 Chairman of council. The council shall have a chairman who shall be:
- (1) elected by the members of the council from their own number for a term established by ordinance.
  - **7-3-221 Presiding officer of council.** The presiding officer of the council shall be:
- (3) the executive, who shall decide all tie votes of the council but shall have no other vote
  - 7-3-222 Terms of council members. Council members shall be elected for:
    - (2) overlapping terms of office.
  - **7-3-223.** Size of council and community councils. The size of the council, shall be four members.
- (2) community councils to advise council members may be authorized by ordinance.
  - **7-3-224 Terms of elected officials.** The term of office of elected officials is four years.

We, the Study Commissioners of City of Thompson Falls do hereby certify that this is the existing Plan of Government as established by Section 7-3-111 MCA. In testimony whereof, we set our hands.

Done at T-Fall this 18 day of July 2005.

ATTEST: Qanie Les ASST, City Clerk

LOCAL GOVERNMENT STUDY COMMISSIONERS

#### APPENDIX B

#### CERTIFICATE

#### ESTABLISHING THE PROPOSED PLAN OF GOVERNMENT

#### FOR

#### CITY OF THOMPSON FALLS

If approved by the voters, the government of the City of Thompson Falls II continue to be organized under the following provisions of MCA 7-3-113 which authorizes the municipal council-mayor form of government;

7-3-113 Statutory basis for municipal council-mayor government. (1)

For the purpose of determining the statutory basis of existing units of local government, each unit of local government organized under the general statutes authorizing the municipal council-mayor form of government, which does not adopt a new form, shall be governed after May 2, 1977 by the following sections:

- (a) 7-3-201 (b) 7-3-202(1);
- (c) 7-3-203;
- (d) 7-3-212(2);
- (e) 7-3-212(2), (e) 7-3-213(3);
- (f) 7-3-214(2);
- (g) 7-3-215(2);
- (h) 7-3-216(2);
- (i) 7-3-217(2); Appointed per 7-4-4102, MCA.
- (j) 7-3-218(2);
- (k) 7-3-219(2)
- (1) 7-3-220(1);
- (m)7-3-221(3);
- (n) 7-3-222(2);
- (o) 7-3-223(2);
- (p) This form has terms of 4 years for all elected officials. The size of the commission shall be 6 members.

These sections establish the following form of government, which shall be called the COUNCIL-MAYOR FORM.

7-3-201. Council-executive form. The council-executive (mayor) form consists of an elected council and one elected mayor who is elected at large.

7-3-202. Nature of government. The plan of government submitted to the qualified electors shall determine the powers of the local government unit by authorizing: (1) general government powers.

#### 7-3-203. Duties of mayor. The mayor shall;

- (1) enforce laws, ordinances, and resolutions;
- (2) perform duties required of him by law, ordinance, or resolution;
- (3) administer affairs of the local government;
- (4) carry out policies established by the council;
- (5) recommend measures to the council;
- (6) report to the council on the affairs and financial condition of the local government;
- (7) execute bonds, notes, contracts, and written obligations of the council, subject to the approval of the commission;
- (8) report to the council as the council may require;
- (9) attend council meetings and may take part in discussion;
- (10) execute the budget adopted by the council;
- (11) appoint, with the consent of the council, all members of boards; except the mayor may appoint without the consent of the council temporary advisory committees established by the mayor.

#### 7-3-204. through 7-3-210 reserved.

7-3-211. Structural suboptions. The plan of government submitted to the qualified electors shall further define the structural characteristics of the form by including one item from each of the choices listed in 7-3-212 through 7-3-224.

#### 7-3-212. Administrative assistants. The executive:

(2) may appoint one or more administrative assistants to assist him in the supervision and operation of the local government, and such administrative assistants shall be answerable solely to the executive.

#### **7-3-213. supervision of personnel.** The executive may:

(3) appoint, with the consent of the council, all department heads and remove department heads and may appoint and remove all other department employees.

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(2) veto ordinances and resolution, subject to override by a two-thirds vote of the council.

#### 7-3-215 Preparation of budget. The executive may:

(2) prepare the budget in consultation with the council and department heads.

#### 7-3-216 Administrative supervision and control. The executive may:

(2) exercise control and supervision of the administration of all departments and

boards.

- 7-3-217 Financial officer. A financial officer (who may be called the treasurer):
- (2) shall be appointed by the executive with the consent of the council.
- 7-3-218 Selection of council members. The council shall be:
- (2) elected by districts in which candidates must reside and which are apportioned by population.
  - 7-3-219 Type of election. Local government elections shall be conducted on a:
  - (2) nonpartisan basis.
  - 7-3-220 Chairman of council. The council shall have a chairman who shall be:
    - (1) elected by the members of the council from their own number for a term established by ordinance.
  - **7-3-221 Presiding officer of council.** The presiding officer of the council shall be:
  - (3) the executive, who shall decide all tie votes of the council but shall have no other vote.
    - 7-3-221 Terms of council members. Council members shall be elected for:
      - (2) overlapping terms of office.
    - 7-3-223. Size of council and community councils. The size of the council shall be four members.
  - ` (1) community councils to advise council members may be authorized by ordinance.
    - **7-3-224 Terms of elected officials.** The term of office of elected officials shall be four years.

We, the Study Commissioners of the City of Thompson Falls do hereby certify that this is the existing Plan of

Government as established by Section 7-3-111 MCA. In testimony whereof, we set our hands.

Done at 1. Falls this 18 day of July 2005.

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_\_ (Day
ASST. City Clerk

#### CERTIFICATE D

#### ESTABLISHING THE DATE OF THE ELECTION

#### AT WHICH THE ALTERNATIVE FORM OF GOVERNMENT

#### SHALL BE PRESENTED TO THE ELECTORS OF THE

#### CITY OF THOMPSON FALLS

The alternative plan of government proposed by the Local Government Study Commission shall be submitted to the voters of Thompson Falls at a special election to be held with the general election on November 8, 2005.

We, the Study Commissioners of the City of Thompson Falls do hereby certify that this is the date of the special election approved by the Study Commissioners of the City of Thompson Falls In testimony whereof, we set our hands.

Done at Thompson, Falls, Montana this /8

day of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_, 2005.

Local Government Study Commissioners

ATTEST:

ASST. City Clerk

#### Certficate C

THIS BALLOT SHOULD BE MARKED WITH AN "X" ON THE APPROPRIATE LINE BEFORE THE BALLOT ISSUE SELECTION FOR WHICH THE ELECTOR INTENDS TO VOTE.

#### OFFICIAL BALLOT

#### CITY OF THOMPSON FALLS LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTION BALLOT ISSUE

GENERAL ELECTION November 8, 2005

THE CITY OF THOMPSON FALLS ELECTIONS ARE CURRENTLY HELD ON A PARTISAN BASIS (I.E. DEMOCRAT, REPUBLICAN, INDEPENDENT, CONSTITUTIONAL, ETC.). IT IS THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE CITY STUDY COMMISSION THAT THE CITY SHOULD HOLD NON-PARTISAN ELECTIONS.

### LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTION "VOTE FOR ONE"

FOR adoption of the amendment to the existing plan of government to provide for the nonpartisan election of the Mayor and members of the Thompson Falls City Council, as proposed by the Thompson Falls Local Government Review Study Commission.
FOR the existing plan of government with partisan election of the Mayor and members of the Thompson Falls City Council.

#### NOTICE OF SPECIAL ELECTION

Notice is hereby given that on

#### November 8, 2005

A special ballot election will be held in conjunction with City of Thompson Falls General Election

For adoption of the amendment to the existing plan of government to Provide for the nonpartisan election of the Mayor and members of the Thompson Falls City Council as proposed by the Thompson Falls Local Government Review Study Commission; or For the existing Plan of government with partisan election of the Mayor and members of the Thompson Falls City Council.

The polls will be open at 7:00 o'clock am, and continue to be open until 8:00 o'clock p.m., on election day for the following location:

City of Thompson Falls

Thompson Falls Community Center, Acc.

DATED this 13<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2005.

Pat Ingraham, Election Administrator Sanders County, Montana

(Publish October 20, 27 and November 3, 2005. Block Ad)

#### NOTICE OF CLOSING OF VOTER REGISTRATION

Notice is hereby given that voter registration for a Special Ballot Election For adoption of the amendment to the existing plan of government to provide for the nonpartisan election of the Mayor and members of the Thompson Falls City Council, as proposed by the Thompson Falls Local Government Review Study Commission or For the existing plan of government with partisan election of the Mayor and members of the Thompson Falls Town Council will be held in conjunction with the November 8, 2005 General Election, will close at 5:00 o'clock p.m. on October 11, 2005.

All qualified registered electors of the City of Thompson Falls are entitled to vote at said election.

Persons wishing to register, who are not presently registered, may do so by requesting a form for registration by mail or by appearing before the Election Administrator.

If moving has made a change of precinct, it is necessary to have your registration transferred to your present address.

Deaf persons who are requesting information on the election are able to get numbers for the Telecommunications Device for the Deaf at 1-800-555-1212, then ask the operator to place a collect call to (406) 444-5376.

Dated this 8<sup>th</sup> day of September 2005.

Pat Ingraham, Election Administrator Sanders County, Montana

(Publish September 15, 22, 29 and October 6, 2005. Block Ad)

#### THOMPSON FALLS STUDY COMMISSION ELECTED OFFICIALS & DEPARTMENT HEADS 2005 LOCAL GOVERNMENT REVIEW SURVEY

The City of Thompson Falls Elected Officials and Department Heads completed a survey issued by the Study Commission in an effort to give them an opportunity to express their thoughts, comments and any concerns that they might have. Surveys are available for review in their entirety, with the following outline representing a summary of those surveys' as completed by the local government officials and department heads.

#### MOST IMPORTANT PROBLEMS PRESENTLY CONFRONTING THE CITY OF THOMPSON FALLS:

Providing the citizens of the city, services such as water, streets, sewer, police and fire protection while providing these services at the lowest burden on the taxpayer.

Conditions of streets, alleyways and lack of adequate funding.

Water supply and quality.

Growth of City limits.

Sufficient revenues to meet infrastructure needs.

### <u>CHANGES IN GOVERNMENTAL STRUCTURES, ORGANIZATION OR POWERS THAT WOULD HELP THE CITY DEAL WITH ITS MOST IMPORTANT PROBLEMS:</u>

In general, most felt that change or a lot of change was not necessary. Problems, within the current structure of government are dealt with, one at a time.

Administration and control of a municipal police department is governed by statutory guidelines and authorities, however with an effective working relationship between entities/departments within the local government, change is not deemed necessary.

However, some comments and areas of concern that were noted that could aid local government and city/county residents and worthy of consideration are as follows:

- a. Self-governing powers as a way to allow the city greater flexibility of governmental operation.
- b. Need for a full-time Mayor or an Administrative Assistant to handle day to day citizen questions, problems and/or complaints.
- c. Revenue sharing of regional shopping center.
- d. Revenue sharing with outlying feeder communities.
- e. Cessation of double taxation for city/county residents.
- f. Implementation of City code workbook.

#### LOCAL GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATION:

Elected Officials did not feel that changing the number of representatives, length of terms or form of election by wards/districts was warranted at this time.

Officials feel that in its present form the local government does represent the community as a whole, and works well with one exception. Elected officials would like to see the elections become non-partisan elections as they once where, qualifications is what is needed for local government, not politics (party affiliations). Non-partisan elections might encourage more residents to run as they wouldn't have to worry about belong to or being branded as a member of a political party.

Officials did feel that most residents of the city, if interested do know who their representative is and that elections by wards should be continued. It is felt that election by wards, promotes geographical representation and protects the interests of residents across the city. However, change might need to be considered if elections could be ran by wards and at large, as both might allow for more representation.

Longer terms might enhance a better flow of information but could hinder having new representatives and ideas. The council consisting of 6 members and a Mayor works very well provides many different views, which provides for a lot of discussion. The consensus of the council is that a larger council is not needed and that larger does not always means better.

## LOCAL GOVERNMENT STUDY COMMISSION QUESTIONNAIRE RESPONSES

SERVICE AREA	GOOD	ADEQUATE	NEEDS
			<b>IMPROVEMENT</b>
Police Services	90	80	31
Streets/Roads	28	47	126
Water/Sewer	62	102	35
City Hall Services	84	101	13
Parks & Recreation	49	96	49
Fire Protection	117	73	8
Snow Removal	122	65	17
Other:			
Dogs running without	tags & leashes		11
Animal control			2
Dogs	The second secon		1
Vandalism	1		
U-turns on Main Stree	1		
Rail crossings	4		
Parking			2
Parking near cornors	1		
Weed control			2
Lighting of streets			1
Street signs, yield & s	1		
Old cars & messes	4		
Loud music control es	1		
Council promote town	1		
Public relations	1		
Cemetary's			1
Cemetary District			1
Zoning laws restriction	2		
Filing pot holes	1		
Protection at fires ( Ne		with the public when	1
firemen fighting fir	es.		
Recreation center			1
	Pog	e 1 of 4	AND THE STATE OF T

## LOCAL GOVERNMENT STUDY COMMISSION QUESTIONNAIRE ELECTION RESPONSES

- 40 I would like the city to continue partisan elections.
- 154 I would like the city to return to a non-partisan election.
  - <u>55</u> I would prefer a ward election with residents voting only for candidates in their ward.
- 132 I would prefer an open election with residents voting for candidates in all wards.

If you had a problem that needed to be handled by the mayor or city council, do you believe they would listen to your concerns and treat you fairly?

120 - YES 52 - NO 7 - MAYBE 1 - N/A

#### **COMMENTS**

NOTE: Spelling, grammar, meaning & etc. have been taken from the questionnaire as written.

- 1 Undecided doubtful due to past performance.
- 1 I think it depends on who you are, who you know, and how long you've lived here.
- 1 Especially council member Sammy Holstein.
- I've discussed both problems & concerns with the Mayor. I've concluded talking to him is like talking to a door knob, if someone has not lived here for years, weather there right or wrong the mayor sides with the old timer. He done not like to make decisions.
- 1 Council yes Mayor no
- 1 The City Council is inbred, smug, self satisfied & not willing to listen to citizens concerns.
- Depends who you are if they listen or not.
- 1 Need all streets marked stop or yield.
- 1 More police to clamp down on speeders & stop sign violators.
- 1 Too many barking dogs should limit number of dogs in town.
- Water bills are more than other places.
- 2 Expand parks & recreation, including trails (Green Belt).
- 1 Police staff well above average. Hope you can retain current staff.
- 1 Let more business in & more stander water users.
- 1 Beautification Committee cleaned up some trees and the mayor chewed them out for doing so.
- 1 Put sidewalks on Haley to the High School and Golf Street to keep kids off the road.
- Out of town drivers not obeying signs of one way streets. Also swinging from right side of Main Street into left side for parking spot.
- 1 They will listen but do nothing.
- 2 Fix road over railroad tracks.
- Ainsworth Field needs replacement and the area around the field cleared off. The public sees this recreational area daily and it should reflect our community pride in our town.
- Why should someone else choose "our" representative? If someone else chooses the person chosen is no longer "our representative".

## LOCAL GOVERNMENT STUDY COMMISSION QUESTIONNAIRE ELECTION RESPONSES

#### COMMENTS

- Too numerous to list. Many concerns regarding how the city fathers put the citizens of our town second to it's list of problems rather than first.
- I believe the drug issue with adults needs to be addressed. The sign on the pole in my neighborhood that says "Drug Free Neighborhood" is a lie. I've seen both users & dealers!
- 1 We don't need 3 police officers.
- We need a decent sit down resturant to be allowed to come in & establish itself.
- 1 Entering Highway 200 from other City streets.
- Parking on Maiden Lane on Southside of court house parking to close to hydrant can't see Eastbound traffic when entering from Jefferson.
- 1 Water needs fixed by Rick Sanders. Our streets remind me of the Oregon Trail.
- 1 City office seems over staffed.
- 1 We need sewer above tracks.
- 1 Would like a sign in town that listed the population& also elevation. Also a sign to show city office & county office on Main Street.
- 1 Zoning law restrictions.
- 1 Stairs up to Madison from railroad.
- The Mayor & City Council need to be more proactive in the overall improvement of the City. City residential clean-up & infrastructure improvements.
- 1 City foreman very responsive, efficient & courteous. BTW, so is crew.
- 1 Water charges too expensive.
- I really get angry when I clean my drive off & the city comes by & leaves a burm in front of it. It makes it difficult for the elderly.
- Thompson Falls needs to have some form of beautification grant system. Many business owners need access to these kind of programs, as we are in an economically challenged community. This provides incentive for new business to enter our small town.
- When plowing snow at the West end of Preston from the intersection of Wood Street to the city limits; why doesn't the city go to the city limits and plow both lanes East putting all of the snow on the railroad side where no one lives? Or just let the county plow this little section? They do. It doesn't help to plow the street if you can't get to it.
- Past recommendations, complaints (re: downed street signs) & enforcement of town laws brought to mayoral attention have come to naught (ignored).
- 3 City streets are in desparate need of reconditining.
- 5 years ago my H2O bill spiked (55,000 gal.) & I was told I had to go to the council meeting & that you only get one shot! This is not right or fais so I ate the bill!
- Someway to get a better look when trying to get on the rightway. And there should be a turning lane. Fine people who think the railroad crossings are approaches are only 1 way thinking.
- 1 Take better care of our City market clean and nice for residents.
- 1 I would like a sign or signs showing the elevation & population of Thomson Falls.
- I would like to see stop lights on the street crossing near the Town Pump. Cars are parked too close to the crossing coming down the hill West of Cenex Harvest States. You have to worm your way almost to the street highway to see if a car is coming. A stop light would help.

## LOCAL GOVERNMENT STUDY COMMISSION QUESTIONNAIRE ELECTION RESPONSES

#### COMMENTS

- 1 Please get together with the state & Forest Service to so something about the deer problem.
- 4 Loose & barking dogs.
- Fix pot holes. The city crews keep putting cold asphalt in the pot holes rather than repairing the streets properly. I have seen the same pot holes patched over & over again for the last twelve years.
- 1 Get drugs out of our county.
- 1 The people on welfare should be checked every 30 days.
- 1 All sex offenders should be made public every 30 days.
- 2 Jerry Lacy and his crew do a great job!
- Please try to do something with the rocks in the alley behind 318 Jefferson, they're raising out of the dirt.
- 1 Walking path full length of Haley.
- 1 A stop light on main.
- 1 Walking paths.
- We are located on 505 Main and we are always missed when it comes to any kind of decorations at Xmas it seems it always cut's off on our block.
- 1 So far the couple of experiences we've had with city our experience have been positive.
- 2 Junk removal from yards.
- 1 Make available a list of services or problems that could be handled by Mayor and/or City Council -3 specific to Thompson Falls.
- More hiring according to EEOC standards & not nepotisim less political patronage.