

The Regular meeting of the McGill Town Council was held on August 20, 2013 at the McGill Community/Senior Center located at the top of Avenue K at 7:00 P.M.

The following Council Members were in attendance:

- Bob Winder, Chairman
- Roxane Ballandby, Vice-Chairperson
- Mike Borovansky, Member
- Ed Dubrutz, Member
- Sheri Mishler, Member

Also in attendance:

- Delores Manchester, Secretary/Town Clerk
- Mike Coster, County Commissioner Liaison
- Chris Flannery, WPC Building Official
- Lee Garcia, McGill Fire Chief
- Chris McConaha, McGill Fire Department
- Brenda McConah, Girl Scout Troop #1322
- Holly Augare, McGill Community Activities Committee
- Woody Robinson, Parks Manager
- Jerry T. Morrill, McGill Volunteer Fire Department
- D. Lamb, McGill Volunteer Fire Department
- Robert Harrison, Marie's Café
- Cynthia Angelopoulos, McGill Revitalization Assoc.
- Bonny Pridemore, McGill Community Activities Committee
- Debra Asay, McGill Community Activities Committee
- Ian Bulloch, IonoWeb
- Elizabeth Bulloch, IonoWeb
- Joni Drahos, McGill Revitalization Assoc.
- Stacy Laird, McGill Revitalization Assoc./McGill Business Rep.
- Rabi Malgren

Council Chairman Winder called the meeting to order – calling upon Council Member Dubrutz to lead the Council and audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Council Member Dubrutz led the Council and audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Council Chairman Winder noted that the first Amendment of the Constitution for the United States of America gives the citizens of the country the right to free speech.

Council Chairman Winder called for comments from the public.

Cynthia Angelopoulos, McGill Revitalization Association, addressed the Council referring to the home located at #16 Fourth (Main) Street. There had been a vehicle left on the street for a few months, but it was recently ticketed, and the person moved the vehicle into the yard. In the short few months those people have resided there, they have parked several unlicensed vehicles up into the yard, and outside the yard (next to the county storage shed) a torn up vehicle is piled. She is concerned that these vehicle parts may topple over and injure someone going past the back of the yard.

The Council noted that this will be also listed under the Nuisance Abatement agenda item, and the council will send the appropriate correspondence to the Sheriff asking him to send an officer to assess the condition of the yard and vehicles, and if there is a violation ask them to proceed accordingly.

Cynthia Angelopoulos asked who was responsible for the condition of the sidewalks on Main Street. The sidewalks are un-kept and littered with weeds.

Fire Chief Garcia explained that he has been assigned community service workers, possibly he can schedule them to clean the sidewalks.

Council Vice-Chairperson cautioned that if the community service workers are under a certain age, they will not be allowed to work along a state highway.

Fire Chief Garcia assured the Council that he will look into this matter. If the community service workers cannot clean the sidewalks, he will schedule the cleaning with the Honor Camp.

Cynthia Angelopoulos referred to the many weeds around McGill.

Parks Manager Robinson explained that, in the past, the County Parks Department has assisted with the initial spraying, or spreading of weed killer in the spring. However, they did not provide any assistance this year.

The Council noted this matter will also be listed under the Parks Maintenance Report agenda item. The Council further directed the secretary to prepare correspondence, under the Chairman's signature, to the County Maintenance Department asking for their assistance in providing weed spraying. Also send correspondence to NDOT inquiring if they ever spray for weeds along the state highway, or within the town limits along the state highway.

Park Manager Robinson stood and publically thanked everyone in this community for their support, and encouragement, during the recent situation in his life.

ABATEMENT OF A DANGEROUS BUILDING – STANDARD MARKET:

Chris Flannery, WPC Building Official, addressed the Council explaining that his department has had some success in abating some of the dangerous buildings in McGill (meaning the trailers at the south end of town and the old Goodman Titball Dry Goods building). Explaining that he is as frustrated as the Town Council in the lack of response, and follow up guidance, regarding the abatement of the Old Standard Market Building. He has provided a copy of the abatement process that he now uses as prescribed by NRS 244.360. Also, he is aware that White Pine County has adopted Ordinance #268 regarding the adoption of the most recent Uniform Code for the Abatement of Dangerous Buildings, the last update was in 1997. He has had County Commissioners ask him to work on this abatement, and he remembers when the owners, and renter, of the building appeared before a County Commission meeting assuring them that they would bring this building up to code.

Council Member Dubrutz noted that the McGill Town Council has sent correspondence to the Board of County Commissioners and through the Clerk of the Board for the past 20 plus years, the last 2 letters went unanswered.

Council Chairman Winder recalled that he also appeared in a County Commission meeting last month and asked for the BOCC to proceed with the abatement of that building. The BOCC, at that meeting, turned the matter over to the Building Department. He does not know if there was any follow up correspondence.

Building Official Flannery explained that he has spent considerable amount of time working on the abatement of the Old Standard Market Building, he has pictures, and he has requested the District Attorney to follow up.

County Commissioner Coster asked when was the last time any correspondence was sent to the BOCC regarding this building.

The secretary answered a month ago. She also has a large file containing copies of all past correspondence during the past 20 plus years.

County Commissioner Coster assured the Council that he would research this matter.

Building Official Flannery requested a duplicate copy of all the correspondence so he may add it to his already thick file.

It was the consensus of the Council to send another letter, address it to the County Clerk rather than the Board of County Commissioners, and request to proceed with the abatement of the dangerous building known as the Old Standard Market Building.

APPROVAL OF DONATION TO THE MCGILL SWIMMING POOL FOR PRIZES AT THE ANNUAL LABOR DAY BIG SPLASH:

Holly Augare, McGill Community Activities Committee, addressed the Council explaining that she has spoken with JoAnn Stratton, McGill Swimming Pool, about this agenda item. Ms. Stratton would prefer to order from Oriental Trading this year, and the Activities Committee and Revitalization Association have offered to assist with the Big Splash.

Council Member Mishler motioned to authorize JoAnn Stratton to utilize McGill Town Council's account with Oriental Trading for the purchase of prizes for the Big Splash which is held on the Labor Day weekend. This expenditure is not to exceed \$250.00.

Council Vice-Chairperson Ballandby seconded the motion.

Jerry Morrill questioned why they were not purchasing the prizes locally.

It was explained that they had checked with Bradley's Bestway Market, but they were unable to obtain the prizes they wished to order.

Motion was carried by a unanimous vote.

FINAL PREPARATIONS FOR MCGILL'S ANNUAL LABOR DAY FESTIVITIES:

Holly Augare reported that their volunteer group has organized the weekend as follows:

August 30, 2013

6:00 pm – parade on 2nd Street

7:00 pm – street party at Avenue K Park – home town band "Cover Rage" performing.

Rides to and from the party are being offered for a small fee.

August 31, 2013

11:00 am BBQ and Big Splash at the McGill Pool Park

7:00 pm Grade School Cookie and Punch Social

September 1, 2013

8:00 am – clean up of McGill Ball Park

10:00 am – BBQ & games at the McGill Ball Park

After dark – fireworks at the McGill Ball Park

Fire Chief Garcia inquired about portable toilets and he provided the Town Council with a copy of the fireworks permit, and map of the area.

Holly Augare assured everyone that the portable toilets have been ordered.

APPROVAL OF PURCHASE ORDER REQUESTS FOR BUDGET YEAR 2013/2014:

The secretary explained that last year the White Pine County Finance Department suggested that McGill obtain purchase orders for the larger expenses that happen each year. By obtaining the purchase orders and by dedicating those funds early in the year eliminates the possibility of being placed on the exception list.

She prepared the following purchase order requests:

Linnell Electric – repair of street lights - \$10,000.00

Linnell Electric – annual purchase of street light inventory - \$5,000.00

Lund Fire (revised to Lantis) – Labor Day Fireworks - \$5,000.00

Great Basin Porta Potty – weekly service, cleaning, special events - \$2,000.00

Cedar Grove Pets & IFA Feeds – weed & Feed for lawns - \$2,000.00

Bradleys Bestway Market – Labor Day picnic food - \$1,500.00 (revised to \$2,000)

Cave Valley Engraving – McGill Entrance Signs (carried forward from last year) - \$3,000.00

Council Member Misherl motioned to approve the above listed purchase order requests.

Council Member Dubrutz seconded the motion.

Motion was carried by a unanimous vote.

DISCUSSION/ACTION PURCHASE OF AN ICE MACHINE TO BE LOCATED AT THE
McGILL SENIOR/COMMUNITY CENTER:

Council Chairman Winder recalled that the McGill Town Council purchased an ice machine a few years ago and it has been situated at the Fire Department for their availability when they are responding to emergencies. He understands there are issues about obtaining ice. He would note that there are several things that can happen as a result of this discussion. The Council can let this continue – the Council can move the ice machine to the Senior Center – the Council can purchase ice from local businesses – or they can purchase a second ice machine. His personal recommendation is to leave the ice machine where it is and work something out with the scheduling of collecting ice.

Council Member Borovansky noted that he personally does not feel that McGill Town Council needs 2 ice machines.

Council Member Dubrutz agreed, recalling that McGill recently purchased a freezer and placed it at the Senior/Community Center to store some ice.

Council Member Mishler explained that the freezer that is situated at the Senior/Community Center only hold about 15 or so bags of ice. During events, there is a great need for a lot more ice than that.

Marie's Café offered ice from their establishment.

Fire Chief Garcia noted for the record that they have discussed this matter in front of the Town Council before. The Fire Department is well aware that the Town Council purchased the ice machine and located it at the fire station, and they agreed to allow people to collect ice. The only thing that the Fire Department has asked, is that someone purchase the bags for the ice and that they bag the ice. They do not have sufficient storage for the ice that will be used by all organizations. They now have 24 volunteer firemen, but people wishing ice will still need to call to schedule when they can come and bag their ice.

Joni Drahos, McGill Revitalization Assoc., informed the assemblage that their organization has purchased a freezer and groups are welcome to use some of their freezer space.

Council Chairman Winder noted that it is agreed between all groups, that they are to call the Fire Chief and schedule a time when they can come to bag ice. Anyone wishing ice is to supply their own bags and area to store the ice.

All in attendance agreed.

RATIFICATION OF PERSONNEL ACTION FORMS FOR ASSISTANT GROUNDS WORKERS:

The secretary explained that the parks assistant grounds worker (Doug Thornburg) resigned his position, the Park Manager (Woody Robinson) needed help with the watering and mowing for the remainder of the summer season. He requested the second choice person (during interview process) be called in to finish the season. They called Jonathan Pay and he accepted the position. Personnel Action forms needed to be completed to remove Doug Thornburg from the payroll and to place Jonathan Pay on the payroll. Jonathan Pay began his employment on 8/8/2013 and is working out well.

The secretary explained that because this action needed to be done as soon as possible, it was necessary to provide the county personnel director with the necessary paperwork to remove one employee and hire a new employee. She did obtain 3 signatures and turned all paperwork into the county. She is now asking the McGill Town Council to ratify this action.

Council Member Borovansky motioned to accept the resignation of Doug Thornburg as the seasonal assistant grounds worker, and to hire Jonathan Pay as the new seasonal assistant grounds worker.

Council Member Dubrutz seconded the motion.

Motion was carried by a unanimous vote.

SELECTION OF REPRESENTATIVE TO ATTEND CEDS MEETINGS:

Council Member Winder referred to the correspondence received from the EDC Office requesting someone represent McGill during the CEDS priority process.

The secretary explained that, if nobody is interested in attending these early morning meetings, she has to be there representing the Ely Shoshone Tribe. She would be willing to attend on behalf of the McGill Town Council.

Council Member Mishler motioned to appoint the McGill secretary, Delores Manchester, to represent the McGill Town Council during the CEDS meetings.

Council Vice-Chairperson Ballandby seconded the motion.

Motion was carried by a unanimous vote.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Council Member Dubrutz motioned to approve the McGill Town Council minutes dated July 16, 2013.

Council Vice-Chairperson Ballandby seconded the motion.

Council Members Borovansky and Mishler abstained from voting due to being absent from that meeting.

Motion was carried by a majority vote.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Correspondence mailed or received since the previous meeting were listed as follows:

1. McGill-Ruth Water agenda for August 19, 2013.
2. Memo to Fire Dept listing donation in the amount of \$10.00.
3. Letter from the EDC Office requesting a representative to serve on the CEDS committee.
4. Letter to Jonathan Pay requesting he submit to pre employment testing.
5. Memo to Fire Dept listing donation in the amount of \$10.00.
6. Memo depositing funds in McGill's misc. account for rent of the Community Center.
7. Letter to Jarid Russo waiving rental fee for use of the Community Center.
8. Letter to Boy Scouts, Troop 63 thanking them for the Flag Ceremony and requesting W-9 so Council could donate to their organization.
9. Resolution 2013-01 supporting local purchases.

10. Letter and purchase order request to Custom Inc. to purchase T-shirts.

APPROVAL OF BILLS:

The following bills were read into the record:

OPI	\$ 29.99
(monthly service)	
Pony Express Service Mart	\$ 167.48
(parks gas)	
(ice)	\$ 7.80
Bath Lumber	\$ 193.05
(park supplies)	
Creations	\$ 87.85
(Resolution framing)	
Parts Plus	\$ 31.70
(mower belt)	
Lantis Fireworks	\$5,000.00
(fireworks)	

Council Member Dubrutz motioned to approve the bills as read.

Council Vice-Chairperson Ballandby seconded the motion.

Motion was carried by a unanimous vote.

NUISANCE ABATEMENTS:

It was reported that the Rail Road track crossing near Avenue F and First Street are in need of repairs. The railroad ties are coming up and could cause damage to vehicles driving over the tracks.

Council Member Misher questioned if correspondence should be sent to the County Road Supervisor or to the Nevada Northern Railroad.

The Council directed the secretary to prepare correspondence to the County Road Supervisor, Bill Miller, to report the condition of the railroad track crossing. Note if this is not his responsibility, that he forward it on to the appropriate agency.

Council Member Mishler reported an extremely trashy yard at #109 Third Street. This is located at the Avenue A approach road and Third Street across from her house and below the railroad tracks. She explained that the people living in the trailer used to pay rent to the trailer park owners. Then the trailers in the trailer park was cleaned up by the owner of the property under the abatement of dangerous building (thanks to the WPC Building Official's efforts). After the owner of the property cleaned the lots, he filed bankruptcy, and later the property may have, or may have not, been taken by the County Treasurer as tax title while the people were still living in the trailer. During the abatement process, there was a couple still living in the trailer above the row of abandoned trailers, after the owners filed bankruptcy that couple remained living in the trailer (basically they were squatters who were living in the house without water, sewer, utilities, garbage collection services, etc.). This couple lived in this trailer for over 20 years, and we do not know if the trailer belonged to them, or to the owner of the property. A few years after the woman passed away, her husband apparently helped himself die. That is when it was actually discovered that the couple had been living in the trailer without paying rent or without the knowledge of the owners of the property. She understands, but is not certain, that that property has been taken tax title by the County Treasurer because she saw it advertised in the paper. The trailer is full to the top with bags of trash, the small camp trailer behind the main trailer is filled to the brim with trash, the storage shed is also filled to the brim with trash, and the yard has scattered trash. Now the Council is faced with who is responsible for the clean up of this unsightly yard. The Sheriff's Office cannot issue a citation because there is nobody residing there anymore and it is undetermined who owns the trailer. If the property has been taken tax title, would the Treasurer, at that time, have secured the property pursuant to the duties of that office. She would like to know who should the Town Council report this unsightly yard to.

It was the consensus of the Council to have the secretary prepare the necessary correspondence to the Board of County Commissioners, WPC Sheriff's Office, WPC Building Department, WPC District Attorney, and to the WPC Treasurer. Ask who has the responsibility of maintaining and cleaning this property.

Footnote: On the morning following the Council meeting the secretary checked in the Treasurer's Office to see if she could find out if the property had been taken tax title. The secretary learned that the correct address for the property mentioned above is actually 121 Third Street. It had been taken tax title in 2010. The notes kept in the Treasurer's Office did not mention that there was a trailer sitting on the property at the time it was taken.

Other discussion – see public comment about the unsightly yard reported at #16 Fourth (Main) Street.

ANIMALS AT LARGE/VICIOUS DOGS:

It was noted there are so many dogs running at large that they are hard to keep up after. It was suggested purchasing poop dispensers, but it was also noted that people don't usually clean up after their own pets who are running loose.

PARK MAINTENANCE:

Park Manager Robinson reported that the parks do not look as good as they have in the past. His assistant became ill and he had personal issues. He now has a new parks assistant grounds worker and he is doing an excellent job. Between the 2 of them, they will get the parks back in the condition that they should be. Presently they are working on the Ball Park for the Labor Day activities. The truck is running better now and the new parks assistant is using it. They had to do additional work on the lawn mower because people are always throwing rocks on the lawn and the rocks tear up the mower belts.

Fire Chief Garcia requested assistance of the Parks Department in mowing the lawn at the Legion Hall. They do not need assistance with watering because the sprinklers are automatic.

Parks Manager Robinson explained that his department has taken on the Kinnear Library lawn and the Senior Center lawn, he will speak with his assistant and see if they can handle the mowing.

Other discussion – see public comment about spraying of weeds.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

The secretary explained that McGill is only 8% into the budget year with very little expenditures recorded to date. She would like to point out that she has already submitted the purchase order requests for the year, which appear in the 3 column to the left of the county spreadsheet. This shows that the funds for the purchase orders have been obligated.

FIRE/EMT REPORTS:

Fire Chief Garcia reported that they now have 24 volunteer firefighters. They have been successful in getting 20 new turn outs for the firemen at the cost of over \$50,000. They have increased their training and hope to have a fully functioning fire department. They are also trying to station volunteers at the fire station so they can be ready for any situation. They also have purchased T-shirts and beer mugs that they will be selling at the Labor Day picnic in an effort of raising funds to help support the department. Right now they are selling the T-shirts and beer mugs for \$20 per mug and \$15 for each T-shirt. If people wait until the picnic, they price will go up.

Fire Chief Garcia reported that his department has responded to 4 fire calls this month. They also assisted the EMTs with 15 emergencies.

Council Chairman asked about the hoses for the fire trucks.

Fire Chief Garcia answered that the hoses on the one truck is 6 years old. They have tested the hoses, but one of the truck's hose is of a different size. There is a possibility of needing new hoses after they have been inspected, and if found to not meeting the required specifications.

Council Member Mishler noted that the safety of the volunteer firemen is the utmost priority of the McGill Town Council. If new fire hoses are needed, then she would offer that the Town Council work on augmenting funds from the Town's fund balance to purchase the hoses.

STREET LIGHTS:

Council Chairman Winder reported that he only has 2 lights out at the present time.

Council Member Mishler reported that she has received some phone calls about a few street lights that were not connected after the replacement pole project.

It was explained that those people need to report that to Mt. Wheeler Power so they may speak with their contractor.

STREETS AND STREET SIGNS:

Council Member Dubrutz complimented the work of the County Road Department, and their Road Supervisor Bill Miller. They regularly drive around McGill inspecting streets, signs, and anything that may require their attention. Most recently they replaced a stop sign that was down, and they put up 3 new signs.

The Council directed the secretary to follow this compliment up in writing to the Road Supervisor.

CULTURAL CENTER REPORT:

Council Vice-Chairperson Ballandby reported that their organization has been working with IonoWeb in connecting wires for all the library computers to the Town Council computers so they can have much faster internet service. She would like to temporarily provide IonoWeb with keys to the building so they may complete their job.

The secretary noted that she has loaned them the keys they need and they will return them when finished.

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH PROGRAM:

Council Member Borovansky reported there was 12 persons in attendance of the last Neighborhood Watch meeting. Deputy Alan Pedersen was in attendance to provide his usual guidance. The Neighborhood Watch will also have a booth at the Big Splash and picnic with information about their program.

YOUTH/COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES:

It was reported there will be a BBQ at the Swimming Pool park this weekend. They event will last as long as they have people wanting to eat.

McGILL REVITALIZATION COMMITTEE:

Joni Drahos reported that they will also have a booth at the Big Splash. They plan on helping the swimming pool staff with their contests. They will have a float in the parade, and they will have a concert and dance at the School Gym.

BUSINESS PLAN/McGILL MERCHANTS REPORTS:

Stacy Laird reported that she heard that Nevada Slag has closed their doors, but she has not received any confirmation yet.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Council Chairman Winder called for any additional comments from the public.

Concerns were expressed about the fate of the McGill Swimming Pool after the new pool is built in Ely.

The Council explained that the McGill Pool is grandfathered into the older health regulations. Should the gates ever close, they will not be able to open it up again. There has been considerable amount of money spent on renovating the pool and pool area this past summer (\$175,000), so the Town Council will do everything within their powers to keep the gates open.

County Commissioner Coster reported that he brought a draft ordinance to the BOCC allowing for ATVs on public roads so people could drive out of town, as now possibly allowed if an ordinance is approved, pursuant to NRS490. During the public hearing process, there was 80 letters recorded in favor of the ordinance, and there were only a couple not in favor. He made the motion to adopt the ordinance, but it died for a lack of a second. He is considering his options and may bring the matter back for consideration in a year or so.

County Commissioner Coster also reported that the BOCC had reviewed bids for the repair/reconstruction of the front porch of the McGill Senior/Community Center. There were 3 bids

submitted, 2 bids were disqualified, but one of the disqualified bidders filed a protest. At this point, there has been no decision made regarding the award of bid for the work on the front porch.

County Commissioner Coster reported that there will be a clean up of the Ely Cemetery next Saturday. Anyone interested in assisting can show up.

Stacy Laird noted that she is looking for old Little League uniforms. If anyone has any, they can contact her.

MEETING ADJOURNED:

There being no further business or questions or comments to be brought before the McGill Town Council, the meeting adjourned at 9:09 P.M.