

The Regular meeting of the McGill Town Council was held on November 19, 2013 at the McGill Senior/Community 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  
Ed Dubrutz, Member  
Sheri Mishler, Member

Absent Council Member:

Mike Borovansky, Member

Also in attendance:

Delores Manchester, Secretary/Town Clerk  
Mike Coster, County Commissioner  
Brenda McConaha, McGill Girl Scouts/MVFD  
Elinor Blackham, EMS/MVFD  
Lee Garcia, McGill Volunteer Fire Chief  
Stacy Laird, Business Rep/McGill Revitalization Ass.  
Richard Willes, MVFD  
David Willes, MVFD  
Debby, Willes, EMS/MVFD  
Ty Kelly  
Cynthia Angelopoulos, McGill Revitalization Ass.  
Anne Schroeder, McGill Revitalization Ass.  
Mark Teft  
Joni Drahos, McGill Revitalization Ass.

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Council Chairman Winder called the meeting to order 7:00 P.M., 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 called for comments from the audience.

Council Member Mishler reported that the toilets at the McGill Senior/Community Center are in deplorable condition. They are so old that scrubbing can no longer keep the clean. She would like the Council to consider replacing these toilets.

It was noted that the Senior/Community Center is the property of White Pine County, and is under the control of the WPC Senior Program.

It was suggested that the Council would need to check with the WPC Maintenance Supervisor to see if he had funds within his budget to replace these toilets. If he does not, then place this matter on the next agenda for the Town Council to make the decision to replace them at the Town Council's expense.

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It was reported that the meeting hall at the McGill Senior/Community Center has not been washed down or painted in several years.

Again, the Council will need to check with the WPC Maintenance Supervisor to see if he had funds within his budget to wash and paint the meeting area and kitchen area. Possibly coordinate with the Honor Camp to wash and paint. It was further agreed to coordinate this matter with the Maintenance Supervisor and place this matter on the next agenda for decision.

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It was reported that the grease trap in the kitchen of the Senior/Community Center is not draining and there have been instances where the kitchen became flooded.

The Council directed the secretary to include this work order in the correspondence to the WPC Maintenance Supervisor.

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It was reported that the cooler in the kitchen appears to have a short. When plugged in, sparks fly.

The Council instructed the secretary to include this matter in the Memo to the WPC Maintenance Supervisor.

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Council Chairman Winder reported that the bids to repair the front porch of the McGill Senior/Community Center has been delayed until next spring.

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Cynthia Angelopoulos, McGill Revitalization Association, addressed the Council pointing out that McGill needs some type of recreation for the youth in the community. She has read in the paper that Ely will be getting a skating park and/or ice skating arena.

It was explained that McGill used to have an ice skating arena at the southern end of the Ball Park, but it had been damaged. It was also pointed out that the City of Ely is building their skating park with volunteer equipment and labor.

The Council instructed the secretary to send a Memo to the EDC Director asking when he begins working on the next round of the SNPLMA grant cycle, that he consider adding a skating park, or ice skating arena.

APPROVAL OF PERSONNEL ACTION FORMS FOR END OF SEASONAL EMPLOYMENT FOR MCGILL PARKS STAFF:

Council Chairman Winder read the following personnel action forms into the record:

Dennis “Woody” Robinson – end of seasonal employment – effective October 25, 2013 – employee will return next year.

Jonathan Pay – end of seasonal employment – effective October 25, 2013 – employee may return next year.

Council Member Mishler motioned to approve the personnel action forms for Dennis “Woody” Robinson and Jonathan Pay.

Council Vice-Chairperson Ballandby seconded the motion.

Motion was carried by majority vote of the quorum present.

STATUS REPORT ON COMPREHENSIVE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY (CEDS):

The secretary provided copies of the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) that the committee had been working on for the past few months.

Highlights of the CEDS were listed as:

1. Economic Development for mining, airport expansion, solar farm, possible aerospace, power transmission line, etc.
2. When any economic development appears, the increase in small businesses.
3. Ely was placed as #5 in the nation as one of the small towns making a comeback.
4. Volunteer organizations that keep communities alive.
5. Abatement of dangerous and abandoned buildings.
6. Public safety issues, McGill Neighborhood Watch was praised for their success.
7. Video cameras being installed throughout WPC to aid law enforcement.
8. Emergency services.
9. Housing.
10. Continuation of SNPLMA grant projects.
11. Great Basin Highway improvement project has been pushed back to 2016.
12. All other highways leading into Ely, McGill, and Lund areas have been pushed back to 2019.

RE-ACTIVATING COG, AND MCGILL TOWN COUNCIL'S PARTICIPATION IN COG  
(Council of Governments):

The secretary explained that she had attended all the CEDS meetings. One of the topics that came up was communication between all the governmental agencies. McGill, as an unincorporated town in White Pine County, they are 1/3 the size of the City of Ely and is only 13 miles away from Ely, but they are not always kept updated on activities of the Board of County Commissioners. It was suggested at CEDS that possibly COG needed to be re-activated so all Boards could begin communicating again. She was asked by WPC Commissioner Lampros to dig through her files to see if she still had any information on COG. She is asking if McGill Town Council would like to participate in COG again. The last time McGill was included in COG, they had expressed their cooperation in the form of a Resolution.

Council Chairman Winder explained that he has read on page #3 that of COG that Ely had 4 voting members, WPC Commission had 3 voting members and the town did not have any vote. He would support COG, but he would support it with all communities have one (1) vote each on matters.

Commissioner Coster explained that there are several advisory boards in White Pine County. Oftentimes, those advisory boards are represented by the same hand full of participants. With the new wave of technology, video conferencing will become popular, this will allow for a larger variety of people in the outlying areas to attend.

Council Member Dubrutz motioned to support re-activating the Council of Governments (COG), with the stipulated change to the original PREAMBLE that each community member will have one vote per representative/community. This will place all communities within White Pine County to be on equal standing. His motion includes allowing video conferencing, as well.

Council Vice-Chairperson Ballandby seconded the motion.

Motion was carried by a unanimous vote of the quorum present.

REQUEST AUTHORIZATION TO PURCHASE MCGILL TOWN COUNCIL LETTERHEAD  
AND OFFICE SUPPLIES:

The secretary recalled that the Council, in their previous meeting, set a new purchase policy. She already had the McGill Town Council letterhead ordered, but she has not picked it up yet. She is requesting authorization to pick up McGill's letterhead from GTC and she is not sure of the purchase price. She is also requesting authorization to purchase from Bradley's 8 ½ X 11 paper and 8 1.2 X 14 paper, along with other office supplies. Because the office paper will be a special order, she may have to purchase the entire case. She is also requesting to purchase from Bradley's cleaning supplies for the McGill Senior/Community Center.

Council Member Mishler motioned to authorize the secretary to purchase McGill Town Council letterhead from GTC, office supplies from Bradley's Bestway Market, and Senior/Community Center cleaning supplies from Bradley's Bestway Market.

Council Member Dubrutz seconded the motion.

Motion was carried by a unanimous vote of the quorum present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Council Member Mishler motioned to approve the McGill Town Council minutes dated October 15, 2013.

Council Member Dubrutz seconded the motion.

Motion was carried by a unanimous vote of the quorum present.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Correspondence mailed or received since the previous Town Council meeting was listed as follows:

1. Copy of a letter from White Pine County District Attorney notifying James O'Neill about the abatement of the Standard Market building.
2. Sympathy letter to the family of Anne Schroeder.
3. Thank you letter to Great Basin College for donation of television and stand.
4. Letter to WPC Clerk listing all votes and motions by the McGill Town Council since January 2013.
5. Copy of Council of Government Preamble and Resolution.
6. Letter from WPC Clerk listing Ed Dubrutz and Sheri Mishler terms due to expire.
7. Letter from WPC Clerk listing recordings, agendas, and minutes that are missing from their files.
8. Response to WPC noting that flash drive was delivered, and providing duplicate copies of requested minutes and agendas.

APPROVAL OF BILLS/AUTHORIZATION TO PURCHASE:

The following bills to be paid were read into the record:

OPI	\$ 29.99
(monthly copy machine contract)	
Linnell Electric	1,035.00
(street light repairs)	

Suburban Propane 48.00  
(propane tank rental for Kinnear Library)

Council Vice-Chairperson Ballandby motioned to approve the bills for payment as read.

Council Member Dubrutz seconded the motion.

Motion was carried by a unanimous vote of the quorum present.

NUISANCE ABATEMENTS:

Council Chairman Winder noted that they are still in the process of abating the Standard Market building. Procedure for reporting unsightly yards is for the Town Council to send correspondence to the Board of County Commissioners, they then issue an order to the WPC Sheriff's Office to have an officer inspect the property, then if the property constitutes a nuisance, then proceed accordingly. Also, private citizens, if they feel property constitutes a nuisance, they may also call their complaint in to the Sheriff's Office.

Cynthia Angelopoulos explained that there is a lot behind #43 Seventh Street that has been vacant many years. This lot is a place where junk builds up and the sheds are in a dangerous state of disrepair. There are parcels of land in McGill that Kennecott sold the sheds to one person, then the land to another. In this particular case, she understands that this parcel belongs to White Pine County, but the sheds may belong to another person. At any rate, this area has become extremely unsightly and the sheds are in a state of disrepair.

It was determined that the ownership of this parcel needs to be verified. Then a complaint can be filed along with a request to clean the property.

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A comment was made about Highway Patrol vehicles speeding through McGill. Some of the incidences appeared not to be emergency situations.

County Commissioner Coster suggested that those incidences need to be documented, such as date and time. Once it is documented, then possibly the matter can be addressed further.

ANIMALS AT LARGE/VICIOUS DOGS:

Nothing to report at this time.

PARKS MAINTENANCE REPORT:

Nothing to report at this time.

### FINANCIAL REPORT:

The secretary reported that McGill is 33% into their budget year with only 16% of the revenues being reported as of this date. Expenditures are at 49%, but that includes outstanding purchase orders. Revenues Received is \$16,483.34 – total expenditures are \$33,289.90 – outstanding purchase order requests are \$22,097.25.

### FIRE/EMT REPORTS:

McGill Fire Chief Garcia reported that they responded to 8 medical calls and 1 motor vehicle call during the past month. The WPC Fire District will be getting the bill paid for the turn outs at a cost of about \$50,000. McGill Volunteer Fire Department is also receiving about \$2,000 in equipment. Presently Engine #9 is sitting at the Emergency Response Center on loan.

Fire Chief Garcia requested one of his volunteer firefighters stand and display the uniform that he had personally purchased. One of the goals of the McGill Volunteer Fire Department is to have their volunteer firefighters all have uniforms, so when they represent the Department in a professional manner. Some of the volunteers cannot afford their uniforms, so it may take a while to professionally clothe the firefighters.

The secretary recalled that several years ago, McGill Town Council had a similar request, but that time it was from the EMTs in McGill; they needed heavy jackets, with reflective markings, displaying their Logo. The EMTs requested those jackets because when they were responding to an emergency on the Highway, they were subject to extreme cold and winds, the heavy jackets not only protected them from the elements, but it also gave the McGill EMTs professional status. At that time McGill had the funds to clothe the McGill EMTs, some of the other communities did not, and eventually McGill was able to lead the way in dressing their volunteer EMTs.

The Council directed their secretary to place this matter on the next agenda for the ordering of the uniforms and to request to augment funds from the Town's fund balance (savings) to pay for the firemen uniforms. Fire Chief Garcia is to obtain cost estimates for the uniforms for all qualifying volunteer firefighters.

### STREET LIGHTS:

Council Chairman Winder explained that last month he had ordered 11 street lights to be repaired. Presently there are 4 lights that are not working, and 3 of those were on the list last month. There was a need to purchase inventory, but the contract worker made do with what supplies they had at the time.

### STREETS & SIGNS REPORT:

Council Member Dubrutz reported that he has not received any complaints or concerns reported to this this past month. He has also not heard from the WPC Road Supervisor, so he would assume that all is well.

#### KINNEAR LIBRARY/CULTURAL CENTER REPORT:

Council Vice-Chairperson Ballandby explained that the Library group has been moving supplies that had been stored in the back storeroom. They are planning a book sale during the month of January, and they are asking if they can leave those books in that room until that time.

Council Member Dubrutz referred to the secretary's monthly report where she reported that someone claimed to have a key to the Senior/Community Center and was witnessed removing the tables and chairs from the building. The volunteer Librarian who witnessed the incident requested a note because she did not know if he had permission to remove the furniture. The secretary had informed her that the Town Council had not authorized their furniture to be removed from the premises, and that she should call the police if anything like that happened again. Since that time, the tables were inventoried and 2 tables are now missing.

Council Member Dubrutz stated, because the Town Council is losing so much furniture and equipment, that the door to the storeroom remain locked.

#### NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH PROGRAM REPORT:

Neighborhood Watch Member, Anne Schroeder, reported to the Council that a representative of Victim Services gave a presentation on victims of domestic violence. This meeting was very well attended.

#### YOUTH/COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES REPORT:

Council Member Mishler reported there is a parade planned for December 14<sup>th</sup>, with Santa arriving at the McGill Senior/Community Center after the parade. The McGill Town Council had traditionally purchased the candy canes for this event.

#### McGILL REVITALIZATION COMMITTEE REPORT:

Joni Drahos, McGill Revitalization, reported that they held a Halloween activity in conjunction with the Fire Department. They logged 80 volunteer hours and they continue to document all expenses and revenues. The Revitalization Association hold monthly meetings and held their election of officers this past month. They will also be doing a homemade candy sale as a fundraiser.

#### BUSINESS PLAN/McGILL MERCHANTS REPORTS:

Stacy Laird, McGill Business Rep., reported that she spoke with the proprietor of Bradley's Bestway Market about holding a grand opening for the basement addition, but she declined at this time.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Council Chairman Winder called for further comments from the audience.

County Commissioner Coster reiterated that the bids for the front porch of the Senior/Community Center will be advertised next spring. Also, the ice skating rink may be accomplished with volunteer labor. The Board of County Commissioners has been approached by the owners of the Standard Market building about the possibility of negotiating some of the conditions imposed on the abatement of their building. As he obtains details, he will report them to the Council.

McGill Fire Chief Garcia commented that there appears to be several food drives this year and he is concerned that some of the McGill residents may be left out.

Council Chairman Winder explained that he has conducted many food drives through the Ministerial Association through the years; that organization used to be based in McGill but has moved to Ely. He can assure the audience that McGill needy is not being left out.

County Commissioner Coster noted that the food drive is billed as "Ely Food Drive" which gives the appearance that it is for Ely, and not all of White Pine County.

A comment was made about the McGill Town Council not purchasing turkeys for the needy this year.

Council Chairman Winder explained that nobody has approached the McGill Town Council to request an agenda item for the approval of that purchase. Apparently, people are taking the word of persons on the street over what happens in the McGill Town Council meetings. Procedure is to request an agenda item for the purchase of an item, someone give the presentation, then have the Council have a vote to approve the purchase.

Several comments were made regarding the various volunteer groups conducting fundraisers and activities, with some of those activities duplicating efforts.

After a lengthy discussion, it was agreed to have all the volunteer groups meet and separate the fundraisers activities; such as: MCAC has always headed the Street Dance, McGill Volunteer Fire Department has always cooked the food for Labor Day, etc. By agreeing to split up the activities between the volunteer groups, instead of having several separate activities, it will give each group an opportunity to conduct fundraisers. It may also give each volunteer group the opportunity to assist others.

MEETING ADJOURNED:

There being no further comments or business to be brought before the McGill Town Council, the meeting adjourned at 9:25 P.M.