

The Regular meeting of the McGill Town Council was held on September 17, 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  
Sheri Mishler, Member

Absent Council Member:

Ed Dubrutz, Member

Also in attendance:

Mike Coster, County Commissioner  
Lee Garcia, McGill Volunteer Fire Chief  
Trina Bunker  
Brenda McConaha, Girl Scouts #322  
Stacy Laird, McGill Revitalization Assoc./Business Rep.  
Cynthia Angelopoulos, McGill Revitalization Assoc.  
Trina Oxborrow, Bradley's Bestway Market  
Robert Harrison, Marie's Café  
Joni Drahos, McGill Revitalization Assoc.  
Susan A. Merwin  
Richard Willes, McGill Volunteer Fire Dept.

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

Council Vice-Chairperson Ballandby led the Council and audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Council Chairman Winder called for comments from the public.

Council Chairman Winder announced to the audience there was a need to amend this agenda to add a request to purchase of fire prevention materials.

There were no other comments from the public at this time.

POSSIBLE ADOPTION OF AN EXPANDED PURCHASE POLICY, SETTING LIMITS TO PURCHASES, AUTHORIZED PERSONS TO MAKE PURCHASES, ACQUISITIONS OF PURCHASE ORDERS, ETC.:

The secretary explained that Council Member Dubrutz had requested this agenda item; however, he was not able to attend the meeting this evening.

The Council directed their secretary to carry this matter on the agenda.

SELECTION OF 2 TOWN COUNCIL MEMBERS TO ATTEND BOCC MEETING ON OCTOBER 7, 2013 AT 9:00 A.M. FOR ABATEMENT OF DANGEROUS BUILDING DISCUSSION:

It was reported that the Town Council received notice of a public hearing on October 7, 2013 to discuss the abatement of the dangerous building known as the Standard Market Building. To be in compliance of the Nevada Open Meeting, only 2 Council Members can attend this public hearing.

Council Chairman Winder stated that he would like to attend this public hearing, he would like Council Member Dubrutz to be the second Council Member to attend, and he would like the McGill secretary to also be there. He would also like to set up a meeting before the October 7<sup>th</sup> public hearing, so he and Council Member Dubrutz could discuss the strategy/presentation. This will be a public hearing and any citizens of McGill can attend and speak.

Council Chairman Winder requested an agenda item for the next meeting to report to the Council and audience the status of that public hearing.

PURCHASE OF FIRE PREVENTION MATERIALS FOR FIRE PREVENTION WEEK:

Lee Garcia, McGill Volunteer Fire Chief, addressed the board explaining that October is fire prevention month. The McGill Volunteer Fire Department will be attending the McGill grade school to give a presentation on fire safety and give lessons on how to respond to fires and emergencies. The McGill Volunteer Fire Department also checks fire alarms and emergency exits as a public service. He has obtained a cost estimate from Alert-all in the amount of \$516.00.

Council Member Mishler motioned to approve the expenditure of \$516.00 to Alert-all for the purchase of fire prevention materials.

Council Member Borovansky seconded the motion.

Council Vice-Chairperson Ballandby abstained from voting due to questions in the WPC Clerk's Office regarding her appointed status on the Board.

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

It was noted that, due to budget cuts, McGill only budgeted \$100 in the Fire Department line item.

It was agreed to request a transfer of funds from Neighborhood Watch (line item #280-503-52465) into Fire Department Supplies (line item #280-503-52120) – then request a purchase order before the fire prevention supplies are ordered.

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Council Member Borovansky motioned to approve the McGill Town Council minutes dated August 20, 2013.

Council Member Mishler seconded the motion.

Council Vice-Chairperson Ballandby abstained from voting due to questions arising in the WPC Clerk's Office regarding her appointed status.

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

#### CORRESPONDENCE:

The following correspondence mailed or received since the last meeting:

1. Letter to BOCC regarding abatement of dangerous building – Standard Market.
2. Notice of Public Hearing on October 7, 2013 regarding abatement of dangerous building.
3. Memo to Pony Express from WPC Finance Office, Jennifer Farnsworth, regarding payment of invoices.
4. Deposit of funds in the amount of \$33.00.
5. BBQ Food permit for Labor Day.
6. Memo to WPC Treasurer requesting swimming pool donation receipts.
7. Receipts for deposit of funds for Swimming Pool donations.
8. Letter to Treasurer regarding cleaning up of property that was taken tax title.
9. Letter to WPC Sheriff regarding unsightly yard.
10. Letter to WPC Road Supervisor regarding street cleaning and railroad crossing.
11. Letter to WPC Maintenance Supervisor regarding fertilizing of parks.
12. Memo to WPC Human Resource Director regarding new assistant park hiring.
13. Memo to WPC EDC office regarding CEDS appointment/representation.
14. Letter from WPC Clerk regarding Oath of Office for Roxane Ballandby.

15. Photo of #31 Avenue B showing it as an unsightly yard.

Council Chairman Winder explained that he received correspondence in the mail from the White Pine County Clerk pointing out that Council Vice-Chairperson Ballandby has not come into the office so they could administer the Oath of office.

The secretary explained that she called the Clerk's office this afternoon, the County Clerk was out of the office, but one of her Clerk's checked their file and it appears their records show that Council Vice-Chairperson Ballandby had not taken the Oath of office since 2011. If this is the case the McGill Town Council may have to go back and vote again on several issues.

Council Vice-Chairperson Ballandby assured the Council that, following the receipt of correspondence at the first of the year, she did appear in the WPC Clerk's Office to take the Oath of office. She will go to the Clerk's office tomorrow in an attempt to straighten this matter out.

It was noted that Council Vice-Chairman Ballandby may continue to sit at the Council Bench, but should not vote until this matter has been resolved.

APPROVAL OF BILLS:

Council Chairman Winder read the following bills into the record:

Delores Manchester (reimbursement for BBQ Health permit)	\$ 25.00
Pony Express Service Mart (park gasoline & ice & ice bags)	\$ 208.88 & \$101.18
V & S Variety (Big Splash prizes)	\$ 165.44
Bath Lumber (parks supplies)	\$ 138.90
Bradleys Bestway Market (BBQ supplies)	\$1,529.95
Bath Lumber (lock and keys)	\$ 21.29
OPI (Monthly contract)	\$ 29.99

Council Member Borovansky motioned to approve the bills as read.

Council Member Mishler seconded the motion.

Council Vice-Chairperson Ballandby abstained from voting due to questions arising in the WPC Clerk's office concerning her appointed status.

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

#### NUISANCE ABATEMENTS:

A question was asked in reference to the abatement of the abandoned trailers on Avenue A.

The secretary explained that following the previous Council meeting she appeared in the WPC Treasurer's Office to inquire if that abandoned trailer was sitting on tax title property. She learned that it had been taken tax title several years ago, but the Treasurer at that time failed to secure the property. Correspondence was delivered to the appointed Treasurer and received a report that she, the Sheriff, and a person from the Road Department inspected the premises; and they will be following through on the matter.

#### ANIMALS AT LARGE/VICIOUS DOGS:

Council Chairman Winder explained that he had received a call concerning the allowed number of dogs. He requested that the secretary obtain a copy of the animal control ordinance.

After review of the ordinance and further discussion, it was noted there is a limit of 2 dogs per household; however, the Sheriff's office will license more than 2 dogs per household because there are exceptions to "working dogs"

A person in the audience explained that she recently adopted a rescue puppy from the Zoo, the dog has definite social issues and is in need of skilled and special attention; however, that leaves her with 3 dogs. She does not wish to violate any laws but this dog is in special need of care and she does not feel that this puppy can handle the challenge of moving to another home again.

Council Chairman Winder assured the audience, that he will provide a copy of the WPC animal control ordinance to the Zoo, so they may be cautious in seeking suitable homes for rescued dogs.

The Council had no direction for this person to follow.

#### PARK MAINTENANCE:

Council Member Borovansky reported that he had received a phone call from someone expressing an interest in offering his services to distribute weed and feed for the McGill parks.

It was noted that McGill usually obtains their weed and feed from Cedar Grove and the County Parks/Maintenance Department will provide assistance in spreading the fertilizer. This year, due to circumstances out of the control of the McGill Parks Department, the McGill parks did not get fertilized.

### FINANCIAL REPORT:

The secretary reported that she had not received the financial spreadsheet for this month due to the Finance Department staff being out of the office.

### FIRE/EMT REPORTS:

McGill Fire Chief Garcia reported that the McGill Volunteer Fire Department will be measured and suited for 20 new turnouts. This will cost an estimated \$50,000, but it is a very necessary expense for the safety of the volunteer firefighters. Also, he has enrolled in an aviation firefighting class, which will benefit his position as the McGill Fire Chief. Many of the McGill volunteer firemen will be soon attending formal/approved training classes so they protect the citizens of McGill.

McGill Fire Chief Garcia noted that McGill is presently down one ambulance due to mechanical problems. This ambulance is being repaired.

McGill Fire Chief Garcia reported that the McGill Volunteer Fire Department would like to conduct a Hay Ride this Christmas for the McGill youth. After the Hay Ride, they would like to end at the McGill Fire Station and serve Chili and hot chocolate. Not only will this provide entertainment for the McGill youth, but it will also give the youth an opportunity to see the fire station and equipment.

### STREET LIGHTS:

Council Chairman Winder reported that he previously received concerns about some of the street lights being out. He checked the lights reported and learned that many of them just had not been re-connected yet as a result of the upgrading work being done by Mt. Wheeler Power. Those lights are now connected. Presently he has 4 lights out, but he needs one more report before he can call in the repair order.

It was noted there is a street light out on Seventh Street, south end of town.

Council Chairman Winder assured everyone that he will inspect this, then call in the repairs.

### STREETS & STREET SIGNS:

The secretary reported that she received a phone call from Council Member Dubrutz explaining that the railroad tracks by Second Street are presently being repaired by the Railroad Co. The County Road Department crews have been in McGill almost daily since the flash flood that occurred a few weeks ago, initiating cleaning and repairs. Also, the Road Supervisor, Bill Miller, is presently seeking grant funding for the reconstruction of the drainage systems in McGill.

### CULTURAL CENTER REPORT:

Stacy Laird, Cultural Center, reported that she received a donation a television and stand from the Great Basin College. The Cultural Center holds movie night and this television will be a great improvement to that activity.

Council Vice-Chairperson Ballandby reported that the Cultural Center/Library will be holding their Harvest Fest this October 27<sup>th</sup>. They are asking if the Town Council would purchase their materials and the Cultural organization will reimburse the Council.

The Council did not object.

### NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH PROGRAM:

Council Member Borovansky reported that they had 13 persons in attendance at the last Neighborhood Watch meeting. There was a County Commissioner in attendance and he provided the group with an update regarding the off road vehicles proposed ordinance allowing them to ride on streets in the communities. Deputy Pedersen was also in attendance to offer his usual guidance. The next Neighborhood Watch meeting will have a power point presentation regarding the off road vehicles laws and regulations.

County Commissioner Coster noted that he was the County Commissioner in attendance of this Neighborhood Watch meeting. He learned from Deputy Pedersen that White Pine County does not have a curfew on noise abatement. He left that meeting very impressed with the way Deputy Pedersen provided guidance at that meeting, so he made a point to give a compliment to the Sheriff about how this program is a huge success thanks to the efforts of Deputy Pedersen.

The Council noted that Deputy Pedersen and former McGill Town Council Member Schroeder were the creators of the McGill Neighborhood Watch and Deputy Pedersen has been very instrumental in keeping the program very active.

### YOUTH/COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES:

Council Member Mishler thanked the McGill Volunteer Fire Department and Commissioner Coster for their cooking all the food at the annual Labor Day BBQ. She would like to explain why the street dance was moved to the McGill park. Usually they had the street dance at the parking lot next to the post office, but the owner of the property expressed concerns about insurance liability. So there would be no insurance liability, they decided to move the dance to the park above the fire station.

The McGill Community Activities Committee would like to hold a haunted house on October 18, 19, & 20<sup>th</sup> at the McGill Community/Senior Center. But she did notice that the McGill Riding and Roping Club has the Center for one of those days. The MCAC is a volunteer organization, but part of this activity is for fundraising, but they are asking if the Council would waive the standard rental fee, as the funds they raise go toward other activities in McGill.

Council Vice-Chairperson Ballandby offered to open the Library area so the Riding and Roping Club could move their meeting.

Council Member Borovansky motioned to allow the McGill Community Activities Committee to utilize the McGill Community/Senior Center on October 18 for decorating, October 19 for the Haunted House, and October 20 for the clean-up. His motion includes waiving the standard rental fee.

Council Member Mishler seconded the motion.

Council Vice-Chairperson Ballandby abstained from voting due to questions arising in the WPC Clerk's office regarding her appointed status.

Council Member Mishler reported that the MCAC is looking at a Christmas parade on December 11<sup>th</sup> and Santa arriving at the McGill Community/Senior Center on the 14<sup>th</sup>. She would like to reserve the Center for these activities.

#### McGILL REVITALIZATION COMMITTEE:

Joni Drahos, McGill Revitalization Association, addressed the Council reporting on the activities of their organization during the Labor Day festivities. They received donations, purchased items to sell, charged a cover charge for the Grade School dance (then lowered the entrance fee); but they ended up operating at a slight loss during the weekend. Their group also organized a clean-up of the area around the Ball Park, of which they hauled 3 truckloads of weeds and trash to the dumps and repaired the fence where someone had cut open the fence. She would like to report that the drainage above the Ball Park leading from the school is running and washing out by the bleachers.

The group expressed their concerns about the many weeds in and around McGill. Their group cannot keep up with the weeds.

McGill Fire Chief Garcia informed the Council that he has community service workers that he can make available to help with pulling weeds.

They would also like to schedule a Halloween Costume Mascaraed Ball at the McGill Community/Senior Center on October 31<sup>st</sup>. They are a nonprofit organization and they are requesting the Town Council waive their rental fee.

The Council authorized the Ball at no charge.

BUSINESS PLAN/McGILL MERCHANTS REPORTS:

Stacy Laird, McGill Business Representative, addressed the Council explaining that she brought with her to this meeting, the proprietor of Bradley's Bestway Market. Trina Oxborrow recently began stocking the basement of the Grocery Store and now carries camping supplies, office supplies, small appliances, and a variety of gift items.

The Council authorized the secretary to be allowed purchase all her office supplies at Bradley's Bestway Market in the future.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Council Chairman Winder called for further public comment.

Susan Merwin addressed the Board showing a copy of the home located at #31 Avenue B. Stating that this is an extremely unsightly yard and she was hoping the Council could be of assistance in having the property cleaned up.

Commissioner Coster offered to report this unsightly yard to the Sheriff so he could send out a deputy to assess the matter to see if it fell within the unsightly yard ordinance.

Cynthia Angelopoulos, McGill Revitalization Association, addressed the Council referring to previous discussions about Main Street and sidewalk cleanup. The highway and sidewalks are poorly kept and weeds are growing everywhere.

Commissioner Coster explained that once each year the State Highway Department appears before the Board of County Commissioners to list their work projects in White Pine County. He had asked specific questions about projects, and they failed to provide him with an answer, so he did not vote in favor of the proposed projects.

The secretary recalled that the State Highway Department also appeared before the Town Council explaining that their proposed highway upgrading project through McGill had been cut due to their budget cuts. They only paved up to the edge of town, then jumped over McGill, then paved north of McGill.

Commissioner Coster explained that Northern Nevada Railroad runs a Halloween special Ghost Train and they are looking for volunteers this year.

Commissioner Coster reported that there is a fundraiser and concealed weapon class being offered with the money going to the Zoo and to the Ely Senior Center.

Commissioner Coster reported on the status of the proposed OHV Ordinance that had died for a lack of a second on the motion. Commissioner Howe discussed OHV ordinances at NACO (Nevada Association of Counties) annual conference. Some counties want to look at uniformity throughout the State. They even discussed returning to the State Legislature to work on changes to the Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS).

Robert Harrison, Marie's Café, addressed the Council noting that it appears that McGill has a large number of groups conducting fundraisers for various events throughout McGill. They are using the name of McGill for their fundraisers. There are only 4 businesses in McGill and they are always being asked for donations.

Council Chairman Winder explained that the McGill Town Council does not have any control over private nonprofit organizations and/or how they conduct their fundraisers. The Town Council does not fund, or sponsor, those groups. However, it is helpful if they report their activities to the Town Council or offer space for their activities. If a flyer is posted stating that the fundraiser is sponsored by the McGill Town Council, it is immediately removed.

Council Member Mishler explained further, that the only activity paid for by the McGill Town Council is the annual Labor Day BBQ and fireworks. The Council purchases the food or items, and volunteers cook or put on the activity. As far as she knows, the McGill Community Activities Committee and the McGill Revitalization Association have approached any businesses soliciting donations. She is part of the MCAC, but she keeps that activity separate from her Town Council duties.

#### MEETING ADJOURNED:

There being no further business or comments to be brought before the McGill Town Council the meeting adjourned at 8:31 P.M.