

The Special Joint meeting of the McGill Town Council and the White Pine County Board of County Commissioners was held on April 21, 2015 at the McGill Senior/Community Center located at the top of Avenue K at 6:00 P.M.

The following McGill Town Council Members were in attendance:

- Bob Winder, Chairman
- Roxane Ballandby, Vice-Chairperson
- Mike Borovansky, Member
- Ed Dubrutz, Member
- Vacant Seat

County Officials/Representatives in attendance:

- Gary Perea, WPC BOCC Chairman
- Laurie Carson, WPC BOCC Vice-Chairperson
- Mike Coster, WPC BOCC Member
- Richard Howe, WPC BOCC Member
- Carol McKenzie, WPC BOCC Member
- Nichole Baldwin, WPC Clerk of the Board
- Susan Lujan, Deputy WPC Clerk

Also in attendance:

- Delores Manchester, McGill Secretary/Clerk
- Kathy Ricci, WPC Human Resource Director
- Brett Waters, WPC District Fire Chief
- Jim Garza, CED Office Director
- Elizabeth Francis, Finance Director
- Bill Calderwood, WPC Maintenance Superintendent
- Elaine Blackham, EDC Office Manager
- Kathy Ricci, WPC Human Resource Director
- Christopher Collis, Kennecott
- Brenda McConaha, MVFD Womens Auxiliary
- Elinor Blackham
- Joni Drahos, McGill Revitalization Assoc./Water District
- Cynthia Angelopoulos, McGill Revitalization Assoc.
- Stacy Laired, McGill Revitalization Assoc./Business Rep.
- Cheryl Noriega
- Lee Garcia, McGill Volunteer Fire Chief
- Dennis (Woody) Robinson
- Eva Trimble, Kinnear Library/Cultural Center
- Bonnie Gurr, Kinnear Library/Cultural Center

County Commissioner Chairman Perea called the Commission Joint meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

Council Chairman Winder called the McGill Joint meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

County Commission Chairman Perea led the assemblage in the Pledge of Allegiance.

JOINT MEETING WITH WHITE PINE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS AND
McGILL TOWN COUNCIL TO DISCUSS ANY MATTERS AND/OR CONCERNS TO BE
BROUGHT UP BY McGILL RESIDENTS, McGILL TOWN COUNCIL AND WHITE PINE
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS:

County Commission Chairman Perea thanked the McGill Town Council for hosting the Joint meeting. Noting that he would assume that McGill would like to discuss the Standard Market.

County Commission Vice-Chairperson Carson explained that correspondence had been mailed to the owners of the Standard Market regarding the rescinding of the BOCC previous action to allow time for the owners of the property to sell the property; however, there is now a new District Attorney who will need to become familiar with this matter.

County Commission Member Howe explained further, stating that the Commission did rescind the resolution giving the owners 6 months to sell their property, those 6 months have since passed. The owners of the property had stated in correspondence that they would let the property go Tax Title if they could not resolve the nuisance issue. It is his feeling that this matter needs to be started again. He does feel that the foundation of the building is structurally sound, but there are other issues that need to be addressed regarding this building.

Council Member Dubrutz corrected the Commission, stating that the McGill Town Council filed their complaint on this building for the past 23 years under the Abatement of Dangerous law, not under the nuisance ordinance. The owners of this building have been advised of the condition of this building 23 years ago.

Council Chairman Winder pointed out that the owners of the Standard Market Building now have a legal document, signed by the Board of County Commissioners, stating that the building is certified safe. The McGill Town Council has requested copies of all the correspondence relating to this building; however, as of this date, no copies have been provided. This matter has been revisited for over 2 decades now.

County Commission Member Howe explained that the BOCC gave Mr. Sieman time to negotiate a purchase price with the owners.

County Commission Chairman Perea suggested that this matter be placed on the next County Commission meeting agenda.

Council Vice-Chairperson Ballandby arrived for the meeting at 7:17 P.M.

County Commissioner Coster stated that “moving forward” everyone needs to look at what can be done now.

Joni Drahos, McGill Ruth Water District & MRA, addressed the assemblage inquiring about the recent budget cuts, and if it affected the McGill budget.

Elizabeth Francis, WPC Finance Director, explained that the McGill budget has their own revenue fund. The McGill Town Council worked up their budget and presented a balanced budget to the BOCC for approval. The White Pine County budget will not impact McGill. The McGill Swimming Pool is funded through the WPC general fund, the parks in McGill is funded through the McGill budget.

Council Member Borovansky noted that last year the McGill Swimming Pool had a problem with their operating hours because there was not enough lifeguards.

Finance Director Francis answered there had been problems with recruitment because they had just opened the new pool in Ely. She assured the audience the budget will support the McGill Swimming Pool.

Council Chairman Winder changed topics by recalling that the Town Council had been responsible to support their Fire Department, since the WPC Fire District had been formed, he would like to know how much the WPC Fire District will be responsible for. Recently the Town Council received a request in the amount of ½ million dollars to purchase a new fire truck for McGill. A few years back, McGill had requested to purchase new radios for their volunteer fire department, but the Board of County Commissioners denied their request.

County Commission Chairman Perea explained that the WP Fire District is responsible to make sure all the stations have the equipment they need. If the fire departments want to make purchases the BOCC will not stand in their way.

WPC Fire District Chief Brett Waters summarized their purchase request, stating that the McGill Volunteer Fire Department asked about a new engine. He spoke with the McGill secretary. She explained how McGill’s funding was received and how the town was formed under the NRS 269. She explained that the McGill Town Council had always supported their emergency services. She suggested the Fire Department look for grant funding, when there was no grants, she suggested they put together a request. Their request was for \$385,000.00 plus equipment. He is in support of McGill Fire Chief Garcia, and since the first proposal they have been looking at other options. The ISO rating for McGill has decreased, whereby the lower ISO rating will effect homeowner insurance rates.

The secretary pointed out that McGill is limited to what they can borrow. Their borrowing power is limited to a percentage of their assessed valuation. Previously, McGill financed the blue fire truck, purchase price was \$99,000.00, those payments were for 9 years at \$13,000.00. While making those payments, there were times when the Town found it difficult to provide all their other services. Any purchases larger than that would have to be studied closely.

Finance Director Francis explained that a lot of the Fire District funding comes from the General Fund. Net Proceeds of Mines is another source of funding to the Fire District.

EDC Office Manager, Elaine Blackham, addressed the assemblage, explaining that previously USDA helped pay for 2 of the water tenders. The latest census information shows only 39% of the population is low to moderate income in McGill. Presently McGill does not qualify for this type of grant funding. The EDC Office could send out a survey soliciting input from the residents of McGill, and hopefully, the results would show a larger percentage of the population is low to moderate income.

EDC Director, Jim Garza, addressed the assemblage referring to the SNPLMA grants that have been received for McGill. JCR Contractor gave estimates to refurbish the restrooms at the Ball Park, and the grant has already funded many upgrades to that facility. One of the unexpected expenses at the Ball Park was the light transformers. SNPLMA grant funding also renovated the Avenue K Park and they were able to install playground equipment, sidewalk, curbs, etc. Recently his office was able to obtain grant funding to identify any hazardous materials at the Kinnear Library Building. They have now been able to secure a grant to remove that hazardous materials. They found asbestos in the roof of the Kinnear Library, that asbestos will have to be removed, and when the McGill Town Council convenes into their regular meeting, they will make a decision if they wish to finance the replacement of that roof.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Council Chairman Perea noted the time and called for any further comments from the audience.

The McGill secretary stated that many McGill residents are unable to drive to Ely and McGill is very fortunate to have a group of volunteers who have been offering library services to the residents. The volunteer Kinnear Library/Cultural Center has received many donated books, they offer free internet to the residents, they offer computer classes, and the WPC School District brings a busload of first grade students to the volunteer library for tutoring and one-on-one reading lessons each month. Recently they had been approached by people from Wendover who wish to set up a volunteer library, and McGill's volunteers will donate books and assist with their setup. The secretary asked, before the County Commissioners leave this evening if they would like to take a tour of the Kinnear Library/Cultural Center, as it is most impressive.

MEETING ADJOURNED:

There being no further business or questions to be brought before the Special Joint Meeting with the McGill Town Council and the White Pine Board of County Commissioners, the meeting adjourned at 7:00 P.M.