

The Regular meeting of the McGill Town Council was held on November 15, 2016 at the McGill Community/Senor Center located at the top of Avenue K at 7:00 P.M.

The following McGill Town Council Members were in attendance:

Bob Winder, Chairman
Roxane Ballandby, Vice-Chairperson
Cynthia Angelopoulos, Member
Ed Dubrutz, Member
Andy McVicars, Member

Also in attendance:

Delores Manchester, Secretary
Mike Coster, WPC Commissioner
Sam Sorenson, McGill Elementary
Lydia Kunz, McGill Elementary
Rihanna Oxborrow, McGill Elementary
Desirae Valencia, McGill Elementary
Crystal Kunz, McGill Elementary Teacher
Chad Oxborrow
Sheldon Nicholes
Stacy Laird, McGill Revitalization/Bus Rep
Ernie Rivera

Council Chairman Winder called the meeting or order at 7:00 P.M.

The McGill Elementary Student Body led the audience and the Council in the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Council Chairman Winder called for comments from the audience.

Crystal Kunz, McGill Elementary Teacher, addressed the Council explaining that she brought the McGill Elementary Student Council to the meeting this evening to discuss ideas on how to help with fundraisers and/or help with projects to improve McGill.

The Town Council welcomed the McGill Elementary Student Body.

Council Chairman Winder stepped down at 7:02 P.M. to distribute copies of the Walking Tour of McGill that had been prepared by the McGill Elementary Class of 1993.
Council Chairman Winder returned to his seat at 7:04 P.M.

Ideas and/or suggestions were offered, such as: 1) Volunteering at the Kinnear Library/Cultural Center with library services and helping on the third Wednesday of each month with the "One on One" reading lessons with the First Grade students. 2) Helping the McGill Revitalization Association with volunteer projects. 3) Helping with decorating the light poles for the "Pick a Pole" contest.

Council Chairman Winder explained that he had been approached by Brad Gallimore, USDA Housing Loan Specialist, about the USDA Rural Development single family housing repair loans and grants to help people make needed improvements to their homes. Mr. Gallimore indicated that he may be requesting an agenda item in the future, but for now he would like to make the information available.

Council Chairman Winder requested the secretary keep a copy of his info packet in the office.

AUTHORIZATION TO HANG A UNITED STATES FLAG, INCLUDING SOLAR POWER LIGHTING, ON THE MOUNTAIN OVERLOOKING MCGILL:

Council Chairman Winder explained that he had been approached by Ernie Rivera seeking permission to hang a U.S. Flag on the Peak above McGill. Ernie Rivera has already spoken with Kevin Robinson at Mt. Wheeler Power about solar options so the flag will not have to be taken down each night.

Council Chairman Winder read from the map that was prepared by the McGill Elementary School in 1993 describing the Peak as a sight to see in McGill:

“This Peak which is directly east of McGill & grayish in color is a popular hiking destination for many. Upon observation, one will see a cross-like pole. This was used as a flag pole and radio tower. A popular historical story is tied to this peak. At one time an Austrian man made a bet that he could climb the peak with a 100 pound bag of cement in less than an hour. He won. He was then challenged to do it again only with a 200 pound bag of cement. Again he won!! Kennecott, at one time, had a person climb this peak twice a day to put up & take down the flag.”

Council Chairman Winder informed the Student Body that the name of that employee was Albert Wright, and yes, his job was to climb the peak twice each day (one time to hang the US Flag, and the second time to take down the US Flag).

Council Member McVicars noted that the flag pole has been on the peak for so many years, that he would imagine that it may be rusted in places and in need of repairs.

Council Chairman Winder pointed out that, before the flag is hung again, that it may be necessary to find out what entity has jurisdiction. He realizes that the flag had been flown there for many years, but there could be the possibility of needing to obtain permission from the agency who now has jurisdiction.

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

Ernie Rivera arrived after his agenda item had been discussed. He was advised of the discussion and informed that the Council will be carrying the matter on the agenda.

FAILURE TO REMOVE TRASH ACCUMULATIONS AND/OR HAULING TRASH TO LANDFILL, AND IDENTIFYING/DOCUMENTING UNSIGHTLY YARDS, HEATH HAZARDS, AND ABATEMENT OF DANGEROUS BUILDINGS:

Commissioner Coster reported that he had spoken to the District Attorney earlier this day. They have had recent successes in the Town of Ruth where they were able to demolish a few derelict buildings in accordance with the old ordinance. This District Attorney has made some revisions to the notification that the City/County Building Inspector can mail out to property owners who have not maintained their home or yard. Now that he has revised the language in the notice, he will be asking the City/County Building Inspector to begin making a priority list for McGill.

Commissioner Coster assured the Council that it is his intention to continue following up with this matter even after he steps down as County Commissioner at the first of the year.

STATUS REPORT ON RENOVATIONS TO KINNEAR LIBRARY BUILDING.

Council Chairman Winder recalled that the County Maintenance Super, Bill Calderwood, had previously sent notice that his department will begin working on the Kinneare Library building the first of December.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Council Member Dubrutz motioned to approve the McGill Town Council minutes dated October 18, 2016.

Council Vice-Chairperson Ballandby seconded the motion.

Motion was carried by a unanimous vote.

CORRESPONDENCE:

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

1. Letter from Mt. Wheeler Power offering to cover the costs of electrical lights for Christmas displays.
2. Deposit of \$70 for rental of Senior Center.
3. E-mail from Commissioner Coster regarding cell tower in McGill.
4. Secretary monthly report.

Council Chairman Winder recalled that during the previous Council meeting, they had talked about a cell tower in McGill.

County Commissioner Coster explained that he has spoken with AT&T earlier and the permit is almost ready to be issued. They are now waiting on the structural plans. Because of the close proximity to the Railroad Depot, the cell tower will be disguised as a water tower.

APPROVAL OF BILLS/AUTHORIZATION TO PURCHASE:

The following bills were read into the record:

Aloha Express	\$28.33
(parks gasoline)	
OPI	\$29.99
(copy machine monthly contract)	
Suburban Propane	\$48.00
(Kinneer Library annual propane tank rental)	
Lantis Fireworks & Lasers	\$6,000.00
(Labor Day Fireworks)	
Bradleys Bestway Market	\$10.54
(Cleaning supplies for Center)	

Council Member McVicars motioned to approve the bills as read.
Council Member Dubrutz seconded the motion.
Motion was carried by a unanimous vote.

County Commissioner Coster explained to the McGill Elementary Student Council that one of the duties of the Town Council is to pay all bills in a public meeting. Taxes and other revenues are appropriated by the State of Nevada, because all revenues coming into the town coffer is government money, the Council must approve all their expenditures in a public meeting. This allows for the public to be aware how their money is being spent.

NUISANCE ABATEMENTS:

County Commissioner Coster reported that he had received an e-mail expressing dismay in McGill and some of the trashy yards. This e-mail was not signed, but he will forward this message on to the District Attorney and to the Council Chairman.

ANIMALS AT LARGE/VICIOUS DOGS:

County Commissioner Coster explained that the City is under contract with White Pine County. The Animal Control Officer patrols in McGill, but they are planning on reducing their patrol hours because the Animal Control Officer must also tend to any animals at the City Pound. The reduced patrol hours could result in slower response time. If he hears more about the planned changes at the City/County Animal Control Department, he will let the Council know.

PARK MAINTENANCE:

Council Chairman Winder reported that all water in McGill parks have been turned off for the season.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

The secretary reported that McGill is currently 33% into their budget year, and they are currently 23% spent. She had noticed an over expenditure in the public works operating line item, so she called the finance office and learned that Pat Stork recharged the fire extinguisher and he went ahead and coded the expense in McGill's account.

FIRE/EMT REPORTS:

No report given.

STREET LIGHTS:

Council Chairman Winder reported that he has 4 street lights that are out at present. A few of those lights had been previously reported.

Those in the audience and Council noted a few additional lights out, as follows: #21 North 6th St.; #1 North 4th St.; #23 6th Str.; #22 North 2nd St.' #2 3rd St.; and the corner of Avenue F and Smelter Street.

STREETS & STREET SIGNS:

Council Member Dubrutz noted that NDOT obviously received McGill's correspondence as he had noticed that they sent a crew out to repair the patches on Fourth Street.

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH PROGRAM:

The secretary reported there was 8 persons in attendance at the last Neighborhood Watch meeting, but there has been no officer assigned to McGill Neighborhood Watch yet. They did not have a specific topic to discuss, but did caution everyone about wildlife on the highways.

YOUTH/COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES:

Council Vice-Chairperson Ballandby reported that the candy canes that she had ordered should be delivered to Bradley's in the near future.

BUSINESS PLAN/McGILL MERCHANTS REPORTS:

No report given.

KINNEAR LIBRARY/CULTURAL CENTER REPORT:

Stacy Laird reported that kids have been riding their skateboards on the deck at the Senior/Community Center. She spoke to them about this and if they continue to be disrespectful, the Library might turn off the free Wi Fi in the evenings. She has put her name and phone number on the door offering to open the Senior/Community Center on some evenings if they want to come inside the building, where it is warm, to do their homework.

McGILL VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT WOMEN'S AUXILIARY:

No report given.

McGILL REVITALIZATION ASSOCIATION:

Stacy Laird reported that the MRA will be holding a candy sale during the Holiday season; they will help on the Parade; and they will work on the annual "Pick-a-Pole" project.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

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

It was reported that the McGill Elementary School is conducting a food drive, they are working with the White Pine Food Bank, and people can deliver donated food to the school.

Commissioner Coster reported that the City/County Landfill has set up recycling area for aluminum, cardboard, metal, etc. They are doing this because J & M Trucking will no longer be doing this. As of yet, the Landfill has not taken on recycling plastic or glass.

MEETING ADJOURNED:

There being no further business or questions to be brought before the McGill Town Council, the meeting adjourned at 7:40 P.M.