

The Regular meeting of the McGill Town Council was held on September 20, 2016 at the McGill Community/Senior 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
Burton Hilton, WPC Assessor
Stacy Laird, Business Rep/McGill Revitalization
Dennis “Woody” Robinson

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

Council Member Angelopoulos led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Council Chairman Winder called for comments from the audience.

McGill Parks Manager, Woody Robinson, addressed the Council stating that he was very happy about the softball game between the Sheriff’s Department and Fire Department; which was held during the Labor Day weekend. The game was better than last year, he and his assistant worked hard cleaning the Ball Park for the event, and it is a pleasure to see the historic Ball Park being used.

REORGANIZATION OF THE BOARD – SELECTION OF COUNCIL MEMBERS TO REPRESENT MCGILL DEPARTMENTS:

Council Vice-Chairperson Ballandby informed the Council that the candy canes have already been ordered for Christmas. With her personal work schedule, she would like to have some help with planning youth activities, so she is asking if the newest Town Council Member, Cynthia Angelopoulos would like to work with her on these projects.

The Council reviewed and set the various department representation as follows:

Council Chairman Winder – Street Lights and Parks
Council Vice-Chairperson Ballandby – Senior Center, Planning and Youth Activities
Council Member Angelopoulos – Planning and Youth Activities
Council Member Dubrutz – Street, Street Signs & Fire Department
Council Member McVicars – Senior residents, Planning and Youth Activities
Dennis “Woody” Robinson – McGill Parks Manager
Mike Borovansky – McGill Neighborhood Watch Coordinator
Stacy Laird – McGill Business Representative

POSSIBLE DESIGNATION OF ONE OR MORE MCGILL PARKS AS A DOG PARK AND/OR POSSIBLE RESTRICTING SOME MCGILL PARKS FROM DOGS BEING ALLOWED:

Council Chairman Winder recalled that this matter was brought up by a McGill citizen in the previous meeting. That person had suggested a dog park for the safety of dogs running and playing and, also, when dogs run at large, the owners usually do not pick up the mess they leave behind.

Parks Manager Robinson explained that some people do clean up after their dogs, and there are only a few dogs running at large. The few who have been cleaning up after their dogs, have been of great help to him, as the droppings from dogs mess up the mowers.

Council Vice-Chairperson Ballandby noted that, unfortunately, dogs do run at large, and she would have supported a Dog Park, as there was a large brown and black dog running at large the other night, and got into their yard and attacked their dog.

The Council agreed, that it is overdue for the McGill Town Council to send correspondence to the City of Ely Animal Control Officer, thanking him for his patrolling McGill. While thanking him, possibly the Council could suggest/ask if he could change his schedule from time to time in an effort to catch the dogs running at large during the early morning hours.

No action was made on this topic, and the item is to be removed from the agenda.

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

Council Chairman Winder recalled that the District Attorney is presently working on writing a revised ordinance to help simplify the reporting procedure for homes that pose a health hazard and/or nuisance. The Town Council has sent correspondence to him thanking him for his efforts and has asked for a copy of his draft, once he has a good draft. He would like this matter carried on the agenda.

STATUS REPORT ON RENOVATIONS TO KINNEAR LIBRARY BUILDING:

Council Chairman Winder explained that, as soon as the weather turns colder, the County Maintenance Crew will begin construction on the inside of the Kinnear Library Building. Also, he recalls that, after the roof had been replaced by R & R Roofing, there had been a leak discovered just to the right of the back door. He would hope that the County Maintenance Super will remember this after they begin construction.

The secretary explained that the Great Basin Heritage Area held a meeting at the McGill Senior/Community Center and they wished to let residents know that their organization has a web page and they also offer assistance in helping property/business owners to restore their buildings. The Great Basin Heritage Area has a link on their web page for grants and they can make themselves available to provide assistance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Council Member Dubrutz motioned to approve the McGill Town Council minutes dated August 16, 2016. Council Vice-Chairperson Ballandby seconded the motion. Council Member Angelopoulos abstained from voting because she had not taken the Oath of Office yet. Motion was carried by a majority vote.

CORRESPONDENCE:

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

1. Note listing McGill Account number with South Fork Hardware.
2. Copy of the Oath of Office for Cynthia Angelopoulos.
3. Deposit in the amount of \$50 for sale of 2 McGill books.
4. Letter to Kinnear Library/Cultural Center regarding status of the Library.
5. Public Utilities Commission agenda and order following Public utilities Commission meeting regarding AT&T relief.
6. Letter to District Attorney Wheable thanking him for his work on the Nuisance ordinance.
7. Letter to Veterans Initiative
8. Letter to Deputy Pedersen thanking him for his outstanding service to McGill on the Neighborhood Watch Program.
9. Copy of the letter from the McGill Neighborhood Watch to Deputy Pedersen thanking him for his guidance on the Neighborhood Watch Program.
10. Firework verification and Insurance.
11. Secretary monthly report.
12. Letter to Pamela Jo Schoff responding to correspondence about Nuisance abatements.
13. Letter to Mike Borovansky thanking him for his service on the McGill Town Council.
14. McGill-Ruth Water District agenda.
15. Memo to WPC Finance Dept. requesting copies of insurance payments for 4 damaged street lights.

Council Chairman Winder referred to the correspondence, and order, from the Public Utilities Commission. Noting that it appears that much of White Pine County will be without AT&T land line telephone service. He does not know how long it will take before the transition. He would like to note that there are more people in the county than there is in the City of Ely. He has spoken with the IT person at the Hospital and learned that it could take up to 10 years for the elimination of land lines to be completed, of course, that is only a guess. He is trying to reserve his

judgment until reading the packet that was received in the McGill office this afternoon. Cell service is very spotty in McGill, so he has concerns about the safety of the McGill residents. He also feels that McGill is in need of a cell tower.

APPROVAL OF BILLS/AUTHORIZATION TO PURCHASE:

The following bills were read into the record:

Aloha Express (gasoline)	\$ 266.43
Battle Born Media – Ely (name plate)	\$ 13.00
Bradley’s Bestway Market (cleaning supplies)	\$ 17.43
OPI (copy machine monthly contract)	\$ 29.99
Bradley’s Besway Market (Labor Day groceries)	\$1,162.01
Nv. Mechanical Compliance (Boiler inspection)	\$ 60.00

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

Council Member McVicars seconded the motion.

Motion was carried by a unanimous vote.

NUISANCE ABATEMENTS:

Nothing to report at this time.

ANIMALS AT LARGE/VICIOUS DOGS:

It was noted that the large black and brown dog was reported under the discussion about dog park. It was also noted that a stray cat had several kittens, but the reporting party decided to keep the kittens rather than turn them over to the dog pound.

PARK MAINTENANCE:

Parks Manager Robinson reported that McGill might be losing their seasonal parks assistant, as he has recently accepted another position. He is hoping that Mr. Rowley will consider returning to work some weekends next year. He has offered to assist him in preparing the parks for winter, as he would like to fertilize and do some general cleaning.

Council Member McVicars explained that the Honor Camp crew did some general cleaning in McGill and left a few piles of debris to be picked up.

Parks Manager Robinson assured him that he would take care of that clean up.

The Council complimented how well groomed the McGill parks have been this past year.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

The secretary reported that presently McGill is 17% into their budget year with only 1% of the revenues coming in. The expenditures show that McGill is 29% spent so far, but that number reflects the outstanding purchase orders (middle row).

The Council noted a typo in the street light repair line item, as it appears to have been entered twice. The Council directed the secretary to notify the Finance Department of this typo.

FIRE/EMT REPORTS:

No report given.

STREET LIGHTS:

Council Chairman Winder noted that the lights that were reported in the previous meeting have been reported to JW Electric. At this time, he does not have any new lights to report.

STREETS & STREET SIGNS:

Council Member Dubrutz noted that all the McGill streets look shinny and black after the County Road Department sprayed the oil overlay. He is, however, not happy with the condition of US 93. The highway going through is McGill's Main Street and also serves as US 93. Main Street is heavily traveled and has not had much maintenance in the past several years, at the north end of McGill there has been some patch work that has left the roadway so bumpy that drivers are driving on the opposite side of the road to avoid being jarred. McGill experienced 4 highway accidents last year due to semi trucks hitting street lights and numerous vehicles being hit, and if drivers are trying to avoid the poor patch job, McGill could experience more accidents resulting more in damaged street lights and parked vehicles. He would like correspondence sent to NDOT pointing out these problems. He would also like the Town Council to inquire about NDOT previous request to have no parking during the winter months along Main Street/US93.

Council Member Angelopoulos inquired about sidewalks.

It was explained that there has not been any grants available for this for several years.

WPC Assessor, Hilton Burton, addressed the Council explaining that BJ Almborg of Basin Engineering currently sits on the NDOT Transportation Board, so possibly the Council would like to cc a copy of their letter to him, along with the WPC Road Super. Also, because rural Nevada has such a low tax base, there is always the possibility of working on special assessments for help fund specific projects.

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH PROGRAM:

The secretary reported there was 7 persons in attendance at the last Neighborhood Watch meeting. There was not an officer present and there has not been any word from the Sheriff who will replace Deputy Alan Pedersen as the McGill Neighborhood Watch Rep. Because there was no guest speaker, or officer in attendance, the Neighborhood Watch discussed unsightly yards, then the discussion changed to some of the members discussing the taxes in Nevada and how older homes pay a much lower tax in comparison to newer homes in larger communities.

Assessor Hilton explained that the tax assessing procedure is changing. Before, the lowest taxable amount was assessed to home 70 years or older. That has changed to homes 50 years or older, then it can go up 1% in value. He has reported to the Board of County Commissioners about legislation that passed in 2015, and will have to pass legislation again this coming year before it goes to the voters, that home taxes could be based on Market Value rather than assessment value. The Nevada Assessor's Association, has been working on this to make everyone aware of the challenges in this legislation. As he learns more, he will begin educating the various boards and taxpayers.

YOUTH/COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES:

Nothing new to report until Christmas.

BUSINESS PLAN/McGILL MERCHANTS REPORTS:

Nothing new to report.

KINNEAR LIBRARY/CULTURAL CENTER REPORT:

It was reported that the Kinneare Library/Cultural Center will hold their annual October Fest on October 7th of this year.

McGILL REVITALIZATION ASSOCIATION:

No report given.

McGILL VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT WOMENS AUXILIARY:

No report given.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

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

There were no further comments.

MEETING ADJOURNED:

There being no further business or comments to be brought before the McGill Town Council, the meeting adjourned at 7:45 P.M.