

The Regular meeting of the McGill Town Council was held on January 17, 2017 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
Lee Garcia, McGill Volunteer Fire Chief
Elaine Blackham, EDC Community Coordinator
Stacy Laird, Business Rep./MRA
Roberta Stein
Mark Poulson

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

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

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Council Chairman Winder called for comments from the public.

Mark Poulson addressed the Council explaining that he recently moved here and is from a small town in Utah. When he first moved here, he went into the Sheriff's Office to introduce himself and was informed that the White Pine County Sheriff's Office patrols all areas of White Pine County, including Ely, McGill, Ruth, Lund, Preston, Baker, Cherry Creek, and all the outlying areas. Because the Sheriff Deputies are spread so thin, he would like to know if the McGill Town Council has considered employing their own police force. He would like the Council to consider an agenda item to discussing their own police force.

Council Chairman Winder explained that Public Comment is for the Council to receive comments from their residents. It is not listed on the agenda as an action item. The Council cannot make any decisions unless the topic is specifically listed for action. McGill Town Council budget is only \$100,000 annually and the Council is assigned the task of operating emergency services, maintaining all the street lights, power, office, parks, personnel, etc. McGill is fortunate to have one of the best, and most active, Neighborhood Watch Programs in the State of Nevada. Also, not all officers are in uniform. Many officers respond to emergencies when they are out of uniform.

Council Member Dubrutz explained that he is a retired officer from Las Vegas and more recently retired from the Ely Shoshone Tribe as an officer. After he retired he let his POST certification drop. Presently, the White Pine County Sheriff's Office is down several officer, mostly due to retirement. It is a lengthy process to bring on a new officer, as they must meet the physical requirements, once selected they go to training, then the new officer must ride along with experienced officers before they can patrol on their own. It could take up to a year to fill a vacancy. Because White Pine County is rural, it is more noticeable when they are shorthanded. McGill may be 20 minutes away from Ely, but when there is an emergency, officers have been known to respond within minutes. Officers have also been known to respond to emergencies when they are off duty. Although McGill had officers stationed in town many years ago, that office was only a satellite office.

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Council Member McVicars inquired if the Council would consider allowing a resident to borrow a few tables and chairs for a personal events.

He was informed there is a sign out sheet hanging on the door where the furniture is stored.

REORGANIZATION OF THE BOARD – SELECTION OF CHAIR, VICE-CHAIR, AND ASSISGNMENT OF DEPARTMENTS:

It was explained for the record that the McGill Town Council schedules this matter at the first meeting of each year.

Council Member Angelopoulos stated that she would like to see the Town Council keep their assignments as they are right now, and she so motions as such.

Council Member McVicars seconded the motion.

Motion was carried by unanimous vote.

SETTING A LINE ITEM IN THE MCGILL TOWN BUDGET FOR THE MAINTENANCE OF THE MCGILL BALL PARK DURING CONSTRUCTION/RENOVATIONS:

Elaine Blackham, EDC Office, recalled she had reported in the previous meeting that SNPLMA granting agency was concerned about continued maintenance if the renovation grant was awarded for the McGill Ball Park. Ms. Blackham had explained that the BOCC requested McGill set a budget line item for the sole purpose of maintaining the McGill Ball Park.

Council Chairman Winder noted that McGill Town Council will be working on their budget during the month of February. Presently McGill budgets over \$43,000 for the maintenance of all their parks (wages, supplies, water, etc).

Council Member Dubrutz motioned to dedicate 40% of the Parks budget for the Ball Park maintenance. The correspondence can stipulate that McGill will utilize 40% of their Parks budget until the 2017/2018 Fiscal Year budget has been finalized.

Council Member McVicars seconded the motion.

Motion was carried by a unanimous vote.

DESIGNATE A MCGILL TOWN COUNCIL MEMBER AS CONTACT PPERSON FOR THE MCGILL BALL PARK DURING THE CONSTRUCTION/RENOVATIONS:

It was noted that this matter was placed on the agenda in the event the SNPLMA grant is awarded, once construction begins, the contractor and/or the County Maintenance Superintendent will need a primary contact person to consult with.

Council Vice-Chairperson Ballandby motioned to designate Council Member Andy McVicars as the primary contact person to oversee the renovations to the McGill Ball Park.

Council Member Dubrutz seconded the motion.

Motion was carried by a unanimous vote.

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

It was noted that Ernie Rivera was not present at the meeting to provide an update.

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

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

Council Chairman Winder explained that he attended the first 1st reading of the ordinance to amend the existing ordinance to allow for the Towns to report nuisances to other agencies, instead of just the BOCC.

The BOCC held another first reading of the ordinance this past week, now that ordinance must be published and then scheduled for a final reading before it becomes law. Once that is accomplished, McGill will be able to begin turning in some of the unsightly yards in the community.

REPORT ON RENOVATIONS TO KINNEAR LIBRARY BUILDING:

No report given.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Council Member Dubrutz motioned to approve the McGill Town Council minutes dated December 20, 2016.

Council Vice-Chairperson Ballandby seconded the motion.
Motion was carried by a unanimous vote.

CORRESPONDENCE:

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

1. Secretary monthly report for December/January.
2. Deposit of funds in the amount of \$20 for rental of Center.
3. Deposit of funds in the amount of \$40 for rental of Center.
4. Annual evaluation to Board of County Commissioners.
5. McGill-Ruth Water agenda.

APPROVAL OF BILLS/AUTHORIZATION TO PURCHASE:

The following bills were read into the record:

JW Electric	\$ 795.00
(street light repairs)	
JW Electric	\$2160.18
(street light inventory)	
OPI	\$ 29.99
(monthly copy machine service)	
Bradley's Bestway Market	\$ 13.43
(cleaning supplies for center)	

Council Vice-Chairperson Ballandby motioned to approve the bills as read.
Council Member Angelopoulos seconded the motion.
Motion was carried by a unanimous vote.

NUISANCE ABATEMENTS:

No report given.

ANIMALS AT LARGE/DICIOUS DOGS:

No report given.

PARK MAINTENANCE:

No report given.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

The secretary reported that McGill is presently 50% into their budget year, with 33% of their revenues coming in, and they are presently 35% spent. The secretary explained to the new persons in attendance that McGill's budget is set at \$102,205.00. Those funds are appropriated through the State of Nevada, but final approval falls upon the Board of County Commissioners. McGill Town Council utilizes the services of the White Pine County Finance Department to assist with tracking revenues and spending.

FIRE/EMT REPORTS:

McGill Volunteer Fire Chief, Lee Garcia, reported that during the month of December, the McGill Volunteer Fire Department responded to 15 emergency calls. One of the calls was a home fire and 4 of the calls were 4 auto wrecks. They have 3 new recruits and those recruits will be going through the academy. The new brush truck that the Council purchased for them is up and running.

Council Member Dubrutz asked if it was possible to have a volunteer fireman in attendance at each McGill Town Council meeting.

McGill Fire Chief Garcia explained that his work schedule has changed, and he will be in attendance more often.

STREET LIGHTS:

Council Chairman Winder reported that there are only 2 lights in need of repair at this time. If anyone knows of any lights out, he would ask that they call him, otherwise he will need to wait until there are 5 lights out before he calls in the repairs.

STREETS & STREET SIGNS:

Council Member Dubrutz explained that McGill's street are wearing well through the winter months, but Main (Fourth) Street has developed several potholes. But Main Street is US-50 and is the responsibility of NDOT.

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH PROGRAM:

The secretary reported there 5 persons in attendance at the last Neighborhood Watch meeting. The Sheriff's Office has assigned an officer to represent McGill's Neighborhood Watch, and they have assured the McGill Watch commander (Mike Borovansky) that McGill's program remains one of the strongest and best programs in the State of Nevada.

YOUTH/COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES:

Nothing new to report.

BUSINESS PLAN/McGILL MERCHANTS REPORTS:

Nothing new to report.

KINNEAR LIBRARY/CULTURAL CENTER REPORT:

The secretary reported that the volunteer library still opens the library 3 days a week (Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday) from the hours of 1 to 4 P.M. They requested that the Council not put away the furniture following this meeting, because they will have the McGill grade school at the Library for "one-on-one" reading lessons.

McGILL REVITALIZATION ASSOCIATION:

Stacy Laird reported that there is not much going on at this time.

The Papez family sponsored the Pick-a-Pole decorating contest again this Christmas Season. The MRA won first place, McGill Grade School won second place, and McVicars won third place.

McGILL VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT WOMEN'S AUXILIARY:

McGill Fire Chief Garcia reported that the Women's Auxiliary is looking at starting another fundraiser in the near future. As details arise, he will report them.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

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

Mark Poulson explained that he had a family member who was married in White Pine County many years ago, he would like to know where that information is available.

The secretary explained that the marriage application is located in the Clerk's Office, the application shows maiden name, if they had been married before, and other personal information. The marriage license can be used in any county, if they were married in White Pine County, then the license would be filed in the Recorder's Office. Both of those offices are located in the Courthouse.

Mark Poulson asked how many homes are in McGill. The Council answered that the McGill Ruth Water District would have the most accurate number of homes.

A question was asked who the new County Commission Liaison for McGill is.

Elaine Blackham answered that it was Steve Stork.

MEETING ADJOURNED:

There being no further business or comments to be brought before the McGill Town Council, the meeting adjourned at 7:58 P.M.