

The Regular meeting of the McGill Town Council was held on October 16, 2018 at the McGill Community/Senior Center located at the top of Avenue K at 7:02 P.M.

The following McGill Town Council Members were in attendance:

Andy McVicars, Chairman
Roxane Ballandby, Vice-Chairperson
Cynthia Angelopoulos, Member
Ernie Rivera, Member

Absent Council Member: Ed Dubrutz, Member

Also in attendance:

Delores Manchester, secretary
Stacy Laird, MRA/Business Rep
John Fitzgerald, Veterans Initiative
Ricky Garcia, McGill Volunteer Fire Chief
Sadie Goff
Sadie McVicars
Raymond Masetes
Chris Maestes
Darin Wallis, WPC Sheriff Deputy

Council Chairman McVicars called the meeting to order at 7:02 P.M.

Council Member Rivera led the assemblage in the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Council Chairman McVicars called for comments from the audience.

The secretary reported that Commissioner Stork was not able to attend the meeting tonight, but he called her to report that the McGill Slag Ditch has been selected as a CDBG priority. Also, the Northern Nevada Development Corp. will be opening a part time position for economic development in this area.

REQUEST PERMISSION TO PLACE THE MCGILL PARKS TRUCK UP FOR SALE:

Parks Groundskeeper Ballandby addressed the Council, explaining that he had previously put in a request to purchase a new, or used, truck for the McGill Parks Department. That matter will be discussed during the budget workshops. He has spoken to a few people about the old McGill truck being placed up for sale.

The secretary recalled that the old truck was purchased about 10 years ago for \$1,000. Also, the Public Works Department has access to the Nevada State Purchasing Department, the Public Works Director might be able to help find a good deal for a replacement truck in McGill parks.

Council Chairman McVicars inquired when the last time the truck had been serviced and checked.

Parks Groundskeeper Ballandby answered that the truck had been serviced this past summer, he has since noticed that the truck is in need of new brakes.

The Council directed the secretary to research the procedure for selling the McGill park truck, obtain verification that we still have the title, and carry this matter on the agenda.

PURCHASE OF A SECOND LAWN MOWER, AS A BACKUP, FOR THE MCGILL PARKS:

Council Chairman McVicars noted that Council Member Dubrutz was not able to attend the meeting tonight; however, he brought in some cost estimates for the purchase of a new mower.

Council Member Rivera recalled that the last mower was purchased from a firm in Reno about 10 years ago. He is willing to check with that company to see what they are offering for sale.

The secretary noted that she provided a copy to each Council Member the minutes when the Town Council purchased their last mower in 2007 for \$9,000.

Sadie McVicars inquired about the purchase price for the used mower.

Council Vice-Chairperson Ballandby answered \$4,500.00.

The Council directed the secretary to carry this matter on the next agenda and to place the purchase of a new law mower on the list of purchases needed to be considered during the next budget workshop.

VETERANS INITIATIVE – STATUS REPORT/UPDATE ON VETERANS INITIATIVE.ORG, INCLUDING UPDATE ON VETERANS MACHINE SHOP, AND UPDATE ON STEAD FIELD ACTIVITIES IN RENO:

John Fitzgerald, Veterans Initiative, addressed the Council reporting that he had attended the Stead Field Air Show. There were about 257 Disabled Veterans in attendance, and about 1 dozen paralyzed Veterans. Most of the attendees were WWII and Korean War Vets. This is a time for them to share stories and a lot of humor is passed around. It is a tender moment to see the DAVs (90 year olds and 30 year olds) all together, with all of them stepping forward to assist the Disabled Vets. The Commemorative Air Force (CAF) was also represented at the Stead Field Air Races. It was a very successful event, with honor flights, old war planes on display, that had been salvaged and restored.

John Fitzgerald continued reporting, explaining that in the past few months, they have moved 57 tons of machinery and tools into their building. The Methodist Church kids came up to help organize, move items into place, and learn about past warriors. Cooperation has been great.

John Fitzgerald provided the Council with an article “The Potential China Disaster” that appeared in the Industrial Heating magazine in June. Noting that they have interviewed him, and there will soon be an article written about the Veterans Initiative in McGill, Nevada.

McGILL DOWNTOWN BUSINESS DISTRICT BEAUTIFICATION PROJECT:

It was reported there have been many compliments given on the appearance of the Old Sheriff’s Office Building since volunteers painted it.

A letter of appreciation was read into the minutes from the owner of the Old Sheriff’s Office Building:

“Subject: Formal Thank You – Painting McGill Sheriff’s Office
Attn: Chairman, Members of Town Council, Delores Manchester, Secretary
Thank you to the Town Council and those that spent time and made effort to paint the Old Sheriff’s Office.
Thank you also to Delores Manchester for sending a copy of the nice newspaper article. The work done nicely compliments the building and will undoubtedly serve to beautify the town.
Thank you again, and respectively,
Timothy J. Wolf”

Sadie McVicars addressed the Council referring to the lot next to the Blue Building (formerly Café’). In addition to fluffing up the Old Blue Building, she would like to see a wall being built and placing brick blocks to pave the space. Possibly bring in a few picnic tables and put in a flag pole. Maybe work with the Drug Store Museum to help that area look nice. Possibly, sell the bricks to individuals in “memory a lost love one”, which would be a way to help support the beautification project.

The Council noted that work on this project may stop during the winter months, and directed the secretary to remove this agenda item from the agenda until next spring.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Council Vice-Chairperson Ballandby motioned to approve the Regular McGill Town Council minutes dated September 18, 2018 with the requested corrections.
Council Member Rivera seconded the motion.

Council Member Angelopoulos abstained from voting due to being absent from that meeting.
Motion was carried by majority vote.

Council Vice-Chairperson Ballandby motioned to approve the Special McGill Town Council minutes dated September 10, 2018.
Council Member Angelopoulos seconded.

Council Member Rivera abstained from voting due to being absent from that meeting.
Motion was carried by majority vote of the quorum present.

CORRESPONDENCE:

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

1. Information on the purchase of a back-up lawn mower for McGill parks.
2. Memo to WPC Finance Director requesting transfer of funds.
3. JW Electric detailed statement.
4. Secretarial monthly report.
5. Correspondence from Commemorative Air Force, Nevada Wing, thanking McGill Town Council for their welcoming CAF to McGill.
6. E-mail from WPC Public Works Director, Bill Calderwood, informing the Council they will be in McGill to winterize the parks.
7. Memo to WPC Public Works Director Calderwood, requesting he inspect a few gutters that appear to be washed out.
8. Memo to WPC Fire Chief informing them of a home that may pose a fire danger.
9. E-mail from Tim Norton, WPC Maint. Dept, stating that the McGill parks have been winterized, including the Kinneer Library and Swimming Pool, also stating that he had notified the McGill-Ruth Water District to shut off all 5 meters.
10. Letter of appreciation from Timothy Wolf, thanking the Town Council for painting the Old Sheriff's Office Building.
11. E-mail inviting McGill Town Council from Mary Sorenson honoring 60 more fallen miners and 50 Veterans that died in the mines (November 10th with lunch following).
12. Deposit in the amount of \$30.00
13. McGill-Ruth Water District agenda.
14. Letter of interest from a person requesting information about the area for relocation purposes.

APPROVAL OF BILLS/AUTHORIZATION TO PURCHASE:

The following bills were read into the record:

OPI	\$ 29.99
(monthly copy machine contract)	
WPC Road Dept.	\$ 162.33
(parks gasoline)	
Bath Lumber	\$1,001.55
(park repairs & operating/Town beautification)	
JW Electric	\$1,075.00
(street light repairs)	
Bradleys Bestway Market	\$ 13.86
(NW refreshments/cleaning supplies)	

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

NUISANCE ABATEMENTS:

Deputy Sheriff, Darin Wallis, addressed the Council explaining that the property on Second Street that had been reported in the previous meeting, is presently being worked on. He noted that the Sheriff's Office will follow up on this matter.

Council Chairman McVicars noted that 23 Avenue F, there is a lot of trash piling up, and a lot of trash piled up in the back of the pickup truck.
It was also reported that there are several cars that are being parked on the streets in McGill that have no tags on them.

A person inquired about the Old Standard Market Building. Asking if it would be possible to obtain permission from the owners of the building, to replace the plywood over the windows and paint scenes on the wood.

The secretary noted that McGill Town Council had reported that building under the Abatement of Dangerous Buildings Act. The BOCC accepted the responsibility to following through with the concerns expressed about the condition of that building. She would caution the Council, before approaching the owners of the building, to pass everything through the District Attorney, so as not to interfere with what that office is working on.

ANIMALS AT LARGE/VICIOUS DOGS:

It was reported that there is a large brown dog that keeps getting out of the yard at #15 First Street. Possibly, the dog's owner needs a reminder that dogs are to be in their yard.

PARKS MAINTENANCE:

Parks Groundskeeper Ballandby reported that all the water has been turned off at the McGill parks. He would still like to keep working so he can begin trimming trees, he wants to do some painting in areas, and he would like to begin setting mole traps out.

Council Member Angelopoulos inquired about the gate at the Ball Park. Asking if he has he been successful in getting the gate closed and locked? She had seen some trucks up on the lawn again last week.

Parks Groundskeeper Balladry assured the Council that he will purchase some chain and lock the gate.

The secretary explained that the Public Works Department needs copies of all keys to McGill buildings and parks. Possibly he could obtain a lock from the County Maintenance Department, that way, all the park keys can be keyed alike.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

The secretary reported that the last report she received from the County Finance Department was dated September 26th. That report showed McGill 17% into their budget year, with zero revenues coming in, and the report showed 28% spent. Noting that she is not concerned about the zero revenues because we are only 2 ½ months into the budget year. Revenues coming in late is not uncommon, and that is why McGill should always carry unspent funds forward from the previous year. Years ago, NRS requested 17% of the budget should be carried forward into the next year, but she does not know what the NRS suggests now.

Council Member Angelopoulos stated that she noticed on the financial sheet the secretary had provided them with earlier in the month showing new department numbers; that there was a minus amount in the budget for the Town Beautification line item.

The secretary explained that she noticed that and had already prepared the memo to the Finance Director requesting to move funds into that line item before the next purchase was made for Town Beautification.

FIRE/EMT REPORTS:

Ricky Garcia, McGill Volunteer Fire Chief, addressed the Council explaining that he had been selected as the new McGill Fire Chief a few months back; however, due to his work schedule, he had not been able to attend the McGill meetings. He is hoping his work schedule will allow for him to attend more meetings in the future. The McGill Volunteer Fire Department personnel has undergone a lot of training. The number of volunteer firemen has been dwindling, and they are hoping to try soliciting more volunteers.

Council Member Rivera asked if the McGill Town Council could be of assistance in their drive to get more volunteer firemen.

Ricky Garcia explained that most of the McGill Volunteer Firemen work full time jobs, so there is always a need to solicit more volunteers. They are busy reorganizing. They have an Assistant Fire Chief, and they are hoping to have a Captain position created.

Council Chairman McVicars directed the secretary to place on the next agenda an item to discuss strategy in soliciting for more Volunteer Firemen for the McGill Volunteer Fire/EMT Departments.

STREET LIGHTS:

Council Vice-Chairperson Balladry explained that she had reviewed the latest statement from JW Electric. She agrees that bill had already been paid, so it probably passed in the mail.

Council Vice-Chairperson Balladry stated that she had turned in many street lights last month, there are times when JW Electric needs to come back to re-check, but they do not charge for return visits.

It was reported that the street light in front of Bradley's turns on and off.

Light is out by the side gate by the Ball Park.

#14 First Street, the light is out.

STREETS & STREET SIGNS:

Raymond Maestes stated that he reviewed the minutes from the previous meeting and would like to make a correction. He was asking to change the yield sign to stop sign on South Second Street. Also, there are no speed limit signs and no school zone signs. He would even like to see a flashing yellow light cautioning drivers.

The Council directed the secretary to carry this matter on the next agenda to request the District Attorney begin the process of changing the yield sign to stop sign, installing school zone signs, etc.

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH PROGRAM:

It was reported there were 8 persons at the last McGill Neighborhood Watch meeting. Their main topic of discussion was the recent spray painting of graffiti on the garages at the North end of McGill.

YOUTH/COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES:

Council Member Angelopoulos reported that they are beginning on working for the Christmas festivities. She will have more to report next month.

BUSINESS PLAN/McGILL MERCHANTS REPORTS:

No report given.

CULTURAL CENTER/KINNEAR LIBRARY REPORT:

The secretary reported that the McGill Kinnear Library/Cultural Center is operating on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. There are a few people checking out books, but their bigger business is the computers in the back room because they offer free internet. Also, the picnic table on the front porch is usually full of students in the evenings doing their homework.

McGILL REVITALIZATION ASSOCIATION:

Stacy Laird reported that their organization is making preparations for the McGill Christmas festivities. Santa will visit the Senior Center, and they are planning on scheduling a parade.

McGILL VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT WOMEN'S AUXILIARY:

No report given.

RENOVATIONS TO KINNEAR LIBRARY BUILDING:

It was noted that there is no expected work to the Kinnear Library Building until winter sets in. Once there is snow on the ground, the County Maintenance Department will resume their work to the building whenever their schedule permits.

McGILL HISTORICAL DRUG STORE MUSEUM:

Council Chairman McVickers reported that he visited the McGill Drug Store Museum on Saturday. They informed him that they are visited by about 30 visitors each day when they are open. He is pleased to see the building being visited by travelers and locals.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Council Chairman McVickers called for any further comments from the public.

Raymond Maestes inquired about the Old Theatre Building.

Council Chairman McVickers explained that he learned they recently were able to obtain the original theatre seats back. Some of the balcony is missing, and there are tarps over the roof.

Darin Wallis, White Pine County Sheriff Deputy, addressed the Council explaining that the Red Ribbon Committee is trying to promote their organization. He has a Proclamation for Red Ribbon Week on October 23 through October 31. There will be an assembly at the McGill Grade School during that week. They hope to have treasure hunts in the future. The Assembly at the McGill Grade School will be on Thursday, October 25th at 8:00 A.M. if anyone wishes to attend.

The McGill Town Council stood in support of Red Ribbon Week in White Pine County.

John Fitzgerald reported that one of the Veterans Initiative members wrote to the United Steel Workers Union. They are very interested in small towns, not larger towns. They are wanting to find out what the curriculum will be at the Veterans Initiative. He has been told that his pre testing form for the Veterans Initiative is too hard, so they are working on that. They will be submitting their testing to multiple choice, once the changes are made, they will be submitting it to be proofed and modified.

MEETING ADJOURNED:

There being no further business or questions to be brought before the McGill Town Council, the meeting adjourned at 8:25 P.M.