

The Regular meeting of the McGill Town Council was held on December 15, 2020 at the Kinnear Library/Town Hall Building located at #4 North Fourth (Main) Street at 7:00 P.M.

The following McGill Town Council Members were in attendance:

Joshua Miller, Vice-Chairman
Cynthia Angelopoulos, Member
Chris Maestes, Member

Absent Council Member:

Roxane Ballandby, Chairperson
Danielle Jensen, Member

Also in attendance:

Delores Manchester, Secretary/Town Clerk
Raymond Maestes, Sr.
Tabatha Hamilton, WPC Grants
Victoria Perea, McGill Volunteer Fire Chief
Matthew Noriega, McGill Volunteer Fire Dept.
Ernie Rivera, White Pine County Sheriff's Deputy

Council Vice-Chairman Miller called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

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

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Council Vice-Chairman Miller called for comments from the public.

Tabatha Hamilton, WPC Grants Dept, addressed the Council explaining there are grants that are coming up. They just submitted round 18 of the SNPLMA grant, and round 19 will be due in September. The last SNPLMA grant was for the McGill Ball Park at about one million dollars. The Board of County Commissioners will select the projects in February. Projects cannot be for maintenance, but for restoration projects.

APPROVAL TO POTENTIALLY REMEDY BLIGHTED/HAZARDOUS CONDITIONS OF THE MCGILL BALLPARK BLEACHERS AND DIRT MOUND USING COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) FUNDS:

Tabatha Hamilton explained that there is \$200,000 in grant funding available through CDBG. There is a large mound of dirt and sod piled up at the southwest corner of the McGill Ball Park that needs to be leveled. One set of bleachers has been renovated; however, there is another set of bleachers that are in need of restoration. She would also like to put in a few BBQ/picnic areas to finish off the playground section.

Council Member Angelopoulos explained that some of the dirt that is piled up is for the reconstruction of an ice skating arena. The ice skating area used to be at that location, but through the years it was trampled down. The Council was hoping to have enough funds in the grant to bring back the ice skating arena. She agrees that CDBG funds can be used to finish the bleachers because it is a safety issue. The ice skating arena could be listed as second to be used for removal of the mound of dirt/ice skating area that is considered blight area.

It was the consensus of the McGill Town Council to authorize Tabatha Hamilton to proceed in applying for a CDBG grant to repair the bleachers at the McGill Ball Park, and to remove the piles of dirt from the southwest corner of the Ball Park.

The Council directed the secretary to place on the next agenda for the selection of SMPLMA grant priorities for next year.

PURCHASE OF PLAQUES FOR MEMORIAL TREES:

Nothing new to report, carry this matter on the next agenda.

REPAIR OF FLAGPOLE LOCATED AT VETERANS/FOUNTAIN PARK:

The secretary recalled that the Council requested a letter be prepared to Mt. Wheeler to ask for assistance in using their 80 foot bucket truck to repair the Flagpole located at the Veterans/Fountain Park. She has that letter prepared and is awaiting the Council's signature.

PUBLIC ART IDEAS-POTENTIAL MURALS AND OTHER ITEMS FOR THE TOWN OF MCGILL:

It was recalled that the Tourism and Rec Board indicated their artist could not paint a mural on corrugated tin. The Council had hoped to have a mural painted on the McGill Fire Station showing McGill's old ambulance and their old fire truck, but the Fire Station walls are not smooth.

Council Vice-Chairman Miller suggested tacking up sheet metal or some other type of material that is smoother.

It was the consensus of the Council to run this idea past the Tourism and Rec Board, and to carry this matter on the next agenda.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Council Member Angelopoulos motioned to approve the McGill Town Council minutes dated November 17, 2020.

Council Member Maestes seconded the motion.

Motion was carried by unanimous vote of the quorum present.

PAYMENT OF BILLS/AUTHORIZATION TO PURCHASE:

The following bills were read into the record:

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| Bradleys Bestway Market (Christmas Candy & fruit) | \$141.68 |
| Bradleys Bestway Market (Neighborhood Watch refreshments) | \$ 23.76 |
| Bath Lumber (park operating/office supplies) | \$ 56.03 |
| OPI (copy machine contract) | \$ 32.41 |
| WPC Road Dept. (parks diesel/gasoline) | \$ 60.79 |
| Bradleys Bestway Maarket (office supplies) | \$ 6.24 |

Council Member Maestes motioned to approve the bills as read with the exception of the voucher to the White Pine County Road Department in the amount of \$60.79. Noting that the final date the Parks Manager worked was November 17, 2020; however, there was diesel charged on November 19, 2020. She is requesting verification on the date and who made those charges for gasoline/diesel charges.

Council Member Angelopoulos seconded the motion.

Motion was carried by majority vote of the quorum present.

The Council directed the secretary to hold the Road Dept. voucher and prepare the necessary correspondence to verify the gasoline/diesel charges.

NUISANCE ABATEMENTS:

Nothing new to report.

CORRESPONDENCE:

The following correspondence was mailed or received since the previous meeting:

1. Letter from WPC Clerk requesting annual evaluation
2. McGill-Ruth Sewer and Water agenda.
3. Letter to City Animal Control Officer re: animals at large.
4. Memo to WPC Sheriff re: unlicensed motor home.
5. Letter to JW Electric listing LED project.
6. Letter to Mt. Wheeler Power re: thanks for electrical power.
7. Letter to Fore Gold thanking them for the donation.
8. E-mail to Rio Tinto re: meeting time.
9. Secretary monthly report.
10. E-mail from Jeff at Rio Tinto.
11. E-mail from Rudy Herndon

It was noted that Rudy Herndon sent a lengthy e-mail to the Town Council detailing the activities he has planned during 2021 (Music festival-RV Parking-IOOF Hall-Theatre.

ANIMALS AT LARGE/VICIOUS DOGS:

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Nothing new to report.

PARK MAINTENANCE:

No report given.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

The secretary reported McGill has only received \$35,528.55 from tax revenues so far this year. Expenditures have exceeded revenues as of this date, so McGill is still operating on funds that had been carried over from the previous budget year.

FIRE/EMT REPORTS:

Victoria Perea, McGill Volunteer Fire Chief, reported that many of the McGill Volunteer Firemen are continuing with their training. Some are also attending EMT training classes. McGill assisted the Lund Volunteer Fire Department with a fire, the McGill ambulance has been returned. Brett North, WPC Fire Chief, is working on a grant to acquire additional turnouts. The washroom project is almost completed. McGill Fire Truck #211 is in Salt Lake being worked on. When that truck is returned, they will be sending the other McGill Fire Truck for repairs.

STREET LIGHTS:

Nothing new to report.

STREETS & STREET SIGNS:

Council Member Maestes requested another letter to NDOT asking about the flashing light sign with the hopes of slowing speeding traffic down in town. She would also point out that McGill boundaries stretch from the Club 50 to half way to the Duck Creek turnoff, there are a lot of dead deer carcasses that are laying along the roadway in town. She would ask that NDOT be asked to drag the carcasses off the roadway. She would also ask that NDOT place signs in McGill cautioning travelers to be watchful of wildlife.

The Council directed the secretary to prepare the correspondence to NDOT.

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH PROGRAM:

McGill Neighborhood Watch held their meeting with just a few members present. They discussed various options regarding rules for ATV riders.

YOUTH/COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES:

It was reported that McGill held their Christmas parade with 4 fire trucks and 5 floats. Santa visited McGill youth while residents held a bake sale. Social distancing was observed during the festivities.

BUSINESS PLAN/McGILL MERCHANTS REPORTS:

Nothing new to report.

CULTURAL CENTER/LIBRARY REPORT:

It was reported that residents are using the library and the computer more now that they have moved to Main Street.

McGILL REVITALIZATION ASSOCIATION:

It was reported that the MRA assisted with the parade and helped Santa and the youths.

McGILL HISTORICAL DRUG STORE MUSEUM:

Council Member Angelopoulos reported that she delivered a box of masks to the Drug Store Museum. They are open and have been receiving visitors.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Council Vice-Chairman Miller called for any further comments from the audience.

Raymond Maestes reported that there are horses boarded at the north end of McGill. Deer regularly cross the roadway in that area; however, the traffic is speeding up and they are hitting the deer. There are many deer laying dead on the roadway. Also, there is a lot of trash scattered in town.

It was suggested to schedule some community service workers in the area.

MEETING ADJOURNED:

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