

The Regular meeting of the McGill Town Council was held on March 17, 2020 at the McGill Community/Senior Center located at the top of Avenue K at 7:01 P.M.

The following McGill Town Council Members were in attendance:

Roxane Ballandby, Chairperson
Joshua Miller, Vice-Chairman
Cynthia Angelopoulos, Member
Danielle Jensen, Member
Chris Maestes, Member

Also in attendance:

Delores Manchester, secretary
Richard Howe, WPC Commissioner
Madeline Kalleres
Ricky Garcia, McGill Fire Chief
Rudy Herndon, IOOF Hall/Theatre
Stacy Laird, McGill Business Rep/MRA

Council Chairperson Ballandby called the meeting to order at 7:01 P.M.

Council Vice-Chairman Miller led the assemblage in the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Council Chairperson Ballandby called for comments from the audience. First, noting that following the President’s recent restriction about “No More Than 10 Persons to a Gathering”; the McGill Town Council will need to restrict the number of persons in the audience.

WPC Commissioner, Richard Howe, addressed the Board explaining that as soon as he makes his announcement to update the Town Council, he will vacate the building to allow for another person to enter. Commissioner Howe explained that there was an emergency BOCC meeting, and there is another emergency special meeting of the Board of County Commissioners scheduled for tomorrow morning. They will be discussing possible closure of some County offices, all non essential establishments will be closed for 30 days. Senior citizens will continue to be served their hot meals, but in a bag. Some employees will be working on line at home. Courts have been suspended for all trials for 14 days. The Governor has stated that unemployment benefits will begin immediately if they were laid off due to the virus. Presently there are no reports of the virus hitting White Pine County, the BOCC will be following the direction of the local Public Health official, schools will be closed, but they are working on a plan allowing kids to do their homework at home. The Library will be open, but everybody will be separated. The Aquatic Center will be open, but only to assist persons with prescriptions for therapy. The grocery stores will allow morning hours from 6 to 8 a.m. for seniors only. There has been a large number of persons driving to WPC just to shop, and the local stores will be limiting some items. All casinos will be closed. Right now, everyone is at the mercy of the President of the United States and the Governor of Nevada.

Commissioner Howe continued his report. Stating that he has received the McGill budget and the BOCC will act on it along with all other County budgets. All tentative budgets have to be submitted to the Department of Taxation by April 15th. There have been complaints that the BOCC has not done anything in the McGill Fire Station. He can assure the Town Council that this will be worked on after the new budget begins in July. The BOCC has been looking at hiring somebody to manage the McGill Swimming Pool this coming summer.

The Council thanked Commissioner Howe for his update.

Rudy Herndon, IOOF Hall/Theatre, addressed the Council noting that he is optimistic that life will be back to normal by September. That is when he is planning his outdoor music festival at the McGill Pool Park. He has asked the BOCC to keep the McGill pool open until September 18 to 20th so he could hold his event. He has offered to pay to keep the pool open, and he is hopeful the BOCC will approve his offer. Presently he has 7 bands confirmed for the event, but will be keeping their identity a secret until closer to the time of the event. He will have a web page designed advertising the McGill Music Festival. The McGill Theatre has been totally abated, the trusses are not in the best of shape, so there might be some structural improvements. They are still working on getting the plans approve for the IOOF Hall. All his plans in McGill are moving forward.

Cheyenne Gibson, US Census, addressed the Council explaining that the latest order for all non essential businesses to close has changed some of their plans. They will still be mailing the Census questionnaire, but everyone is encouraged to complete their information on line. She will be posting updates as the Census progresses. She has brought a computer to be stationed at the Senior Center, it is set up and will only take 5 minutes to fill the questionnaire out.

SELECTION OF TOWN COUNCIL MEMBER TO WORK ON MCGILL SOCIAL MEDIA:

Council Vice-Chairman Miller motioned to select Council Member Danielle Jensen to be McGill's Social Media representative.

Council Member Angelopoulos seconded the motion.

Motion was carried by a unanimous vote.

STUDY/REVIEW OF PREVIOUS ATV ROUTE AND RULES AND/OR POSSIBLE APPROVAL AND REQUEST FOR AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING NEW OFF HIGHWAY VEHICLES (OHV) ROUTE AND RULES FOR THE TOWN OF MCGILL:

Council Chairperson Ballandby stated that she had studied the ATV Route that the Town Council had adopted back in 1993, and she has a few suggested revisions to the routes leading out of town. She would like to see some of the street/routes go up and down, rather than across through town. She would also ask the Neighborhood Watch to plan on holding a session to license off road vehicles.

There was a Sheriff's Deputy in attendance. He addressed the Council explaining that all off road vehicles must be registered and insured. Once the map route is set, the Town Council will need to run it past the District Attorney and the Board of County Commissioners for final approval.

Council Member Jensen reported that the McGill Neighborhood Watch did study the old ATV Routes and they discussed the alley above First Street where it has since been closed to through traffic. They feel they still have some work to complete before they bring any recommendation back to the McGill Town Council.

Council Vice-Chairman Miller suggested that the McGill Social Media Representative spread the word that the McGill Neighborhood Watch and the McGill Town Council will be working on the new off road vehicle route.

RENTAL OF TEMPORARY PORTABLE WASHING STATION, PORTABLE SHOWER, AND PORTABLE TOILETS FOR MCGILL VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT:

Council Vice-Chairman Miller reported that he has been working with the local company about placing a porta potty at the McGill Fire Station. Presently they do not have a portable hand washing station available, but they can bring out one porta potty @ \$90 per month, with cleaning every 2 weeks. The County is working in the right direction, so he is hopeful this will only be temporary. Possibly 6 to 12 months. There are still no portable showers available.

Council Member Angelopoulos motioned to authorize the placement of a porta potty to be stationed at the McGill Fire Station, with the option of including a portable hand washing station at a later date.

Council Member Jensen seconded the motion.

Motion was carried by a unanimous vote.

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

Council Vice-Chairman Miller reported that they held an informal meeting to work on the grant application to paint a mural on the side of the McGill Drug Store Museum. He will have to give a verbal presentation on March 24th, but that meeting might be cancelled. The grant application with the Tourism and Rec Board is for \$10,000 with a \$2,500 Town match (cash or in-kind).

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

SETTING DATE FOR GRAND OPENING OF KINNEAR LIBRARY/TOWN HALL BUILDING:

Council Member Angelopoulos reported that she spoke with the Maintenance Dept. and learned that the counter top has not arrived yet, and that the phone line/internet cable has not been installed yet.

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

SETTING DATE AND TIME FOR GRAND OPENING OF D-ZINE SALON:

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Council Member Angelopoulos motioned to approve the Special McGill Town Council Budget Workshop meeting minutes dated February 11, 2020.

Council Vice-Chairman Miller seconded the motion.

Motion was carried by a unanimous vote.

Council Vice-Chairman Miller motioned to approve the Regular McGill Town Council minutes with the requested correction on the date of the Easter Bunny's arrival.

Council Member Jensen 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 WP Little League requesting donation.
2. McGill Ruth Water agenda.
3. Secretary monthly report.
4. Memo to Sheriff regarding nuisance abatement complaint
5. Letter to City of Ely Animal Control regarding dog at large.
6. Letters to vendors updating authorization to charge.
7. Letter to Langley School in Virginia describing McGill history.

The Council directed the secretary to place on the next McGill Town Council agenda for approval of a donation to the Little League.

APPROVAL OF BILLS/AUTHORIZATION TO PURCHASE:

The following bills were read into the record:

OPI	\$45.06
(copy machine contract)	
Bradleys Bestway Market	\$22.12
(Neighborhood Watch refreshments)	

Council Vice-Chairman Miller motioned to approve the bills as read.

Council Member Jensen seconded the motion.

Motion was carried by unanimous vote.

NUISANCE ABATEMENTS:

Council Member Maestes reported a few problem areas as follows:

#32 Avenue A – about 20 large bags of trash outside the fence that has not been hauled away.

#14 Third Street – a lot of accumulated trash stacked outside the yard.

#23 Avenue F – a giant tree trunk laying outside the yard.

The Council directed the secretary to prepare the necessary correspondence.

ANIMALS AT LARGE/VICIOUS DOGS:

No report given.

PARK MAINTENANCE:

It was reported that on March 29th volunteers will convene to clean the Avenue K Park anticipating the arrival of the Easter Bunny. Also, the gopher machine needs to be delivered from the County Shop to McGill.

McGill Fire Chief Garcia assured the Board that he would speak with the County shop and store the gopher machine in the Fire Station temporarily.

It was reported that the McGill Parks employees will both be returning this summer season. Their employment will begin April 1st.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

The secretary reported there is only 3 months remaining in this budget period. Presently McGill's revenues have 49% remaining to be collected; with 48% of their budget remaining.

FIRE/EMT REPORTS:

Ricky Garcia, McGill Fire Chief, reported that he received a call the other day to work with the Public Works Director on the planned bathroom for the McGill Fire Station. He was informed that the bathroom at the McGill Fire Station is on the top of their list for the new budget year. They will be having 2 restrooms, 2 showers, and washer and dryer. If they respond to a call involving a sick person, the EMTs will check the patient first, and they will be following the County protocol, they will wear masks, EMTs will put a mask on the patient. The horn on the fire truck has not been fixed yet, the brush truck needs some work, and McGill presently has 19 volunteer firemen.

STREET LIGHTS:

Council Chairperson Ballandby reported that she has spoken with JW Electric, they have been in McGill replacing the lights in need of repair with the new LED lights and they have replaced many lights on Main Street with LED. They are working on the invoice, but it was not finished in time for approval at this meeting.

Council Vice-Chairman Miller reported that JW Electric will need to set up the power box for the parks.

STREETS & STREET SIGNS:

It was noted that the street signs that had been reported as vandalized still have not been replaced or repaired. The Council directed the secretary to deliver the memo again.

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH PROGRAM:

Council Member Jensen reported that there were 6 persons at the last McGill Neighborhood Watch meeting. They picked up 2 new members. As reported earlier, they reviewed the Old ATV Route and Rules, but had not come up with a recommendation yet. She would like to start a Facebook page for the McGill Neighborhood Watch Program. The committee also discussed the possibility of setting up a special area where kids could "legally" tag. She has researched and learned that some areas have set up a "Tagging Area" in their community, and the tagging has been curtailed in the wrong places – and this matter may also need to be brought to the BOCC and District Attorney for possible ordinance and/or policy. They will discuss this further and bring their recommendation to the McGill Town Council possibly in May.

YOUTH/COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES:

Council Member Angelopoulos reported they are getting everything ready for the Easter Bunny. As reported earlier, the gopher machine needs to be picked up and brought to McGill before the volunteers clean the Avenue K Park.

BUSINESS PLAN/McGILL MERCHANTS REPORTS:

Stacy Laird, McGill Business Rep, reported that the McGill Club will be closed this evening. Non essential businesses, such as her Beauty Shop, will be closed by Friday.

CULTURAL CENTER/LIBRARY REPORT:

No report given.

McGILL REVITALIZATION ASSOCIATION:

Stacy Laird, MRA, reported that their organization will be helping with welcoming the Easter Bunny at the Avenue K Park.

Council Vice-Chairman Miller noted that he is working on his power point presentation for the grant application for the revival of McGill. He would like the McGill Revitalization Association to join in on this project.

RENOVATIONS TO KINNEAR LIBRARY/TOWN HALL BUILDING:

As reported earlier, the counter top and phone lines have not been installed yet.

McGILL HISTORICAL DRUG STORE MUSEUM:

It was reported that the McGill Drug Store Museum is delighted about the grant application for the mural to be painted on the side of their building.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Council Chairperson Ballandby called for any further comments from the audience.

There were no further comments.

MEETING ADJOURNED:

There being no further comments or business to be brought the McGill Town Council, the meeting adjourned at 8:00 P.M.