

The Regular meeting of the McGill Town Council was held on June 15, 2021 at the McGill Town Hall/Kinnear Library Building located at #4 North Fourth (Main) Street at 7:00 P.M.

The following McGill Town Council Members were in attendance:

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

Also in attendance:

Delores Manchester, secretary/Town Clerk
Raymond Maestes, Sr.
Stacy Laird, McGill Business Rep/MRA
Richard Marshall
Victoria Perea, McGill Volunteer Fire Chief
Matt Houghton, McGill Volunteer Fireman
Roman Cody, McGill volunteer Fireman
Deputy Stroud, White Pine County Sheriff's Office

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

Council Vice-Chairperson led the assemblage in the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Council Chairman Miller called for comments from the audience.
There were no comments at this time.

REQUEST TO LOCK GATES AT MCGILL BALL PARK:

It was noted that McGill had contacted the SNPLMA granting agency. Their response was that the gates could be locked; however, if the gates have been locked for budgetary concerns, it could be a violation of granting guidelines. It was also noted that the Board of County Commissioners, along with the District Attorney, are presently working on an ordinance to address vandalism in public parks in White Pine County. The proposed ordinance will be looking at placing a curfew at all parks.

Discussion ensued. It was agreed to not lock the gates at the McGill Ball Park at this time. If there should be problems with vandalism, then the matter can be placed on the agenda in the future.

STATUS REPORT ON LED STREET LIGHT GRANT AND SECURITY CAMERA GRANT:

Council Member Ballandby and the secretary reported on the grant applications that had been submitted during the month of June. The County Grants Writer had found a grant application that was due on June 9th that would cover community utility improvements. She assisted the secretary in preparing a grant application for the cost of the 60 LED street lights that will replace the last 1/3 of McGill street lights. The second grant application was for security camera equipment. Both grants were turned in within the required deadline date.

Council Chairman Miller reported that he will not be working on July 14th (date in which the BOCC is requesting a presentation on the SNPLMA grant applications). McGill will apply for Phase III at the McGill Ball Park. Due to the recent rise in supply costs, it will be difficult to estimate the cost for Phase III.

It was agreed that the Chairman with assistance from the secretary, will work on the presentation.

PLANNING FOR THE VIETNAM WALL TO VISIT MCGILL DURING THE FOURTH OF JULY WEEKEND:

It was noted that the Vietnam Wall will be stopping in McGill on June 30th. Vietnam Wall supporters will be traveling to McGill from a variety of locations. It is their plan to park the Vietnam Wall along Avenue K. They will be providing their own security for the wall. McGill Town Council will open the McGill Senior Center building so visitors can use the kitchen, restrooms, and dining hall. McGill Neighborhood Watch and the McGill Volunteer Fire Department will provide additional security, as well. Wall travelers will remain in McGill resting until it is time to gather and parade toward Ely on July 1st.

PURCHASE OF ADDITIONAL STORAGE SHED/GARAGE TO HOUSE PARK MOWER:

It was reported that Bath Lumber offers engineering services in designing carports, large sheds, and garages. They draw the design by scale, list all materials to construct the garage, and give a detailed cost estimate for the project. All McGill will need to do is give the dimensions, and put the garage together.

Council Chairman Miller explained that the connex shed should hold both the older riding mower and the new mower/tractor. The oldest mower (Yard Man Mower) can be donated to another town if it is working. A garage would be helpful when the Parks workers are servicing equipment, and such. His suggestion is possibly McGill needs to no longer pursue building a garage at this time.

It was the consensus of the Council to drop this item from the agenda.

PURCHASE OF PLAQUES FOR MEMORIAL TREES:

Council Chairman Miller reported that he has been in communication with the supplier of the plaques. He is presently working on his cost estimate.

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

POTENTIAL MURALS AND OTHER ITEMS FOR THE TOWN OF MCGILL:

It was noted that McGill Town Council has already agreed to have a mural painted on the side of the Pony Express Service Mart. Painting a mural on the side of the McGill Volunteer Fire Department is still an option; however, there will have to be a Hardy Backer/Sign Board installed. That sign board comes in 4 X 8 foot sheets and the estimated cost is \$110 per sheet. It will take between 10 to 20 sheets of the Hardy Backer/Sign Board. The Council will see if the Sign Board can be written into the grant, or if it will have to be purchased. If the Sign Board has to be purchased by the Town Council, they may be asking for financial assistance.

Council Member Maestes reported that she has spoken with Rudy Herndon about providing the materials for a mural to be painted at the southern end of McGill. The mural will be placed on the fence at the McGill Ball Park welcoming visitors to McGill.

It was the consensus of the Council to carry this matter on the agenda.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Council Vice-Chairperson Angelopoulos motioned to approve the Regular McGill Town Council minutes dated May 18, 2021.

Council Member Ballandby seconded the motion.

Motion was carried by unanimous vote.

APPROVAL OF BILLS/AUTHORIZATION TO CHARGE:

The following bills were read into the record:

Bradley's Bestway Market	\$ 21.66
(Neighborhood Watch refreshments)	
Sportsworld	\$106.17
(park supplies)	
Bath Lumber	\$163.80
(park supplies)	
OPI	\$ 42.31
(monthly copy machine contract)	

Council Member Ballandby motioned to approve the bills as read.

Council Member Maestes seconded the motion.

Motion was carried by unanimous vote of the quorum present.

Council Member Maestes noted for the record that the pitchers mound that was purchased at Sportsworld was charged to McGill's account; however, Little League had offered to pay for the item.

The secretary assured the Council that she would speak with WP Finance regarding this matter.

NUISANCE ABATEMENTS:

The following concerns were expressed:

#33 South 7th Street – there is a person living in a camper in the back yard.

#16 Avenue B – trash piled up in the back of a pick-up truck.

#10 Avenue A – house is vacant and there may be a squatter in the house, yard is piled high with trash – property is tax title.

#26 Avenue C – tree limbs tossed in the street.

#32 Avenue A – unlicensed van is parked in front.

Someone walking around on Kennecott property at night with flash lights.

Richard Marshall addressed the Council explaining that the camper at #33 South 7th Street is his camper. His son is presently staying in the camper. Before his son entered the camper, he had contacted the Sheriff's Office and received authorization.

Deputy Stroud, White Pine County Sheriff's Office, assured the Council that he would follow through with all the above listed concerns. He will also contact KCC/Rio Tinto to obtain permission for the Deputies to patrol on their property at night.

CORRESPONDENCE:

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

1. Letter to McGill Grade School re: propane tank gate.
2. Letter of appreciation to Jennifer Farnworth thanking her for her IT service.
3. LED street light grant application.
4. Security camera grant application.
5. E-mail from EDC re: SNPLMA grant applications.
6. Memo to WPC Maint. Re: old lawn mower.
7. Secretary monthly report.

ANIMALS AT LARGE/VICIOUS DOGS:

The following concerns were reported:

Black and white dog running at large in the area of First Street.

#9 Avenue I – Hound Dog running at large.

Mountain Lion has been spotted by the Slag Ditch and First Street.

Badger has been spotted strolling down Second Street.

Deputy Stroud explained that he would follow up on the dogs running at large, he will report the mountain lion to Fish and Wildlife; however, there is not much he can do about the badger.

PARK MAINTENANCE:

Council Member Maestes reported that the parks assistant has been working his scheduled 20 hours per week. The Parks Manager has been working in the parks; however, he was not able to attend this meeting to make his monthly report.

The Council directed the secretary to contact White Pine Finance and request a list of the water billings for McGill Parks.

Council Member Ballandby suggested approaching the McGill-Ruth sewer and Water District to negotiate water billings for the McGill parks.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

The secretary reported this is the final financial report for the year. All but \$14,590 of the projected revenues have come in for fiscal year 2020/2021. There is one more payment that should come in during the month of August or September.

FIRE/EMT REPORTS

Victoria Perea, McGill Volunteer Fire Chief, addressed the Council, reporting that the McGill Volunteer Fire Department has been extremely busy these past few months. Presently they have 17 active members. They have applied for a few grants for equipment and another ambulance. The McGill Volunteer Fire Department will be honored to hang flags along Main Street during the Fourth of July weekend. McGill has been actively recruiting for new members, and McGill has been working closely with the Ely Fire Department.

Fire Chief Perea stated that the McGill Volunteer Fire Department would be honored to assist with the annual Bicycle Rodeo that is scheduled to be held on July 17th.

STREET LIGHTS:

It was reported there is a street light that is out at #3 South Fifth Street. This makes 5 lights that are out; however, the new budget year begins on July 1st. The 60 LED street lights will be placed on order and the 5 lights can be changed at that time.

STREETS AND STREET SIGNS:

It was reported that the stop sign at the corner of Avenue K and the bottom of Circle Drive has been removed from the pole.

The Council directed the secretary to send a memo to the Road Department informing them of this.

It was also reported that Main Street has a lot of rocks and debris in the west side gutters.

The Council directed the secretary to prepare correspondence to NDOT asking them if they could sweep along Main Street in McGill. Ask if it is possible to ask the residents to not park on the west side of Main Street on the day they are sweeping the gutters.

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH PROGRAM:

Council Member Jensen reported there was 5 persons in attendance at the last McGill Neighborhood Watch meeting. They discussed the Bicycle Rodeo that is scheduled to be held on July 17th at 9:00 A.M. There will be the standard booths, and free swimming pool passes will be handed out.

McGill Neighborhood Watch also discussed the patrol schedule for the Vietnam Wall when they are in McGill.

YOUTH/COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES:

Council Vice-Chairman Angelopulos reported that she ordered the Christmas candy that Santa will hand out.

BUSINESS PLAN/McGILL MERCHANTS REPORTS:

Stacy Laird, McGill Business Rep, reported that Marie's Café is scheduled to re-open on July 1st.

KINNEAR LIBRARY REPORT:

No report given.

McGILL REVITALIZATION ASSOCIATION:

Stacy Laird, MRA, reported that the McGill Revitalization Association will be holding their annual Community Yard Sale on June 26th.

McGILL HISTORICAL DRUG STORE MUSEUM:

It was noted that the McGill Drug Store Museum has been open during the weekends, and appear to have several visitors.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Stacy Laird, MRA, reported that the MRA will be helping the McGill Grade School put together a float to be entered in the annual Fourth of July All Class Reunion in Ely.

The Council discussed the possibility of creating a "Tagging Board" to be placed at one of the parks at the Circle in McGill. It was suggested to obtain cost estimate before proceeding.

Richard Marshall informed the Council that he is presently working with the District Attorney, the Building Inspector, and the Assessor regarding the garages that are owned by one person, but the garage sits on another person's property. There appears to be several instances in McGill where someone's garage is sitting on private property that is owned by a different person.

MEETING ADJOURNED:

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