

The Regular meeting of the McGill Town Council was held on March 16, 2021 at the 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:

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

Absent Council Member: Joshua Miller, Chairman

Also in attendance:

Delores Manchester, secretary/Town Clerk
Stacy Laird, Business Rep/McGill Revitalization Assoc.
Raymond Maestes
Kyle Horvath, Tourism & Rec Board

Council Vice-Chairperson Angelopoulos called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

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

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Council Vice-Chairperson Angelopoulos called for any comments from the public. There were no comments at this time.

REQUEST TO AUGMENT MCGILL TOWN BUDGET, OR SEEK LENDING OPTIONS, FOR THE POSSIBLE PURCHASE OF A NEW TRACTOR/MOWER AND STORAGE SHED TO PARK NEW TRACTOR/MOWER:

Council Vice-Chairperson Angelopoulos explained that the McGill Ball Park improvements were thanks to a SNPLMA grant. Now that the Ball Field has been upgraded, it will be necessary to maintain the Ball Park at a new level. McGill's lawn mower is now 14 years old. When the Town Council purchased the mower, they did not purchase any of the attachments. Now there are no parts available and the Council cannot purchase any new attachments. The old mower is not working well, and the Council needs to look at purchasing a new mower. Carter Agri Systems in Lund has a riding lawn mower that has a variety of attachments available, such as a backhoe, fork lift, sprayer, dragger, rake, etc. Her suggestion would be to consider purchasing a new mower, but only purchase the attachments that are needed right now. Possibly next year the Council can look at budgeting for more attachments from the following year's budget. She would also like to report that the Chairman had sent an e-mail before the meeting expressing caution in spending funds and possibly cutting the budget short.

Council Member Ballandby explained that the Parks Manager had sent the old lawn mower to the County Road Department to be serviced as he does every year. Shortly after servicing the old mower the exhaust and other parts started acting up. The mower leaks and it is difficult to keep it running. Kennecott gifted McGill with a beautiful Ball Park, four parks at the Circle, and the Town Hall park. She agrees that McGill Town Council needs to consider purchasing a new lawn mower. A lawn mower that can handle maintaining several large parks, including raking, dragging fields, and digging up of water lines when broken.

It was noted that the new Workmaster 25S mower cost is estimated as follows:

- ✓ Workmaster 25S mower w/turf tires \$15,250.00
- ✓ Drag Harrow 4' \$ 245.00
- ✓ Rotary Cutter 4' \$ 1,478.00
- ✓ Land scape rake 5' \$ 807.00

Total estimated cost \$17,780.00

Backhoe, front end loader, fertilizer spreader, box blade, and compact plugger can be considered at a later date when the Town Council's budget can handle those expenses.

The Council directed the secretary to review the McGill Town Council budget in an effort to determine if there is funding to transfer from another department. If not, the Council will need to consider augmenting sufficient funds from the Council's Fund Balance.

The secretary reviewed the McGill Town Council budget and suggested the following:

- ✓ Transfer \$1,000 from public safety equipment #280-300-53101
- ✓ Transfer \$4,000 from public works street light inventory #280-400-52103
- ✓ Cancel PO for street light repairs & maint and transfer \$6,500 #280-400-52915
- ✓ Transfer \$10,000 from Kinnear Library capital improvement #280-400-53160-142

The secretary explained that, in speaking with Carter Agri, they indicated that McGill Town Council qualifies for their discount because McGill always purchases locally pursuant to the Resolution they adopted years ago (purchasing locally allows for the tax revenues to return to the WPC). She would ask that one of the Town Council Members discuss the purchase price with Carter Agri before she prepared the purchase order.

Council Member Ballandby motioned to authorize the purchase of the Workmaster 25S mower/tractor with a few attachments. Her motion includes that a Town Council Member will negotiate the actual current purchase price with Carter Agri. The motion also includes to authorize the secretary to work with White Pine County Finance Department to transfer the necessary funds from other budgeted line items to cover the cost of purchasing the mower and the 3 attachments. The motion is to include, if the White Pine County Finance Director should determine that the best course of action is to augment sufficient funding from the McGill Fund Balance, then she is authorized to do so.

Council Member Jensen seconded the motion.

Motion was carried by a unanimous vote of the quorum present.

UPDATE ON PLANS FOR MCGILL BALLPARK CDBG SLUM/BLIGHT PROJECT:

It was noted that Tabatha Hamilton, Economic Development Coordinator, was not able to attend this meeting; however, she provided the Town Council with the following e-mail.

“CDBG approved:

- Getting rid of the large dirt pile – we will keep the sand for the ballfield and the chips for the playground.
- The dirt work for a skating rink – digging a hole in the dirt to be filled in by a fire truck, the dirt dug out will be used to form a berm around it.
- Creating a family picnic area near the playground and skating rink to include things such as picnic tables and grills.

The granting agency is not quite sold on replacing the fencing and are requesting pictures of its current condition so that it is not approved list as of now. They have voiced that we have an extension until June 30th to use these funds but we cannot start until we actually receive the extension. We will then need an environmental review done and then we will be good to go.”

The secretary reported that she had spoken with Tabatha in her office the other day. She had been explaining how the non stop semi traffic flying through McGill, so far vehicles have destroyed 6 street light poles on McGill’s Main Street (some poles were hit and runs), several vehicles have been hit, and some houses have been hit by speeding traffic.

Also, McGill’s storage shed had been broken into and the Council lost all their park equipment this past summer. Tabatha suggested to her the possibility of making application for a loan/grant from Community Facilities Direct Loan & Grant. Tabatha is willing to provide assistance if McGill should decide to apply for security cameras to be placed at the Town Hall Building, possibly work with the School District to place a security camera that points toward the Ball Park, and possibly other cameras covering areas around town, the parks, and along Main Street. She suggested that copies of the police reports be included in the grant application to show the urgent need for the cameras.

The secretary stated that she is seeking approval from the McGill Town Council to work on this camera grant application and to select a Council Member to work with her.

The Town Council complimented the efforts of Tabatha Hamilton in working so hard on these grants for McGill.

Council Member Ballandby offered to work with the secretary on this project.

LISTING OF PRIORITIES FOR FUTURE SNPLMA GRANT PROJECTS IN MCGILL:

Council Vice-Chairperson Angelopoulos reported that Council Member Jensen had completed the questionnaire. The Council has also provided a list of remaining upgrades to the McGill Ball Park as a Phase III grant. The Council also suggested a possible second project would be to complete the Avenue K Park project by installing public restrooms. The Avenue K Park had been a SNPLMA grant; however, funding ran short and the bathrooms were not constructed at that time.

Council Member Jensen motioned to list the McGill Ball Park Phase III as the next SNPLMA grant application. Second choice would be the restrooms for the Avenue K Park (previous SNPLMA grant project).

Council Member Ballandby seconded the motion.

Motion was carried by a unanimous vote of the quorum present.

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

Kyle Horvath, Tourism & Rec Board, addressed the Council explaining that he is aware of a possible grant that could help the McGill Town Council in acquiring/purchasing the backhoe and front end loader attachments for their new lawn mower.

There is a capital improvement grant coming up that McGill may be interested in. McGill has already received the Tourism & Rec grant to paint a mural in McGill. The mural project has been delayed for a variety of reasons, the Drug Store Museum opted not to have a mural because it may affect the historic value of their building. He did seek an extension for the mural grant and the Board granted \$500 extension toward the mural. The mural must be tactful and eye catching. The side/front wall of the Fire Department is one of the suggestions if they can come up with some type of sheet metal to attach to the bumpy walls of the building. Other options would be a Billboard on the Ball Park fence, Post Office wall, McGill Club, and/or Welcome signs. The Tourism and Recreation Board have commissioned 3 artists who love coming to this area to paint their murals.

Kyle Horvath continued to report activities of the Tourism & Rec Board. This past December they received a grant to promote White Pine County. They are working on 3 sample “Visit White Pine County” signs. He wants to target different towns in WPC for special events. The All Class Reunion could promote the McGill Swimming Pool during the Memorial Day weekend. Also, McGill could promote their annual Labor Day picnic and fireworks to fit in with other activities in the County. He will also will schedule a visit to the very famous McGill Club to gain stories and possible promoting ideas.

The Council thanked Kyle for his update.

PURCHASE OF PLAQUES FOR MEMORIAL TREES:

Council Chairman Miller send an e-mail before the meeting stating that he heard from the engraver. He is asking what size the Council wants for the plaques, and if they want the dates of births and deaths on them as well.

It was the consensus of the Council that a small plaque will sit by the tree that had been planted in memory of the fallen Highway Patrol Officer. There will be no birth dates and death dates, just names. No size of plaque was selected; however, the secretary is to gather the names of all past persons the McGill Town Council had planted trees and have the list available.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Council Member Maestes motioned to approve the McGill Town Council minutes dated February 16, 2021.

Council Member Ballandby seconded the motion.

Motion was carried by unanimous vote of the quorum present.

PAYMENT OF BILLS/AUTHORIZATION TO PURCHASE:

The following bills were submitted for payment:

Bradley's Bestway Market	\$	14.83
(Neighborhood Watch refreshments)		
JW Electric		\$25,500.00
(60 LED lights – 50 installed)		
OPI	\$	31.75
(monthly copy machine contract)		
White Pine County Road Dept.	\$	240.89
(trailer repair)		
White Pine County Road Department	\$	141.60
(P-10 annual service)		

White Pine Chamber of Commerce
(Annual Dues)

\$ 95.00

Council Member Ballandby motioned to approve the bills as read.

Council Member Jensen seconded the motion.

Motion was carried by unanimous vote of the quorum present.

Council Member Maestes noted that the McGill Dump Trailer had disappeared, when it all of a sudden reappeared, she had it serviced at the County Road Department. The \$240 bill was to replace all the bearings because they were all broken due to the Dump Trailer being overloaded.

NUISANCE ABATEMENTS:

It was reported that the Honor Camp is still temporarily closed due to budget cuts. As soon as they reopen, the Town Council needs to schedule a community clean up in McGill.

CORRESPONDENCE:

The following is a list of correspondence mailed or received since the previous meeting.

1. 2 deposits of funds for donations toward tire swing for Ball Park.
2. Memo to Sheriff re: trash piled in yard.
3. Memo requesting gopher gassing machine.
4. Letter to WP Little League re: use of McGill Ball Park.
5. Letter to Mt. Wheeler Power re: damaged street light pole.
6. Memo to WP Maintenance re: tractor/mower.
7. Community Facilities Direct Loan & Grant.
8. E-mail to WPC Finance Director re: augment of funds.
9. Secretary monthly report.
10. rPlus Hydro White Pine Pumped Storage.
11. Memo to WPC Maintenance re: seeking opinion on tractor/mower.
12. E-mail from WPC Maintenance re: backflow device/Ball Park supplies.
13. E-mail to WPC Maintenance re: backflow device.
14. Copy of WPC Park Use Policy.
15. E-mail from WPC Maintenance re: Ball Park equipment/supplies.
16. McGill-Ruth GID agenda.
17. E-mail from Chairman requesting size of memorial plaque.
18. Letter from Nevada Division of Environmental Protection re: testing areas in McGill.
19. Letter to Mt. Wheeler Power re: LED converted lights.
20. E-mail from EDC reporting the status on CDBG grant.

ANIMALS AT LARGE/VICIOUS DOGS:

Nothing new to report.

PARK MAINTENANCE:

Council Member Maestes inquired if it was time to bring back their park employees.

The Council explained that they usually bring back their employees in April after the danger of frost is over.

The Council directed their secretary to contact both parks employees to see if they plan on returning as seasonal park employees again this year. If they do not return, they authorized her to place advertisements around town and schedule the vacant position at the State Employment Office. Also, continue to work with White Pine County Human Resource.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

The secretary reported that McGill is presently 2/3 through their budget year. There are 4 months remaining until the new budget kicks in. Presently McGill has received \$78,708 in revenues with 57% remaining unspent in the budget.

FIRE/EMT REPORTS:

No report given.

STREET LIGHTS:

It was reported that JW Electric just finished converting another 50 lights in McGill. This year's project finished converting all of Main Street and all the streets on the lower end of McGill facing west. JW Electric was then directed to convert the lights in the Town Hall Parking Lot and all the lights on Avenue K leading to Kennecott. Next year's project will complete the street light LED conversion project.

Correspondence has been sent to Mt. Wheeler Power listing the lights that have been converted to LED so they could adjust the street light billing.

It was reported that the light at the corner of Avenue D and Smelter Street is out.

STREETS & STREET SIGNS:

No report given.

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH PROGRAM:

Council Member Jensen reported that there was 8 persons in attendance at the last McGill Neighborhood Watch meeting. Guest speaker was the IT person from the Hospital. He gave a presentation on cyber crimes.

YOUTH/COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES:

It was reported that the Easter Bunny will be coming to McGill on the morning of April 3, 2021 at the hour of 11:00 A.M.

BUSINESS PLAN/McGILL MERCHANTS REPORTS:

Nothing to report.

CULTURAL CENTER/LIBRARY REPORT:

No report given.

McGILL REVITALIZATION ASSOCIATION:

Stacy Laird, MRA, addressed the Council explaining that the McGill Revitalization Association will be assisting the Easter Bunny when he arrives in town on April 3rd. They will provide any services required.

McGILL HISTORICAL DRUG STORE MUSEUM:

No report given.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Council Vice-Chairperson Angelopoulos called for any further comments from the audience. There were no further comments.

MEETING ADJOURNED:

There being no further business or comments to be brought before the McGill Town Council, the meeting adjourned at 8:15 P.M.