

The Regular meeting of the McGill Town Council was held on May 18, 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, Jr.
Stacy Laird, McGill Business Rep/MRA
Richard Howe, WPC Commissioner
Madeline Kalleres
Kyle Horvath, WPC Tourism & Rec Board
L. Ashby, McGill Swimming Pool
Jenny Lee, McGill Swimming Pool
Ernie Rivera, Jr., White Pine County Sheriff's Deputy

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

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

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Council Chairman Miller called for comments from the audience.

Richard Howe, White Pine County Commissioner, addressed the Council explaining that the new budget for 2021/2022 is in. White Pine's budget and McGill's budget looks very good and were submitted as "balance budgets". The budgets were submitted with 25% carry over from the previous year. Commissioner Howe stated that he is very pleased with the McGill Ball Park. He played on the McGill Ballfield many years ago, and the new Ballfield reminds him of years past. He would like to see the double gates remain locked to avoid vehicles getting on the field. Hopefully, future grants will replace the double gates. He feels the Ball Park will be even better when the ice-skating arena has been built. He drove around McGill before the meeting and noticed that all the McGill parks are looking very good this year. The McGill Swimming Pool will be open on Memorial Day weekend. Many groups are working on the All Class Reunion, there will be a parade with floats. He is aware of the group working on the Vietnam Wall that will pass through McGill before arriving in Ely during the Fourth of July weekend. The communities will be very busy during the Fourth of July weekend with lots of activities. White Pine County is renaming the County Park at the Courthouse, to Veterans Park. There was some vandalism in one of the parks in Ely recently, and he heard about the vandalism at the McGill Avenue K park. He hopes the vandals will be caught and prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law.

The secretary explained that McGill Town Council recently made application for a camera grant where 2 high definition zoom lens cameras will be placed at 2 locations in McGill, it is their hope to stop some of the vandalism.

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

It was noted that Hank Blair was not able to attend this meeting. Discussion ensued about a few of the plans. Some of the people following the Vietnam Wall will arrive early, and some will arrive later. They plan on stopping at the Avenue K Park to rest, some may pitch a tent, some may BBQ. Depending on their schedule, they may spend the night. The following morning they will gather and arrive in Ely with all in attendance.

Council Member Ballandby offered to open the McGill Senior Center Building so the Vietnam Wall visitors may use the facilities. She will check during the day and night to ensure they have all the supplies they need.

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

STATUS REPORT ON MCGILL SWIMMING POOL OPENING FOR 2021 SUMMER SEASON:

L. Ashby and Jenny Lee provided the McGill Town Council with a report on the status of the McGill Swimming Pool. Stating that they have a full staff. They will have the trampoline again this year. The pool will close one day a week for cleaning, day of cleaning will be Wednesdays. Everything will be back to normal with no restrictions. They put new sand around the pool.

Council Vice-Chairperson Angelopoulos noted that she has a concern about some of the sand that has slid into the water.

Ms. Lee explained that they did not have the services of the Honor Camp this year in cleaning and preparing the McGill Swimming Pool. However, the White Pine County Maintenance provided as much help as possible.

Ms. Lee provided the Town Council with the 100 free Swimming Pool passes for the McGill Neighborhood Watch Bicycle Rodeo.

It was noted that the Council will approve the payment for the Pool passes later in the meeting.

The Council thanked them for this report.

PURCHASE OF ADDITIONAL STORAGE SHED TO HOUSE PARK MOWER:

No price quotes received yet.

Matthew Merys, McGill Parks Manager, addressed the Council explaining that there is an old mower that has been stored in the shed. If the Council needs to place the new mower/tractor in the Connex shed, along with the other riding mower, then he would suggest that they get rid of the much older mower. The backup mower still runs alright, but it did blow a fuse the other day.

The Council directed the secretary to send a memo to the County Maintenance asking them to check the old mower, if it can be salvaged, then repair it and find a new home for it. If the old mower cannot be salvaged, then dispose of it.

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

PURCHASE OF PLAQUES FOR MEMORIAL TREES:

Council Chairman Miller reported that he is still waiting for the price quote for the plaques from his contact person. The Council directed the secretary to carry this matter on the agenda.

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

Kyle Horvath, WPC Tourism & Rec Board, addressed the Council recalling that he toured McGill's business district and took photos of potential mural sites. He likes the idea of a billboard sign on the Ball Park welcoming visitors to McGill. He also likes the north wall of the Pony Express Service Mart for a mural of a pony express rider. He has scheduled an artist to come to town soon, but he will need an approval from the McGill Town Council on which project they would like their mural painted on.

Council Chairman Miller noted that wood is very expensive right now, so he does not feel that the Mural Grant will be able to cover the costs for the billboard at Ball Park. He likes the gas station and he likes the Fire Station; however, the sheet metal that will be needed on the Fire Station will be costly and that project might go over the grant award.

Council Member Ballandby motioned to select the mural of a Pony Express rider to be painted on the north side of the recently opened Pony Express Service Mart.

Council Vice-Chairperson Angelopoulos seconded the motion.

Motion was carried by a unanimous vote.

Kyle Horvath referred to the earlier discussion about the McGill Ball Park. Reporting that there has been discussions about the railroad being upgraded, and the possibility of holding a centennial ball game where the players will ride the train to McGill to play their ball games.

Kyle Horvath also provided the Town Council with several flyers of events coming up between now and the Fourth of July weekend.

Council Member Jensen offered to take photos of the flyers for the McGill Web page.

The Council directed the secretary to place the flyers at the McGill Post Office and the Town Hall/Kinnear Library Building.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Council Member Jensen motioned to approve the McGill Town Council minutes dated March 16, 2021 (NOTE: These minutes were unable to be approved in the previous meeting due to lack of quorum).

Council Member Ballandby seconded the motion.

Council Chairman Miller abstained from voting due to being absent from that meeting.

Motion was carried by majority vote.

Council Vice-Chairperson Angelopoulos motion to approve the McGill Town Council minutes dated April 20, 2021.

Council Member Maestes seconded the motion.

Council Member Ballandby abstained from voting due to being absent from that meeting.

Council Member Jensen abstained from voting due to being absent from that meeting.

Motion was carried by majority vote.

APPROVAL OF BILLS/AUTHORIZATION TO PURCHASE:

The following bills were read into the record:

Bradley's Bestway Market (cleaning supplies for Town Hall)	\$ 30.40
OPI (monthly copy machine contract)	\$ 32.08
Bath Lumber (park operating/equipment)	\$452.38
Bradley's Bestway Market (park operating)	\$ 15.79
Cynthia Angelopoulos (reimbursement for Easter supplies)	\$ 98.17
Carter Agri Systems (purchase order and voucher) (mower/tractor)	\$16,302.00
Bradley's Bestway Market (Neighborhood Watch refreshments)	\$ 21.16
White Pine County Aquatics (100 Swimming Pool passes for Bicycle Rodeo)	\$120.00

Council Member Ballandby motioned to approve the bills as read.

Council Member Jensen seconded the motion.

Council Vice-Chairperson Angelopoulos abstained from voting on the voucher made out to her.

Motion was carried by a majority vote.

NUISANCE ABATEMENTS:

Nuisance abatements were listed as follows:

1. #10 Avenue A – door open – lot of trash
2. #32 Avenue A – large van with no license plates
3. Above #32 Avenue A – trailer piled high with trash that has not been hauled.
4. Several campers parked along First Street – street not wide enough to accommodate.

Deputy Rivera assured the Council that he would drive by the above listed addresses after he leaves the meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE:

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

1. Letter to Bruce Brunson welcoming his Pony Express Gas business in McGill.
2. Letter to Sportsworld requesting a charge account.
3. Secretarial monthly report for the month of April/May.
4. Letter to Robinson Nevada Mining listing tax id number.
5. Letters for authorization to charge to various businesses in WPC.
6. Letter to City of Ely Animal Control thanking him for his service to McGill.
7. Letter to WPC Fire District seeking approval to place security cameras on the roof.
8. Memo to WPC Public Works re: damaged street sign.
9. Memo to WPC Sheriff listing nuisance abatement complaints.
10. Letter to McGill Grade School re: locking of propane tank.
11. Thank you card to Bayside Church for helping to clean McGill.
12. McGill Ruth Water agenda.

ANIMALS AT LARGE/VICIOUS DOG:

The following animals at large issues were listed as follows:

1. In the area of First Street – 2 black & white dogs running at large
2. 2 dogs near Avenue F & Smelter – Pom running at large
3. #21 Avenue H – several goats that appear to not have water

Deputy Rivera explained that farm animals are not prohibited in the County Code; however, if the animals are not treated properly, he can address the issue. He assured the Council that he would drive by the above listed issues after he leaves the meeting.

PARK MAINTENANCE:

Matthew Merys, McGill Parks Manager, addressed the Council reporting that he is just now getting caught up, he has been working on the gophers that are in all the parks, vandalism where 17 sprinklers were destroyed took a lot of his time, he has been spending a lot of time at the Ball Park while keeping up with the other parks, he is still replacing equipment that had been stolen last year, he is keeping the storage shed and underground shed locked at all times, and he has been keeping P-10 parked at the Town Hall/Kinnear Library Building.

Council Member Maestes inquired about keeping the gates locked at the Ball Park.

Council Vice-Chairperson Angelopoulos stated that she is not in favor of locking residents out of the McGill parks. She recalled Elaine Blackham reporting several meetings ago that the gates could not be locked because the renovations were done with grant funds. Also, the Neighborhood Watch has stepped up their patrols in the area with the hopes of finding vandals.

Discussion ensued.

It was the consensus of the Council to schedule this matter on the next agenda for a vote of the Council.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

The secretary reported on the McGill Town budget, noting that all but \$24,904.06 has come in from the Consolidated tax. There is one more payment coming in from the State of Nevada, which should arrive in August. The secretary directed the Council to page 2 of the financial report (third line from the bottom) showing the \$16,302.00 that has been augmented from the McGill fund balance. Those funds are for the purchase for the new mower/tractor.

FIRE/EMT REPORTS:

Council Vice-Chairperson Angelopoulos reported that she had spoken with Brett North. Fire Chief North indicated that he likes the idea of painting a mural on the side of the McGill Fire Station. He also indicated that he likes the idea of placing cameras on top of the McGill Fire Station.

Council Member Maestes inquired about the possibility of obtaining some type of ½ inch plexi or poly type of covering instead of sheet metal.

The Council directed the secretary to check into this matter, and let Fire Chief North know that the mural on the McGill Fire Station has been postponed until the Council can find a less expensive wall covering for the mural to be painted on.

STREET LIGHTS:

It was reported there is 2 street light out at the corner of Avenue A and 3rd Street.

STREETS & STREET SIGNS:

No report given.

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH PROGRAM:

Council Member Jensen reported that the McGill Neighborhood Watch held their regular meeting with 6 persons in attendance. They discussed the Bicycle Rodeo on July 17th at 9:00 A.M. They have been patrolling on a regular basis. First and Main Street was egged by vandals. Someone has been siphoning gasoline in McGill.

YOUTH/COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES:

Nothing new to report.

BUSINESS PLAN/McGILL MERCHANTS REPORTS:

Stacy Laird, Business Rep, reported that the McGill Club is getting their windows replaced and they are currently washing walls, and painting, following the incident when a semi caught fire in front of the establishment. Soon the McGill Club will return to their former grandeur.

KINNEAR LIBRARY/CULTURAL CENTER REPORT:

Stacy Laird, Business Rep, reported that the Kinnear Library group held a book sale, and they are looking at holding another book sale.

McGILL REVITALIZATION ASSOCIATION:

Stacy Laird, MRA, reported that the MRA will be holding their annual yard sale on June 26.

McGILL HISTORICAL DRUG STORE MUSEUM:

It was reported that the McGill Historical Drug Store Museum is now open regularly Thursdays through Sunday.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Council Chairman Miller called for further comments from the audience.

There were no further comments.

MEETING ADJOURNED:

There being no further comments or business to be brought before the McGill Town Council, the meeting adjourned at 8:12 P.M.