

McGill Town Council

P.O. Box 1334 McGill, Nevada 89318

The Regular meeting of the McGill Town Council was held on December 19, 2017 at the McGill Community/Senior Center located at the top of Avenue K at 7:00 P.M.

The following McGill Town Council Members were in attendance:

Bob Winder, Chairman
Roxane Ballandby, Vice-Chairperson
Cynthia Angelopoulos, Member
Ed Dubrutz, Member
Andy McVicars, Member

Also in attendance:

Delores Manchester, Secretary
Steve Stork, WPC Commissioner
Stacy Laird, Business Rep/McGill Revitalization Assoc.
Ernie Rivera
Ernie Rivera, Jr. WPC Sheriff Deputy

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

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

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Council Chairman Winder called for comments from the public.

Council Chairman Winder addressed the assemblage stating that this will be his last meeting serving as a McGill Town Council Member. Explaining that he will officially be retiring and moving from McGill. Because he no longer will reside here, he cannot serve on the Town Council.

Council Chairman Winder went on to state that it has been an honor to serve on the McGill Town Council and the citizens of McGill. The McGill secretary has been a tremendous asset to him and the Town Council. He thanked each one of the Town Council Members that he had the pleasure of serving with. Before he steps down he would encourage the other Council Member consider selecting Council Member Andy McVicars to step up as Chairman. Until the next meeting Council Vice-Chairperson Ballandby will serve as the Chairperson and will sign any needed correspondence.

Council Member McVicars reported that they had a lot of food delivered to the Center. He has gathered a list of names of needy McGill persons. If anyone knows of any other persons they feel are in need of receiving a food basket, he would ask that they provide him with the names.

Council Member Angelopoulos reported that some people have donated money to the Bradley's Bestway Market to be put toward purchasing turkeys or hams for those needy persons.

Ernie Rivera addressed the Council inquiring about the huge billboard that had been placed in the middle of McGill's residential district.

Council Chairman Winder explained that the McGill Town Council was not happy and protested the placement of that billboard and wrote a letter to the White Pine County District Attorney. The District Attorney responded by explaining that the property on which the billboard sits is currently zoned as General Commercial (C-2). As such, advertising signs that comply with State and Federal regulations are permitted. Noting that the BOCC designated the local building inspector with the authority to issue building permits through an interlocal agreement with the City of Ely. The District Attorney went on to state that common courtesy would dictate that such a decision be preceded by input from the local community and its governing body, no such notice need be given legally. The District Attorney had suggested (a) re-zoning the land at issue through an ordinance or; (b) formally requesting that the County Commission revoke its authority delegated to the building inspector to issue such permits without public input. Both of those courses of action would need to go before the County Commission for action.

Council Member McVicars suggested possibly the existing ordinance could be amended whereby before permits are issued that the matter be brought to the governing body.

County Commissioner Stork addressed the assemblage explaining that when this first came up he followed through and spoke with the Building Inspector and was informed that the Building Inspector had the authority to approve the permit. The City of Ely has a Planning Commission, but White Pine County does not have one right now. Possibly in the future, the County could reorganize their Planning Commission and have a representative of each town board.

The secretary recalled there have been other instances where decisions had been made about McGill that negatively affected the community drastically. Such as alley and road abandonments that had gone to the Planning Commission, brought to the BOCC, and been issued without approaching the governing body in McGill. As a result McGill now has a garage sitting in the middle of a road and another garage sitting in the middle of an alley. Now there are places within McGill that emergency vehicles cannot get access to homes.

The Council directed their secretary to place this matter on the next agenda for further discussion and possible action. They also requested that the secretary provide them with a copy of County Code 17.52.020.

RESPONSE TO CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED FROM GSS SEEKING COMMENTS REGARDING THE PROPOSED 70 FOOT TELECOMMUNICATIONS TOWER AT 25 AVENUE F:

The secretary provided the Council with a copy of correspondence from GSS seeking input regarding the placement of a 70 foot monopole telecommunications tower at #25 Avenue F in McGill. Just the other day the Council received in the mail correspondence from the Federal Communications Commission seeking input/comments regarding the 70 foot telecommunication tower being located at #25 Avenue F in McGill. There was another permit application that had been approved several months ago by the Public Utilities Commission, it was for a 60 foot tower to be placed at the top of Avenue K. The Town Council had sent correspondence to the Public Utilities Commission pointing out that cell service was not available in many areas in McGill. More specifically the McGill public swimming pool is visited by hundreds of persons daily during the summer months. Presently land line service is the only reliable phone service available at the swimming pool. In the event of an emergency, there would be no way to call for services.

Persons in the audience referred to letters to the editor, and other comments made by residents throughout town regarding placing a 70 foot cell tower at that location.

It was the consensus of the Council to place this matter back on the agenda and send correspondence to GSS inviting them to attend a meeting of the governing body to answer questions.

AUTHORIZATION TO PURCHASE MINUTE BOOKS FOR MCGILL TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES:

The secretary explained that placing Town Council minutes in a secure "bound" book is a requirement of the Nevada Revised Statutes. In the past few years she has been able to purchase minute books and get the minutes indexed starting in 1984. Presently she is up to the year 2012. The 2 books that she is requesting to purchase tonight will bring her up to the year 2016. She is asking the Council to approve the purchase of 2 minutes books as it is a budgeted item.

Council Vice-Chairperson Ballandby motioned to approve the purchase of 2 minute books for the McGill Town Council minutes.

Council Member McVicars seconded the motion.

Motion was carried by unanimous vote.

STATUS REPORT ON RENOVATIONS TO KINNEAR LIBRARY BUILDING (Review of Plans):

Council Member McVicars reported that he and Council Member Angelopoulos met with the County Maintenance crew and the Public Works Director; along with several persons from the Kinnear Library/Cultural Center to review and make revisions to the original design at the Kinnear Library Building. They moved the secretary office to the south side of the building, with a separate entrance, which made the meeting area larger. They removed the wall in front of the meeting chambers, made a short wall in front of the restrooms, lowered some walls in the library reading and computer area, put the janitor closet in the kitchen area, made a storage area for the extra chairs close to the back door, decided to keep the kitchen area small, etc. The WPC Public Works Director had noted that their actions to open the library and meeting areas saved thousands of dollars in costs associated with installing the heating and cooling system. Everyone at the informal meeting area agreed to continue to try to maintain the senior/community center.

Council Vice-Chairperson Ballandby motioned to approve the revisions to the Kinnear Library Building as explained.

Council Member McVicars seconded the motion.

Motion was carried by a unanimous vote.

The Council directed the secretary to place an item on the next agenda to select a contact person to communicate with the Public Works Director regarding construction of the Kinnear Library Building.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Council Member Dubrutz motioned to approve the McGill Town Council minutes dated November 21, 2017.

Council Vice-Chairperson Ballandby seconded the motion.

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

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

Motion was carried by a majority vote.

CORRESPONDENCE:

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

1. Letter from Pastor Bob Winder resigning as McGill Town Council Member due to moving from the boundaries of McGill Town limits.
2. Letter to Justice Court listing community service working hours.
3. McGill Neighborhood Watch report.
4. Secretary monthly report.
5. Letter from Federal Communications Commission regarding application from GSS applying for a 70 foot cell tower to be placed at 25 Avenue F.
6. Deposit in the amount of \$60 for the sale of 2 McGill 100 years of History.
7. Letter from WP County Clerk requesting a self evaluation letter to be turned in no later than February 15, 2018.
8. Letter from WPC District Attorney responding to McGill's correspondence about billboard being placed in McGill.
9. Letter of congratulations to Scott Henroid.
10. Letter to Mt. Wheeler Power thanking them for gifting power to McGill for Christmas decorations.
11. Letter to Highway Patrol thanking them for patrolling and issuing citations within the McGill Town limits.
12. Letter to WPC Sheriff Watts congratulating him on his recent retirement.
13. Second letter to Justice Court listing community service working hours.
14. McGill-Ruth Sewer and Water agenda.

APPROVAL OF BILLS/AUTHORIZATION TO PURCHASE:

The following bills were read into the record:

White Pine County Road Department (parks gasoline)	\$ 25.75
OPI (copy machine contract)	\$ 29.99
Bradley's Bestway Market (Neighborhood Watch refreshments)	\$ 4.78
Bath Lumber (building materials for picnic table)	\$168.32
Bradley's Bestway Market (Christmas candy and oranges)	\$213.00

Council Vice-Chairperson Ballandby motioned to approve the bills for payment as read into the record.

Council Member Dubrutz seconded the motion.

Motion was carried by a unanimous vote.

NUISANCE ABATEMENT:

Nothing to report.

ANIMALS AT LARGE/VICIOUS DOGS:

Nothing to report.

PARK MAINTENANCE:

Nothing to report.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

The secretary reported that McGill is presently 42% into their budget year with 17% of their revenues coming in and they are currently 30% spent.

FIRE/EMT REPORTS:

No report given.

STREET LIGHTS:

Council Chairman Winder reported that he had spoken with JW Electric about the status of Street Light #5 that had been hit several months ago. The light pole has been ordered and soon will be delivered. These light poles are costly because they need to match the other poles along Main Street. Dirt Works had been the contractor who removed the cement around the poles, but they have since move from the area, so JW Electric agreed they will rent the necessary equipment to remove the concrete before the pole can be removed. When the invoice comes in, the payment will need to have the purchase order for Dirt Works and for JW Electric, as they will be doing the work that was normally done by Dirt Works. Mt. Wheeler Power had already disconnected the power leading to the pole, but as soon as the new pole is installed, Mt. Wheeler Power will need to come out and re-connect the power.

STREETS & STREET SIGNS:

Council Member Dubrutz reported that the culvert in front of #12 Sixth Street is smashed and the water will not drain. He would like to have a memo sent to the Road Department informing them of this.

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH REPORT:

It was reported that the Neighborhood Watch had 8 persons in attendance. Deputy Peterson was not able to attend because he was in training. The Neighborhood Watch commented about seeing the increased presence of the Highway Patrol in McGill. They also discussed the need to have crossing guards placed along Main Street so students could cross the busy highway. They noted that there may be possible grants out there to help pay the salary of the crossing guards.

Council Member Dubrutz reported that he has received several complaints about packages being stolen from doorsteps.

Deputy Reivera assured the Council that he would report this back to the Sheriff so all the Deputies could watch closer for this activity.

YOUTH/COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES:

Council Member Angelopoulos reported that the parade turned out nice. After the parade Santa sat at the Senior/Community Center so he could listen to the wishes of the youth. Pictures were taken and everyone had a good time.

BUSINESS PLAN/McGILL MERCHANTS REPORTS:

Nothing new to report.

KINNEAR LIBRARY/CULTURAL CENTER REPORT:

No report given.

McGILL REVITALIZATION ASSOSICATION REPORT:

Stacy Laird reported that their candy sale was a success. Their next planning strategy will be to help the Easter Bunny.

McGILL VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT WOMEN'S AUXILIARY:

No report given.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Council Chairman Winder called for additional comments from the audience.

County Commissioner Stork inquired if the McGill Town Council had received an answer back about the back flow devices that had been required to be installed at every park and/or business.

Council Chairman Winder recalled that the Town Council had felt that the back flow devices were part of the infrastructure and that they should not have to cover the full costs.

County Commissioner Stork assured the Council that he would follow through with this matter with the Public Works Director, Bill Calderwood.

MEETING ADJOURNED:

There being no further business or comments to be brought forward, the Regular McGill Town Council meeting adjourned at 7:42 P.M.