

# McGill Town Council

P.O. Box 1334 McGill, Nevada 89318

The Regular meeting of the McGill Town Council was held on January 16, 2018 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:

Andy McVicars, Chairman  
Roxane Ballandby, Vice-Chairperson  
Cynthia Angelopoulos, Member  
Ed Dubrutz, Member  
Vacant Seat

Also in attendance:

Delores Manchester, secretary  
Sadie McVicars  
Elaine Blackham  
Stacy Laird, Business Rep/MRA  
Bob Pratt, Mt. Wheeler Power  
Julie Krekeler, GSS via telephone

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

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

## PUBLIC COMMENT:

Council Vice-Chairperson Ballandby called for comments from the audience, explaining that the Council had received a phone call from GSS (provider of a monopole tower) in response to McGill's correspondence asking for information about the proposed tower. GSS will be appearing telephonically.

Julie Krekeler, GSS, addressed the Council explaining that they will be installing a 60 foot metal monopole tower for internet service only. They will not be providing cellular phone service. They currently are utilizing a wooden pole at the current location (below the grade school and above the Ball Park), the school is already utilizing their internet service, their internet service will be called Westnet, and it is their hope to provide much faster speed service to the area.

Elaine Blackham, McGill Grade School, addressed the Council confirming that it is the goal of Westnet to provide internet service to all of White Pine County.

The Council thanked Julie Krekeler of GSS for taking the time to appear telephonically and answering questions that the Town Council had.

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Bob Pratt, Mt. Wheeler Power, addressed the Council thanking them for the letter they recently wrote to the Power Company thanking them for gifting the Council with free power to light their Christmas lights. It is not often enough that any public services receive words of appreciation. The Mt. Wheeler Power Board appreciated McGill's letter.

Bob Pratt reported on a personal matter. Noting that he had seen the agenda item regarding abandonment of alleys. He would like to inform the Council that he has petitioned the Planning Department for an alley abandonment. This will not affect the alley that people use to access Bradley's Bestway Market, it will be the smaller alley behind his home.

The Council explained that the agenda item later in the meeting was regarding several issues. Alley and road abandonments are being approved without anyone consulting with the McGill Town Council as the governing body. Some of those abandonments are blocking emergency access. Also, billboard permits are being approved without consulting the Council either.

Elaine Blackham recalled, that when she worked at the County, she learned that the Building Department had a "finding of facts list". This list consisted of a list of departments/agencies that were to be contacted before permits had been issued. She recalls that the EMTs and Fire Departments were to be contacted before any approval to ensure that public safety was not hindered.

REORGANIZATION OF THE BOARD – SELECTION OF CHAIRPERSON, VICE-CHAIRPERSON, AND ASSIGNMENTS TO DEPARTMENTS:

Council Member Angelopoulos motioned to select Andy McVicars to serve as Chairman for the McGill Town Council.

Council Member Dubrutz seconded the motion.

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

The Gavel was passed to the new Chairman of the McGill Town Council.

Council Chairman McVicars stated that he would assume the overseeing of the Parks and would like to share the street lights with the Vice-Chairperson.

It was the consensus of the Council to keep all other department assignments as previously assigned.

RESPONSE TO REQUEST FROM WHITE PINE COUNTY CLERK FOR ANNUAL SELF EVALUATION FROM THE MCGILL TOWN COUNCIL:

Council Chairman McVicars read the draft letter to the White Pine County Clerk in response to their request for an annual self evaluation (see attached).

Council Member Dubrutz motioned to approve the self evaluation letter to the WPC Clerk, as read.

Council Vice-Chairperson Ballandby seconded the motion.

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

SELECTION OF COUNCIL MEMBER TO SERVE AS A CONTACT PERSON AND OVERSEE AND ANSWER QUESTIONS DURING THE RE-CONSTRUCTION AT THE KINNEAR LIBRARY BUILDING:

Council Chairman McVicars volunteered to serve as the primary contact person with the WPC Maintenance Department, during the construction phase of the Kinnear Library Building/Town Hall.

Council Member Angelopoulos motioned to select Council Chairman McVicars to serve as the primary contact person to work with the WPC Maintenance Department during the construction phases of the Kinnear Library Building/Town Hall.

Council Vice-Chairperson Ballandby seconded the motion.  
Motion was carried by a unanimous vote of the quorum present.

REQUEST COURTESY NOTIFICATION, OR TO AMEND ORDINANCES, BEFORE PERMITS ARE ISSUED FOR ROAD AND ALLEY ABANDONMENTS, AND BEFORE BILLBOARDS OR SIGNS ARE APPROVED:

It was noted for the record that this topic came up after a billboard had been approved, being placed in the middle of McGill, without any courtesy notification to the governing body. The billboard in the middle of town, advertises to “donate to our local kids in Utah”. If anyone had bothered to investigate, they would have learned that the location was in the same block area as 5 separate vehicle accidents in one year (building struck by a passing motorist and 5 street lights struck by passing motorists). Also, there has been a billboard that was approved at the south end of McGill shows an inappropriate shadow of a naked woman. The Town Council feels that billboard is inappropriate and offensive to the residents of McGill.

It was also recalled that later in the previous meeting, the discussion expanded to discuss all the alley and road abandonments that had been approved without consulting with the governing body (McGill Town Council). As a result of those alley/road abandonments, McGill now has a garage in the middle of a street and another garage in the middle of an alley. Both of those incidences block emergency access and through street access.

Elaine Blackham explained again for the record, that the Building Department had a “finding of facts list”. This list consisted of a list of departments/agencies that they were to be contacted before permits had been issued. She recalls that the EMTs and Fire Departments were to be contacted before any approval to ensure that public safety was not hindered. She did not know why the governing body of McGill would not be on the list to be contacted.

The Council directed the secretary to prepare a draft letter to the Board of County Commissioners requesting that the McGill Town Council be added to the Building Inspector’s “finding of facts list” so they may be notified about billboards being approved or any alleys/roads being abandoned.

STATUS REPORT ON RENOVATIONS TO KINNEAR LIBRARY BUILDING:

No report given.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Council Member Dubrutz motioned to approve the McGill Town Council minutes dated December 19, 2017.

Council Vice-Chairperson Ballandby seconded the motion.  
Motion was carried by unanimous vote of the quorum present.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Correspondence received or sent since the previous Town Council meeting was listed as follows:

1. Correspondence to GSS, responding to their courtesy notification, and inquiring about cell tower being placed at the bottom of Avenue F in McGill Townsite.
2. Memo to WPC Public Works regarding damaged culvert on Sixth Street.
3. Courtesy Memo to WPC Sheriff informing him about several packages being removed from front porches.
4. Memo to WPC Maintenance regarding Town Hall/Kinnear Library Building contact person.
5. Memo to WPC Clerk regarding recent resignation of Council Member Winder and vacancy on the Town Council.
6. Deposit of funds in the amount of \$50.00 for rental of the Center.
7. McGill-Ruth Sewer and Water agenda.

8. Secretary monthly report.
9. McGill Neighborhood Watch monthly report.
10. E-mail from WPC IT Specialist Farnworth regarding internet connection to Town Hall/Kinnear Library Buiding.
11. Christmas Cards from local vendors.

APPROVAL OF BILLS/AUTHORIZATION TO PURCHASE:

The following bills were read into the record as follows:

QUILL	\$503.22
(minutes books)	
OPI	\$ 29.99
(copy machine contract)	
Bradley's Bestway Market	\$ 9.98
(Neighborhood Watch refreshments)	
Bath Lumber	\$ 22.20
(cement for community bulletin board)	

Council Vice-Chairperson Ballandby motioned to approve the bills as read.

Council Member Dubrutz seconded the motion.

Motion was carried by unanimous vote of the quorum present.

NUISANCE ABATEMENTS:

Council Member Angelopoulos reported that she drove around town and discovered several locations where the residents have been piling their trash in trailers. Some of those persons had been previously notified to haul their trash in a timely manner, but apparently they need to be reminded again.

Council Member Angelopoulos' list read as follows:

#15 Avenue D – trailer full of several weeks of trash

#6 Avenue C – trailer full of several weeks of trash

#2 Sixth Street (behind the post office) – trailer full of several weeks of trash

#25 Avenue F – blue wrecked pickup truck full of several weeks of trash

#12 Avenue B – 14 vehicles parked in the yard (some licensed and some not licensed)

Just above # 5 Avenue K – about a dozen vehicles (some licensed and some not licensed). She would also note that she cannot find an address for this home. The house is blue and is on the corner of Avenue K and where 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Street meet.

The Council directed the secretary to forward these complaints to the Sheriff and ask if his Deputies could view the above listed locations and if they feel citations are necessary, then proceed accordingly.

Council Member Angelopoulos also reported 2 homes that have been partially burned several years ago. The homes had been turned in before, but the Council had not received any report as to what had happened. Both homes that had been partially burned and left to decay are located at #23 Avenue C and #25 Avenue C.

The Council directed the secretary to prepare the necessary correspondence reporting these partially burned homes.

ANIMALS AT LARGE/VICIOUS DOGS:

No report given.

PARK MAINTENANCE:

Council Member Dubrutz recalled that Bill Calderwood was going to get back with him regarding the back flow devices that were to be installed at all the parks. McGill previously had questions regarding this because they felt that the back flow devices were part of the parks infrastructure, not general maintenance, and they had wished to discuss it with him.

The secretary recalled that Commissioner Stark had brought this up at the previous meeting, and had assured the Council that he would follow through with this matter.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

The secretary reported that McGill is presently 50% into their budget year, with 34% of their revenues coming in. Presently McGill is 29% spent. Also, at the February meeting, the White Pine County Finance Director requested to start the meeting at 6:00 P.M. for the annual budget workshop.

FIRE/EMT REPORTS:

No report given.

STREET LIGHTS:

It was reported that the street light at First Street and Avenue K has been blinking on and off. The light at Second Street and Avenue H is going on and off. The light on Avenue A is out. The light at #25 Avenue B is out. First Street and Avenue C the light is out. The light is out at the corner of Avenue J and Main Street. And the light is out across from Marie's Café.

STREETS & STREET SIGNS:

No report given.

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH PROGRAM:

It was reported there were 14 persons in attendance at the last Neighborhood Watch meeting. They had discussed several concerns about a sex offender who had been appearing in town recently. And they continued their discussion about researching the possibility of obtaining a grant to cover the costs for a crossing guard to help students cross the highway.

YOUTH/COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES:

It was reported that Easter is the next activity that the volunteer organizations are planning, and they are considering a new wardrobe for the Easter Bunny.

BUSINESS PLAN/McGILL MERCHANTS REPORTS:

Stacy Laird, McGill Business Rep, reported there is a new business locating in McGill. Brenda McConaha has opened a craft store named Unique Treasures. They are looking for hand made craft items that they can sell on consignment. They have wood work and other items of interest.

KINNEAR LIBRARY/CULTURAL CENTER REPORT:

No report given.

McGILL REVITALIZATION ASSOCIATION:

Stacy Laird, MRA, reported that their volunteer organization will assist the Easter Bunny when he comes to town.

McGILL VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT WOMEN'S AUXILIARY:

No report given.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Council Chairman McVicar called for any further comments from the assemblage.

Council Member Dubrutz asked about the solar plant that was planned.

Elaine Blackham explained that there had been several projects that are currently in a holding pattern. Previous plans for a solar plant had been in Steptoe Valley north of McGill, and more recently plans are being discussed closer to the Airport.

MEETING ADJOURNED:

There being no further comments or questions to be brought before the McGill Town Council, the meeting adjourned at 8:41 P.

January 16, 2018

Nichole Baldwin, WPC Clerk  
801 Clark Street  
Ely, Nevada 89301

The Honorable Clerk Baldwin.

In response to your correspondence requesting an annual evaluation for 2018, the Council will attempt to fill you in on all of their accomplishments, disappointments, and goals. The McGill Town Council conducted 12 public meetings and 1 public budget workshop meeting. The third Tuesday of every month is still the Town Council's meeting date. Of the 12 regular meetings, only 8 times was there a board member absent, most reasons were illness, or business that had taken them out of town. Public participation ranged from 5 in the audience to 16 persons.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS/GOALS/DISAPPOINTMENTS:

1. Accomplishment. McGill remains extremely fortunate to have many volunteer organizations, such as McGill Revitalization Association, Volunteer Fire Department, Volunteer FEMT's, McGill Neighborhood Watch, Volunteer Fire Department Women's Auxiliary, and the Kinnear Library/Cultural Center. These volunteer organizations devote hundreds, if not thousands, of hours toward the betterment of this community. They gather to organize parades; prepare for the arrival of the Easter Bunny; Christmas "Pick-a-Pole" decorations where people pick a street light pole and decorate it; make themselves available to assist Santa Clause; volunteer library where they offer books, internet service, one on one reading lessons for the young people, story hour, etc.; and McGill's annual Labor Day festivities which include a picnic, firework, street dance, etc. Once again, McGill's gold star would go to the many volunteers who dedicate thousands of hours toward the betterment of the community.
2. Accomplishment/Goal. Way back in the late 1970's when Kennecott donated the Kinnear Library Building to be used by McGill residents, the McGill Town Council had set their goal of someday moving their town office and meeting chambers to the Town Hall/Kinnear Library Building located on Main Street. This did not become a reality until the past few years. As previously reported, McGill Town Council had first considered borrowing the funds to accomplish the renovations to the building but during a previous budget workshop 2 years ago the Finance Director guided us into setting aside funds to finance the project. Then White Pine County Maintenance stepped forward to offer their services in making the proposed renovations. They could only provide assistance during the winter months, but the Town Council accepted their offer. Once again, our volunteers stepped forward to offer their services to help carry, hammer, fetch, etc. County Maintenance has been working inside the building as time permitted, and the building is now cleared out, mold is gone, new roof installed, etc. The volunteer library who call themselves the Kinnear Library/Cultural Center (renting our building by paying for the internet) asked to join us when we moved into our new building. Another meeting had been held to discuss some revisions to the plans, and now Maintenance is busy putting in the electrical, plumbing, and building walls. Our first meeting in January is to select a Council Member to serve as primary contact, this will allow for the Maintenance Department to have a Council person who can be available to

- answer questions and make decisions between meetings. Thanks to the cooperative efforts of all parties, McGill Town Council's dream of returning to the McGill Town Hall/Kinnear Library Building is getting closer to being a reality.
3. Accomplishment. McGill parks has been a never ending project for the Council. This summer their long time park employee retired and it was necessary to advertise for another. The new parks employee has done an astonishing job for his first year on the job. He performed so well, that the Council gave him a salary increase, with the promise of another salary increase if he agreed to return next season.
  4. Accomplishment/Goal. McGill Town Council will be working on phase 2 of the SNPLMA grant for the renovations of the McGill Ball Park. The Ball Park is a huge project where bleachers need to be rebuilt, cover over the bleachers re-done, baseball diamonds, sprinkling system, scoreboard, overhead lighting, etc. The end result will be a historic ball park that can once again be the center of activity in the community.
  5. Accomplishment. McGill Town Council has continued to enjoy the status of maintaining a very successful Neighborhood Watch Program in the State of Nevada. The WPC Sheriff has supported the program and has designated a replacement officer to represent the program. With the new Sheriff's guidance, it is hoped the program will continue to be one of the best, and longest running programs in the State.
  6. Disappointment/Goal. McGill's Main Street is a very heavily traveled highway. There have been numerous vehicle accidents along what we call Main Street (US 93). In short, if a person parks their car on Main Street, it will not take long before it gets hit. We have a building hit and already had 5 antique street lights hit. The cost is about \$6,000 to replace each street light pole. The insurance company is having a fit just trying to keep each claim separate.
  7. Disappointment/Goal. The abatement process for the Old Standard Market Building has continued to be a problem. McGill Town Council first reported this building under the abatement of dangerous building code 27 years ago. The owners of the building continue to stall, the building continues to crumble. Part of the roof has slid off to the street below, thousands of pigeons continue to live and raise their young as they fly through the holes in the roof, the bricks continue to crumble, and when the wind blows the building can be seen swaying. It is only a matter of time before this building is either hit by a vehicle traveling through town, or falls over. Either way, it is going to be an insurance company nightmare.
  8. Disappointment. The most recent issue McGill Town Council has been dealing with is the placement of billboards in Town. At the southern end of McGill there is a very inappropriate billboard showing the shadow of a naked woman. Now there is a new billboard right smack dab in the middle of our business/residential area. The billboard overshadows the sign for our gas station (temporarily closed). This billboard advertises to "donate to our local kids in Utah". The disturbing part of this is, that the McGill Town Council was never contacted, or consulted, before the permit for the billboard was approved. McGill Town Council is a governing body created under NRS 269, but we are always the last to be informed of any approved changes in our community. The last time a matter similar to this came up, was when several alleys and a road got abandoned. So now we have to deal with a garage in the middle of a street and another garage in the middle of an alley. Both cases, emergency vehicles no longer have access to homes in the event of an emergency.
  9. Accomplishment. McGill is looking forward to having a new business within their boundaries. The Veterans Initiative was successful in purchasing the Old Safety Industries Building through Tax Title sale. They are looking at setting up a machine shop and training veterans to work on their government contracts. The Veterans Initiative has made great strides in clearing out the building, but they have a long ways to go before they will be in full operation. Last reported to us, the Robinson Mine offered one of their semis and helped bring some of their large equipment. The Veterans Initiative has not kept themselves just in McGill. They approached the Airport Advisory Board and is currently working with them to bring an antique airplane show to White Pine County. This show will bring hundreds of veterans to our community. The McGill Town Council is very pleased that they welcomed the Veterans Initiative.org when they first contacted us a few years back.
  10. Sadly, McGill Town Council lost one of their members this past year. Council Chairman Winder retired and moved from McGill. Bob Winder will be very much missed. As you know, it takes time to train any new board member. It is hoped that there will be a very qualified applicant who will step forward.
  11. Continued/ongoing accomplishments. McGill continues to enjoy the assistance and guidance they receive from the many County Offices and Departments.
    - (a) Road Department continues to provide McGill with excellent services. If a street sign needs replacing, or if a problem occurs on one of the streets, they are on it as soon as we report it. There has not been any unusual weather causing problems this past year, but if there was, we are confident the County Road Department would hop right on it.
    - (b) Maintenance Department continues to work on the McGill Town Hall/Kinnear Library Building and checks the Senior/Community Center for any problems.
    - (c) Parks Department continues to provide assistance to our parks seasonal employee. We continue to maintain the interlocal agreement where we maintain the parks, and they continue to winterize our sprinkling systems.
    - (d) Sheriff's Office continues to provide excellent service. The Town Council looks forward to the same working relationship under the guidance of the new Sheriff.
    - (e) McGill Neighborhood Watch continues to be supported by the Sheriff's Office.
    - (f) Finance Department continues to provide excellent service. Bills are paid in a timely manner, budget is maintained, payroll is processed expertly, the numerous insurance claims are kept track of, all the staff is ready to

provide assistance when needed. This year, McGill has required the assistance of the County IT person in keeping internet available to the users of the volunteer library. And when the Council's office computer required work, they picked up the unit and returned it in good working order.

- (g) Treasurer's Office continues to handle all of our deposits for rental and sales of McGill's 100 Years of History book. They were very helpful when the Veterans Initiative was looking at the Safety Industries Building for a machine shop.
- (h) The Assessor's Office was also very helpful when the Veterans Initiative was looking at purchasing the Safety Industries Building.
- (i) Recorder's Office continues to allow McGill to utilize their office as a mail drop off and collection of mail and packages.
- (j) Human Resource continues to be extremely helpful with employment matters.
- (k) District Attorney's Office has been very prompt in responding to our concerns about the hideous billboards being approved in town without any courtesy notification. This is something that the Town Council may be pursuing in the coming year.
- (l) Clerk's Office remains very helpful in providing the Council with guidance. This coming year, the Clerk's Office will be helping McGill find a suitable Town Council Member to fill our recently vacated seat.

Yes, the year 2017 was a good year for McGill. There have been disappointments and there have been accomplishments; but as the Governing Body for the Town of McGill, the Town Council will continue representing their residents to the best of their ability.

Respectfully submitted,

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Roxane Ballandby, Vice-Chairperson

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Cynthia Angelopoulos, Member

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Ed Dubrutz, Member

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Andy McVicars, Member