

The Regular meeting of the McGill Town Council was held on July 20, 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.  
Kyle Horvath, Tourism & Rec Board  
Suzanne Irby  
Matthew Merys, McGill Park Manager  
Sergeant Darin Wallace, White Pine Deputy Sheriff

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

Council Vice-Chairperson Angelopoulos 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.

APPROVAL OF PURCHASE ORDER REQUESTS FOR FISCAL BUDGET YEAR 2021/2022:

It was noted for the record that McGill Town Council usually submits all of their purchase order requests at the beginning of each budget year.

The following purchase requests were read into the record:

Garden State Fireworks, Inc. (Labor Day fireworks)	\$6,000.00
Bradley's Bestway Market (annual Labor Day picnic supplies)	\$2,000.00
Bradley's Bestway Market (Christmas candy)	\$ 300.00
IonoWeb (Web page maintenance)	\$ 540.00
QUILL (Minute books and pages)	\$ 482.97
Sanitary Septic Service (toilets for street dance)	\$ 372.00
JW Electric (repair of street lights annually)	\$5,000.00
Weed Control District (annual weed spraying)	\$1,000.00
Game Time (Tire Swing)	\$6,088.53
(NOTE: \$1,800.00 has been paid in donations)	

JW Electric \$30,500.00  
(Phase III of LED light project)  
(NOTE: cost increased)

It was noted that due to increased costs, JW Electric was not able to honor his previous price quote for the 60 LED lights. He will be working with a new supplier, and assured the Council that he will keep the secretary updated.

Council Member Jensen motioned to approve the purchase order requests for Fiscal Year 2021/2022 as read.

Council Member Ballandby seconded the motion.

Motion was carried by unanimous vote.

REQUEST TO USE MCGILL SENIOR CENTER FOR FOOD DRIVE:

Suzanne Irby addressed the Council explaining that their group would like to start a food bank in McGill at the McGill Senior Center. She currently volunteers at the food bank Church in Ely. Presently, people must sit in their vehicle for up to 5 hours to wait to receive their food basket, this is mostly because of the Covid. They want to bring the food bank here to McGill. There are many seniors who do not drive and cannot get to Ely. Some are homebound, and they hope to be able to deliver the food to their homes. She has several volunteers already lined up. There are 2 food banks in Ely; however, she heard that one of them is considering closing. If that is so, they are hoping to take over their inventory. They also will take over the delivery of food to the Town of Cherry Creek. They will receive food deliveries 2 times a month. They would like to use the tables that are currently being stored on the back porch. There are also a few round tables inside the Center that they can use.

Council Chairman Miller asked how many hours do they plan on working each week at the food bank. Noting that he asks this question to ensure that the utilities at this building will not go up to much.

Suzanne Irby explained that they will most likely work up to 3 hours per week, and more hours on the 2 days when the food will be picked up by the McGill residents. Presently they have 7 volunteers working with the proposed McGill food bank.

Council Vice-Chairperson Angelopoulos motioned to allow them the use of the McGill Senior Center for a food bank.

Council Member Jensen seconded the motion.

Motion was carried by a unanimous vote.

APPROVAL TO BUILDING A TAGGING BOARD TO BE PLACED IN ONE OF THE MCGILL PARKS:

Council Member Jensen provided an information packet to the Council on "Freedom Boards". This Tagging Board has been helpful in some areas and has helped stop some graffiti being painted at unwanted places. The White Pine County Hospital (William Bee Ririe Hospital) is donating the money for the posts and plywood (estimated cost is \$250). She has spoken with Kyle Horvath (WP Tourism & Rec Board) about having some of the mural artists paint something to start this.

Council Member Maestes noted that the Sheriff is not sure about this, as he stated to her that this Tagging Board might promote some bad behavior.

Council Vice-Chairperson Angelopoulos stated that if this Tagging Board stops graffiti being painted on street signs, on garages, and at the Car Wash; then she is willing to give it a try.

Council Vice-Chairperson Angelopoulos motioned to allow the construction a “Freedom/Tagging Board”. Tagging Board is to be located at the northern side of Circle Park so it may be easily seen by Officers while patrolling. Funds, in the amount of \$250, for this project will be donated by the William Bee Ririe Hospital.

Council Member Ballandby seconded the motion.

Vote was 4 Ayes – 1 Nay. Motion was carried by majority vote.

PURCHAE OF PLAQUES FOR MEMORIAL TREES:

Council Chairman Miller explained that his contact person still has not gotten back to him. He asked that this item be carried again.

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

Kyle Horvath, White Pine Tourism and Rec Board, addressed the Council noting that the mural that was painted on the north wall of the Pony Express Service Mart turned out very well. He has heard several positive comments. Jamie, the artist, also received comments from residents while she was painting. They had the painting reviewed by other experts to ensure that it looked authentic. He is looking forward to doing another mural in McGill at another location. This is the start of a new budget year and he is looking forward to learning about the next mural request.

Kyle Horvath, continued, stating that he would like McGill to begin working on a “Visitors Guide” for McGill. The secretary had provided him with copies of stories and the walking tour of McGill that was completed by the Fourth Grade class in 1993. He provided the Council with a copy of the White Pine Visitors Guide that was just printed. Baker has completed their “Visitors Guide”, and his goal is to have a visitors guide for all the communities in White Pine County. He also provided the Council with a refrigerator magnet and a hat pin of White Pine County. They are presently working on another booklet showing all the murals in White Pine County, and there are more murals planned in Ely. He has already spoken with a person in McGill who is wanting to fund the base for the “Welcome to McGill mural at the McGill Ball Park”.

The Council thanked Kyle Horvath for his presentation this evening, and for his contribution to White Pine County.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Council Member Ballandby motioned to approve the McGill Town Council minutes dated June 15, 2021.

Council Member Maestes seconded the motion.

Motion was carried by unanimous vote.

APPROVAL OF BILLS/AUTHORIZATION TO PURCHASE:

The following bills were read into the record:

Bath Lumber	\$990.12
(equipment/park operating)	
Bradley’s Bestway Market	\$ 48.92
(Senior Center supplies)	
(Bradley’s Bestway Market	\$ 20.96
(Neighborhood Watch refreshments)	
OPI	\$ 39.56
(monthly copy machine charges)	

Council Member Ballandby motioned to approve the bills as read.

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Council Member Jensen seconded the motion.  
Motion was carried by unanimous vote.

NUISANCE ABATEMENTS:

It was reported there is a home at #9 Sixth Street that has 2 small children residing inside. The home is a mess and contains black mold.

CORRESPONDENCE:

The following correspondence was mailed or received since the previous meeting:

1. Embracing graffiti information for tagging board.
2. McGill-Ruth Sewer & Water District agenda.
3. Secretarial monthly report.
4. Presentation for SNPLMA grant application.
5. Letter to NDOT re: street sweeping.
6. CDBG ice skating rink application.
7. Memo requesting park watering billings/Annual water billing summary.
8. Sympathy letter.
9. Deposit of funds – donation in the amount of \$75.00 from Bath Lumber for NW.
10. New Animal Control ordinance/Feral cat ordinance.
11. Park curfew ordinance.

Council Member Maestes noted that she has read the County Parks Ordinance. Page 2 of the ordinance states that signs must be posted *“to areas commonly used for public ingress and egress, intervals of such a distance as is necessary to ensure that at least one such sign would be within the direct line of sight of a person standing next to another such sign, but at intervals of not more than 500 feet; and, at each corner of the County Park, upon or near the boundary”*. She would note that McGill has several County Parks within their jurisdiction. Spacing the signs 500 feet apart is still going to add up to several signs to be posted around each of the parks at the Circle, and several signs will need to be posted around the Ball Park. Signs and the posts for the signs are going to be costly. McGill does not have the funds to post these numerous signs. She would also like to know if McGill will receive help in installing these many curfew signs.

Council Member Maestes stated, that while the Council is talking signs. She would still like to have a few extra signs posted around McGill that state “No Littering”.

The Council directed the secretary to send a Memo to the Public Works Director asking the question listed above. Also, the secretary is to work with Council Member Maestes in preparing this memo.

ANIMALS AT LARGE/VICIOUS DOGS:

It was reported there are 2 black and white dogs running at large and are barking at all hours of the night. It was noted the dogs possibly reside at #6 First St.

PARK MAINTENANCE:

Matthew Merys, McGill Parks Manager, addressed the Council explaining that he has been experimenting with different sprinkler heads in the parks. He has been cutting rebar from around the curbs that are exposed. Also, while hauling McGill’s dump trailer, he lost a tire due to the rebar sticking up. He will need to replace that tire and purchase a spare tire that turned up missing.

Parks Manager Merys also reported that there is some metal sticking out of the ground at the North West corner of the Swimming Pool Park.

The Council directed the secretary to report this to the County Maintenance Department.

Parks Manager Merys continued with his report. Stating that both he and his assistant have been using both lawn mowers. The old mower has a sharper turning radius, but the new mower has attachments available that will be helpful on future projects.

Parks Manager Merys asked if he would be allowed to take P-10 as far as the County Maintenance Shop each evening. He would leave P-10 parked there until time to return to work the next morning.

It was explained that previously the insurance company indicated that P-10 could not be taken home by any employee; however, the secretary is to inquire if the Parks Manager could park P-10 at the County Maintenance Shop, and then return the vehicle to McGill the following morning.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

The secretary reported that the Finance Department has not provided her with the new fiscal year budget spreadsheet yet.

FIRE/EMT REPORTS:

No report given.

STREET LIGHTS:

The Council directed the secretary to deliver the list of 6 street lights that are in need of repair to JW Electric. Ask him to replace those lights with the LED lights that are currently being stored in McGill's storage shed.

STREETS & STREET SIGNS:

No report given.

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH PROGRAM:

Council Member Jensen reported that the annual Bicycle Rodeo was held at the McGill Swimming Pool park. There were over 15 youth who participated. Every participant received a free swimming pool pass and everyone won a prize. As soon as she obtains permission from the parents, she will post the picture of the young man who won the balancing bicycle that Sportsworld donated. There were many donations given by local businesses, and she will be sending thank you cards.

Council Member Maestes inquired about the status of the ATV Route and Rules.

Council Member Jensen explained that it is still in the hands of the District Attorney. The previous District Attorney left it unfinished, and she will need to meet with his replacement to review the proposed ordinance.

YOUTH/COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES:

No report given.

BUSINESS PLAN/McGILL MERCHANTS REPORTS:

No report given.

CULTURAL CENTER/KINNEAR LIBRARY REPORT:

No report given.

McGILL REVITALIZATION ASSOCIATION:

No report given.

McGILL HISTORICAL DRUG STORE MUSEUM:

No report given.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Council Chairman Miller called for additional comments from the audience.

Deputy Wallace addressed the Council regarding another matter. Explaining that recently a Sheriff's Deputy found it necessary to kick a door in to a residence to allow paramedics access to a very ill person. Deputy Wallace showed the Council what a KNOX BOX was. Explaining that the KNOX BOX is being sponsored by the White Pine County Sheriff's Office and White Pine County Social Services. KNOX BOX allows immediate access into residences in the event of an emergency. The KNOX BOXES will be for the elderly and medically needed persons. The KNOX BOX can be mounted outside the door of the residence, and allows firefighters and paramedics immediate entry into a residence. Recently White Pine County received 350 of these KNOX BOXES and he would like to see McGill residents take advantage of this very worthy program. He explained that donations are welcome, but not required to receive this service.

Deputy Wallace assured the Council that he would provide a copy of the information for KNOX BOXES to the secretary so she may pass the information around.

MEETING ADJOURNED:

There being no further comments or business to be brought before the McGill Town Council, the meeting adjourned at 8:26 P.M.