

March 23, 2009

09-07wksp

7:49 p.m. Workshop Session

## Item #2: Continued Review of the Street Lighting and Siting Policy and Street Lights Map

A map depicting all of the street light placements in Caribou was studied for possible cost saving changes.

- Newer sub-divisions Solar Slopes and Superior Drive lights are known to be 100 watts as opposed to the standard 50 watt HPS in other residential areas – The 100 watts could be reduced to 50 and a single 150 watt HPS on Solar could be reduced to 100.
- Downtown area – Business signage and seven 250 watt lights create what could be seen as excessive – Chief Gahagan had concerns about reducing the light too much in the Herschel Street parking lot because of possible criminal activities.
- Areas such as outer Sweden Street have lights where there are no sidewalks and limited shoulders
- Possible reductions could be made on Church Street, which is dead end, Broadway and the Old Van Buren Road.
- River Road, which is not a compact zone, has lights for some unknown reason. Reducing some or all of these could be difficult, as residents are accustomed to having them. There was the thought that residents could also provide their own yard light – estimated costs for such lights were discussed.
- Calculations showed that changing out 44 some lights would net annual savings of \$4,037.48
- Steve also showed that larger wattage fixtures cost less to operate than those of lesser wattage – Karla asked if he would look into this a little further
- It has yet to be clarified if Maine Public would charge for these changes to be made, which would reduce the amount to be saved. (Miles Williams thought there would be no charge)
- There was a discussion about merely shutting off lights rather than actually removing them.
- Councilors K. Bell and M K Barbosa were concerned about the safety factor when removing or reducing lights in the more populated residential areas. Karla favored more the idea of using timers rather than turning them off completely, and she was adamant that changes anywhere would not compromise safety.
- Councilor Martin questioned that there would be any safety issues occurring if some lights were turned off at 1:00 a.m. or 3:00 a.m. for example, noting that there would be little to no foot traffic at that time.
- Steve said that he and Chief Gahagan would be doing a light meter reading (on a cloudy night) to determine the exact output of lighting in all areas. The policy could be more accurately refined after that.
- Steve also plans to talk to the Planning Board to develop standards for site design reviews and sub-division reviews to coordinate with a policy, once in place

- Initiatives directed toward the policy would come from (1) periodic administrative review (2) citizen request or (3) site design and sub-division reviews.

Consensus was to have Steve continue working on the policy's refinement and looking for any and all possible savings in the process (clarifying cost, if any, of changing out lights).

#### Item #3: Review of CCC&I contract and Board Actions

Councilors reviewed the notes on the March 17<sup>th</sup> Board meeting that Steve described as being very positive. The newly elected officers ran what was seen as a productive meeting that lasted nearly 3 1/2 hours. It appears that they are enthused and ready take on the year's agenda.

Shawn Anderson's presented a 2009-2011 Strategic Plan and Activity Matrix. Steve could see how some of this might be adapted for use in Community Development to gauge various projects, for example. He added that he was comfortable with what was being expected from the CCC&I.

The Mayor said he would like to see the chamber focus more on chamber activities rather than concentrating so much on financing issues.

There was discussion about having Mike Shrewsbury work closely with the chamber and become acquainted with the business sector by visiting businesses, etc. Steve said he had been stressing the importance to Mike of developing a relationship with the chamber, so that is something that will be worked on. In the meantime Mike has been busily trying to absorb as much information as possible from written materials in the office. Steve plans to include him in various gatherings where he will have the change to meet more and more people.

#### Item #4: Update on latest developments on the North South Highway and Segment 4 Option 4B.

Steve related that several landowners that would be impacted by the highway construction have been in to look at the map showing Segment 4B.

- Ronnie Moir's plan to install irrigation retention pond on his farmland is in limbo for the time being
- Jim Cerrato thinks he can be satisfied with some suggestions he has for the final design
- Another land owner would be a willing seller as he plans to move anyway
- Stan Brescia was not displeased after looking at the map and discussing the issue with Steve – He'd be okay as long the State takes his entire parcel so that he can use the resources to build on another parcel
- Cavendish Farms has received all relative paperwork to give their legal department. They have plans to build a fertilizer plant in Presque Isle, but they could stall for a couple of years if construction starts on the north end and works south. There was discussion that something should be done to entice Cavendish to stay in Caribou

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by possibly finding them another building or area. It was suggested that the new Community Development Director work on that issue.

Steve has asked Commissioner Cole for an outline of the entire process and a time line, something that everyone being impacted is interested in.

Executive Session: Consider moving to Executive Session for the purpose of discussing the process and potential candidates for a future appointment of a City Council position through December 31, 2009, as per Charter Section 2.06, pursuant to MRSA Title 1, 405(6)(A).

8:55 p.m. Motion made by C. Bell, seconded by M K Barbosa, to move to Executive Session for the purpose of discussing the process and potential candidates for a future appointment of a City Council position through December 31, 2009, as per Charter Section 2.06, pursuant to MRSA Title 1, 405(6)(A). (5 yes) So voted.

Returned from Executive Session.

Judy-Ann Corrow, Secretary