

July 16, 2012

12-18

A regular meeting of the Caribou City Council was held 7:00 p.m. on Monday, July 16, 2012 in Council Chambers with the following members present: Mayor Kenneth G. Murchison, Jr., Deputy Mayor David Martin, Mary Kate Barbosa, John R. Boone, Philip McDonough II, Gary Aiken, and Bryan Thompson.

Margaret N. Daigle, Interim City Manager; Kathy Mazzuchelli, Superintendent of Parks & Recreation; Scott Susi, Fire Chief; David Ouellette, Director of Public Works; and Michael Shrewsbury, Community Development Director were present.

Attending: Priscilla Haney, Milo Haney, Cathy Griffeth, Wayne Griffeth, Ralph D'Angelo, Pete Griffeth, Freeman Cote, Arik Jepson, Rachel McGlinn-Bourgeois, Jason Matheson, Jennifer Poitras, Harold Dubay, and Paul Theriault.

Natalie Bazinet, representing the Aroostook Republican and Time Warner covered the meeting.

Council Agenda Item #1: Public Input

- ❖ Milo Haney expressed his concerns with the City's new assessments. He would like the Council to arrange a meeting with the Board of Assessors to address this issue. He stated that he is being taxed for equipment that he does not own. The Mayor encouraged Mr. Haney to follow the process which includes applying for an abatement if warranted.

Mr. Haney does not support a plowing contract between the City of Caribou and Aroostook County for the plowing of several Connor TWP roads. He requested the breakdown of expenses for the City to provide this service.

Council Agenda Item #2: Updates from City Administration

The Mayor provided additional information on a variety of topics including:

- Caribou Connector – detailed information was provided regarding paving, bridges, guardrail installations, and landscaping.
- Farmers' Market – open Wednesdays and Saturdays

Council Agenda Item #3: Consider authorizing the minutes of the following meetings:

A. June 27, 2012 Council Meeting

Motion made by P. McDonough, seconded by G. Aiken, to approve the minutes of the June 27, 2012 Council meeting as presented. (7 yes) So voted.

B. June 29, 2012 Emergency Council Meeting

Motion made by MK Barbosa, seconded by D. Martin, to approve the minutes of the June 29, 2012 Emergency Council meeting as presented. (5 yes, 2 abstentions, G. Aiken, P. McDonough) So voted.

Council Agenda Item #4: Consider authorizing an Independent Contractor Agreement between Margaret Daigle and the City for the provision of Interim Management Services.

Motion made by P. McDonough, seconded by G. Aiken, to authorize and implement an Independent Contractor Agreement for Interim Management Services with Margaret Daigle until such time as the position of City Manager is filled. (7 yes) So voted.

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Council Agenda Item #5: Consider appointing Margaret Daigle as Interim Manager with all the authority and duties incumbent upon the position, pursuant to Charter Section 3.01.

Motion made by D. Martin, seconded by P. McDonough, to appoint Margaret Daigle as the Interim City Manager of Caribou, pursuant to charter Section 3.01, until such time as the position is filled or ended by pursuant to Contract. (7 yes) So voted.

Council Agenda Item #6: Consider authorizing the Interim Manager to approve Treasurer's Warrants, pursuant to Charter Section 5.02.

Motion made by MK Barbosa, seconded by P. McDonough, to authorize the Interim City Manager as the Council's representative for the purpose of reviewing and signing the municipal warrants for 2012, pursuant to Charter Section 5.02. (7 yes) So voted.

Council Agenda Item #7: Public Hearing to receive verbal and written comment on the proposed changes to amend the flow of traffic to become one-way on Wright St. from the intersection with Washburn Road southerly to Bradley continuing to the intersection with Pond Street.

7:14 p.m. Public Hearing Opened.

No written comments were received.

The Mayor reviewed the events leading up to this Public Hearing.

Director Ouellette is recommending that the City have a survey completed prior to the Council making any changes to the flow of traffic. A completed survey will assist in determining the City's next step. Director Ouellette answered several questions from the Council. He assured the Council that there are ample monies in the Streets & Roads Account to pay for a survey.

7:24 p.m. Public Hearing Closed.

Council Agenda Item #8: Consider acting upon the amendment of the flow of traffic on Wright St. and Bradley:

- A. Amend Section 12-502 making Wright Street south bound from Washburn Street to Bradley
- B. Amend Section 12-502 making Bradley one-way flowing westerly from the intersection with Wright Street to Pond Street
- C. Amend Section 12-701 to place a Stop sign Wright Street at Bradley.

Motion made by P. McDonough, seconded by MK Barbosa, to table acting upon the amendment of the flow of traffic on Wright and Bradley Streets pending the completion of a survey to determine road right-of-way and abutters property lines. (7 yes) So voted.

Council Agenda Item #9: Consider a request to start a Citizen's Group to raise funds for a K-9 Unit for the Caribou Police Department.

Jennifer Poitras, the coordinator for the citizens' initiative *People for Aroostook Canine Enforcement* (PACE), addressed the Council. This newly founded group is trying to raise the funds needed to have a canine unit within the Caribou Police Department. Recently PACE has associated themselves with another 501 group for fund raising and tax purposes; additionally, a Facebook group has been created. PACE wants to move forward but it is unsure about accepting donations without Council approval. The Council asked Ms. Poitras and Caribou Police Officer Matheson several questions. Mayor Murchison would be interested in hearing from Police Chief Gahagan concerning the implementation of a canine

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program. The Mayor suggested that this be done at a Council Workshop. Ms. Poitras provided informational packets for each of the Councilors.

Council Agenda Item #10: Consider authorizing a Municipal Quitclaim Deed to David B. Rose and Cheryl A. Rose for that portion of the former Paper Street of Rose Street, vacated by the Council, adjoining said property.

Motion made by P. McDonough, seconded by D. Martin, to authorize the Municipal Quitclaim Deed to David B. Rose and Cheryl A. Rose for that portion of the former Paper Street of Maple Street, vacated by the Council, adjoining said property. (7 yes) So voted.

Council Agenda Item #11: Consider authorizing a Municipal Quitclaim Deed to Tammy Gough, Tax Map 18 Lot 31-13, for taxes paid in full.

Motion made by P. McDonough, seconded by MK Barbosa, to authorize the Municipal Quitclaim Deed to Tammy Gough, Tax Map 18 Lot 31-13, for taxes paid in full. (7 yes) So voted.

Council Agenda Item #12: Consider accepting a bid for Winter Sand for the 2012-2013 winter season.

Director Ouellette recommends that the Council reject the two bids that were received and reissue the bid packet through fax to four local sand vendors as the bids that were received are over the amount budgeted by the City.

Motion made by G. Aiken, seconded by D. Martin, to reject all bids and to rebid the Winter Sand for the 2012-2013 winter season. (7 yes) So voted.

Council Agenda Item #13: Consider a request by the former Manager for the disposition of a 5-year old laptop and to retain an email address for one year.

The Councilors discussed this request in great detail. Councilor Aiken commented that he does not like going outside the guidelines established in the City's personnel policy; furthermore, Mr. Buck has been compensated for unused vacation and sick time and received a generous retirement plan. Councilor Thompson stated that he sees both laptop and email address as property of the City. Councilor Barbosa noted that because of emergency City issues, Mr. Buck had gone over the allowed bank time and his retaining of the laptop would offset that. Councilor Barbosa feels that the request is reasonable as the laptop is to be retired and Mr. Buck has agreed to keep in contact with the Interim City Manager and can do this through the email address. Councilor McDonough stated that there could be more than five years of valuable information on the laptop. Councilor Boone stated that City should have continued access to the email account if Mr. Buck is allowed to retain its use. Councilor Aiken suggested taking up a collection among the Councilors and give Mr. Buck a laptop as a going away gift rather than giving him City property. Councilor Martin noted that prior to this evening the Council, while meeting with Mr. Buck, had reached a consensus to give him the laptop and the use of the email address.

Motion made by MK Barbosa, seconded by D. Martin, to allow former Manager Buck to retain the requested laptop and to maintain the email address for up to one year provided that the email password is shared with the Interim City Manager /City Manager to provide connectivity during the transition period. (4 yes, MK Barbosa, J. Boone, D. Martin, K. Murchison, 3 no, G. Aiken, P. McDonough, B. Thompson) So voted.

Council Agenda Item #14: Other Business

a. Notice of Public Hearing by MDOT on the rehabilitation of Hardwood Brook Bridge  
A preliminary public meeting will be held on Thursday, July 26, 2012 at 6:00 p.m. at the Caribou Municipal Building.

b. Report by Director Ouellette on the pending multi-year Contract with the County of Aroostook for snow removal in Connor Township

Director Ouellette reviewed the proposed contract and provided additional information on the route of this truck for both Caribou and Connor. The City was plowing Connor roads prior his joining the Department more than 14 years ago. The County would like to see this contract finalized. The bill for the Connor Fire Agreement continues to remain unpaid. Director Ouellette answered several questions from Milo Haney.

c. Review of pending Ambulance Agreement between the Town of Limestone and City of Caribou and remaining actions

The Council received updated information concerning both the Ambulance and Fire Department from the Fire Chief Susi. Several Council questions were answered. Council Aiken would like to further discuss Loring in a Workshop setting.

d. Other

- Councilor Aiken would like to see a meeting arranged with the Department Managers so the Council can discuss the upcoming Budget cycle.
- Director Shrewsberry briefly updated the Council with his search for financing for the boiler conversion project.
- Mayor Murchison welcomed Interim City Manager Margaret (Peggy) Daigle.
- Superintendent Mazzuchelli spoke about the Caribou Connector ribbon cutting event to be held in August. During this event there be a “Walk, Run & Roll”, where individuals will be able to walk and run on the new highway.

Meeting Dates previously set:

- Council Workshop July 23, 2012 at 7:00PM Council Chambers
- Elected Officials Workshop July 25, 2012 at NMDC in Caribou Registration at 4:00PM Training from 4:30 – 8:30PM via video conference
- Council Meeting July 30, 2012 at 7:00PM Council Chambers

Council Agenda Item #16: Executive Session: Consider moving to Executive Session to discuss an economic development proposal, pursuant to MRSA Title 1 §405 (6)(C).

8:29 p.m. Motion made by P. McDonough, seconded by MK Barbosa, to move to Executive Session to discuss an economic development proposal, pursuant to MRSA Title 1 §405 (6)(C). (7 yes) So voted.

8:59 p.m. Returned from Executive Session.

No action taken.

Council Agenda Item #15: Executive Session: Consider moving to Executive Session to discuss the disposition of City owned property, pursuant to MRSA Title 1 §405 (6)(C).

9:00 p.m. Motion made by P. McDonough, seconded by B. Thompson, to move to Executive Session to discuss the disposition of City owned property, pursuant to MRSA Title 1 §405 (6)(C).

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9:45 p.m. Returned from Executive Session.

No action taken.

Council Agenda Item #17: Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 10:00 p.m.

Jayne R. Farrin, Secretary