

April 9, 2012

2012-10

A regular meeting of the Caribou City Council was held 7:00 p.m. on Monday, April 9, 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, Bryan Thompson and Gary Aiken.

Steven R. Buck, City Manager; Michael Shrewsberry, Community Development Director; and Diane Dubois, Library Director were present.

Barbara Scott, representing the Aroostook Republican and Time Warner covered the meeting.

Attending the meeting: Wilfred Martin, Paul Theriault, Doug Morrell, Wayne Belanger, and Gloria J. Kidney.

Also attending the meeting: Young Adult Librarian Mona Martin and GT Advisor Allison Heidorn.

Teen Advisory Group Members: Seth Paddleford, Idella Thompson, and Emily Staples.

GT Leadership Group Members: Joshua Verhoff, Josiah Krul, Noah Heidorn, Dawson Hebert, Emerson Duplissie-Cyr, Gabrielle Marquis, Madeline Cudde, Sam Fortin, Nic Sleeper, Kyleigh DeMerchant, JoJo Fields, Erin Kashian, and Conner Spencer.

Council Agenda Item #1: Public Input

Doug Morrell, Citizens for Responsible City Management: Questioned why one of the backhoes was plowing snow in a parking lot and a sidewalk machine was plowing snow at the mall on Easter Sunday.

Council Agenda Item #2: Updates from City Administration

The City Manager provided updated information on a variety of topics including:

- LD1853 “An Act to Improve Environmental Oversight and Streamline Permitting for Mining in Maine – The Manager provided testimony supporting LD 1853 at the March 30<sup>th</sup> Public Hearing.
- State Revenue Sharing – The State has “found” \$14 million due to an accounting error. \$13.7 million of the \$14 million is subject to Revenue Sharing. The City’s share is \$6,320.00 and should be in next month’s receipt.
- Caribou Connector – MDOT is back on the project as well as the contractors. There will be six street lights installed at the intersection at Route 161 and they will be owned and maintained by the State. Lane Construction has started on the bridge constructions. It is anticipated that Contract Two will be completed by July 27<sup>th</sup>. Contract Three which includes guardrails, landscaping, and finish pavement has been placed out to bid with the specifications having the completion date as August 31<sup>st</sup>.
- Ambulance Operations – On March 28<sup>th</sup> a meeting was held with representatives from Limestone to discuss ambulance restructuring for Loring, Limestone, and Caswell.
- Firefighter 2 paramedic – an offer was extended and accepted by Scott Michaud, who has been a City of Presque Isle firefighter and paid call member for Caribou Fire & Ambulance.
- Facilities, Inc. – The Manager has met with Brian Ostlund, the Manager and they reviewed the financials. The consensus was that the PILOT needs to be reviewed for future years as their financial situation has changed. It was agreed that Facilities, Inc. board needs to meet with a Council committee to discuss the matter.

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

A. March 26, 2012 Council Meeting

Motion made by P. McDonough, seconded by G. Aiken, to approve the minutes of the March 26, 2012 Council Meeting as presented. (6 yes, 1 abstention, B. Thompson) So voted.

B. March 26, 2012 and April 3, 2012 Combined Council Workshops

This set of minutes was not included in the packet and will be on the agenda of a future meeting.

Council Agenda Item #4: Consider issuing a Proclamation declaring April 30, 2012 to May 4, 2012 One Book, One Community Bullying Awareness and Prevention Week.

GT Advisor Allison Heidorn introduced the two groups attending this evening, Library Teen Advisory Group and the GT Leadership Group. These two groups are working together to bring community awareness to bullying by the development of a program encouraging all Caribou citizens to read the book *The Revealers* by Doug Wihelm.

Motion made by P. McDonough, seconded by D. Martin, to issue a Proclamation declaring April 30, 2012 to May 4, 2012 One Book, One Community Bullying Awareness and Prevention Week. (7 yes) So voted.

Council Agenda Item #5: Consider adoption of the 2012 Capital Improvements Program with or without further amendments.

Motion made by P. McDonough, seconded by D. Martin, to adopt the 2012 Capital Improvements Program as presented on March 19<sup>th</sup> and with the subsequent amendments as presented. (7 yes) So voted.

Council Agenda Item #6: Consider adoption of the 2012 Municipal Budget with or without amendments.

Motion made by P. McDonough, seconded by G. Aiken, to adopt the 2012 Municipal Budget as presented on March 19<sup>th</sup> and with the subsequent amendments as presented with the addition of five furlough days for employees, exempting employees from the Police, Fire, and Ambulance Departments. (4 yes, G. Aiken, J. Boone, P. McDonough, B. Thompson, 3 no, MK Barbosa, D. Martin, K. Murchison) So voted.

Council Agenda Item #7: Consider authorizing Administration to complete and implement a Credit Enhancement Agreement with Lake Road Farms, Inc. to extend three phase power within the RC-2 TIF District.

The Maine Department of Economic and Community Development (DECD) has approved the RC-2 Tax Increment Financing (TIF) District and the Program has received Conditional approval. Community Development Director Michael Shrewsbury noted that the original valuation of the district has been locked in at \$5,839,643.35. At this meeting, the Council is being asked to approve the Draft Credit Enhancement Agreement (CEA) between the City and Lake Road Farms. This conditional approval is needed so Lake Road Farms, Inc. can move forward with the power extension for their refrigeration needs. It is estimated that it will cost approximately \$23,500 to extend three phase power to Lake Road Farms. The Draft CEA calls for 100% capture and return to Lake Road Farms until the power extension is paid for. It is estimated that that will take between three to five years for this to occur.

Motion made by P. McDonough, seconded by G. Aiken, to approve the Draft Credit Enhancement Agreement between the City and Lake Road Farms for the extension of three phase power within the RC-2 Tax Increment Financing District with a Final Agreement to be implemented upon acceptance by the Department of Community and Economic Development. (7 yes) So voted.

Council Agenda Item #8: Consider releasing Federal Project No. STP-1748(300)X, State PIN 17483.00 for the construction of 4,150 feet of ADA-compliant sidewalk along northbound North Main Street.

The Mayor noted that because of budget pull backs made within the Public Works Department, the City no longer had the manpower to provide the in-kind match. Approving the releasing of these funds back to the State will allow the State to go ahead with other project(s). The Manager noted that sometime in the future the City can reapply for funding to construct the sidewalk but would probably have it be a completely “out to bid” project.

Motion made by P. McDonough, seconded by J. Boone, to release Federal Project No. STP-1748(300)X, State PIN 17483.00 for the construction of 4,150 feet of ADA-compliant sidewalk along northbound North Main Street and so notify MDOT. (7 yes) So voted.

Council Agenda Item #9: Consider a request by the Maine Department of Transportation to close the north bound ramp from Railroad Street to the Route 1 By-Pass.

The Maine DOT has had plans to close the north bound ramp from Railroad Street to the Route 1 By-Pass but it has been discovered that it is the City rather than the State that owns the ramp. This evening Administration is seeking Council’s input on the potential closure of the ramp. The Manager will work with Attorney Solman if the Council supports discontinuance of the ramp.

Motion made by D. Martin, seconded by P. McDonough, to proceed with discontinuance of the north bound ramp from Railroad Street to the Route 1 By-Pass and to schedule a Public Hearing to be held May 14, 2012. (7 yes) So voted.

Council Agenda Item #10: Consider acting upon a submission to the MeDOT for the 2014-2015 Capital Work Plan, as recommended by the Highway Protection Committee.

The Highway Protection Committee has developed the 2014-2015 Capital Work Plan. This plan contains the following:

- Priority #1 – Highway Improvement: Route 89/High Street
- Priority #2 – Highway Improvement: Route 161 & 228 Major Collector/Sweden Street
- Priority #3 – Other Highway Improvement Needs: Route 161 Major Collector/Fort Fairfield Road
- Priority #1 & #2 – Passenger and Freight Transportation Improvements: Caribou Municipal Airport
- Safe Routes to School: The City is interested in this program.

The Manager recently learned that it was in 2010 that the High Street Project lost its State PIN Number after the State redeveloped its priorities because of funding issues. Mr. Buck has requested the reactivation of the State PIN Number. It is unlikely that any reconstruction of High Street would include a center turning lane.

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Motion made by P. McDonough, seconded by MK Barbosa, to approve the FY2014-2015 Transportation Project Requests with amendments and to forward to our Regional Planning Office for review and submission to the State. (7 yes) So voted.

Council Agenda Item #11: Consider acting upon a submission to MeDOT for the Transit Bonus Program for FY2013.

Since 2001, the City has applied to MDOT, on behalf of the Aroostook Transportation System, for \$15,000 Transit Bonus Program monies.

Motion made by MK Barbosa, seconded by P. McDonough, to authorize the City Manager to sign and apply for \$15,000 to the Transit Bonus Payment Program with said funds to be awarded to the Aroostook Transportation System. (7 yes) So voted.

Council Agenda Item #12: Consider issuing Municipal Quitclaim Deeds for the following:

- a. Purchase of tax acquired property by Roderick Guerette for Tax Map 38 Lot 83
- b. Taxes paid in full by Carolyn Cossiboom for Tax Map 23 Lot 6

Motion made by P. McDonough, seconded by MK Barbosa, to issue Municipal Quitclaim Deeds to Roderick Guerette for Tax Map 38 Lot 83 and Carolyn Cossiboom for Tax Map 23 Lot 6. (7 yes) So voted.

Council Agenda Item #13: Consider approval of Licenses for the following:

- a. Rubbish Hauler's License for Rick B. Chapman d/b/a/ City Sanitation, Caribou
- b. Rubbish Hauler's License for Gary Rossignol d/b/a Rossignol Sanitation, Caribou
- c. Rubbish Hauler's License for Jack S. Herbert d/b/a McNeal's Trucking, Caribou
- d. Rubbish Hauler's License for Gilford Berube d/b/a Gil's Sanitation, Inc., Presque Isle
- e. Rubbish Hauler's License for Nathan Haney d/b/a Crown of Maine Sanitation, Connor
- b. Public Taxi License for Marty Clayton d/b/a Aroostook Cab Co., Caribou

Motion by D. Martin, seconded by P. McDonough, to approve the slate of Rubbish Hauler's Licenses and Public Taxi License as presented with the condition for Rick B. Chapman d/b/a City Sanitation of utilizing only vehicles that have passed inspection and the condition for Nathan Haney d/b/a Crown of Maine Sanitation that the business' only vehicle passes inspection. (7 yes) So voted.

Council Agenda Item #14: Consider setting a Special Council Meeting for April 23, 2012 at 7:00 PM for the conduct of a Public Hearing for the consideration of establishing a \$25.00 Fee for the removal of brush.

Motion made by P. McDonough, seconded by D. Martin, to set a Public Hearing date of April 23, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. for the conduct of a Public Hearing for the consideration of establishing a \$25.00 fee for the removal of brush. (7 yes) So voted.

Council Agenda Item #15: Consider the appointment of municipal ballot clerks for the two year period of May 2012 to May 2014, pursuant to MRSA Title 21-A §503.

Motion made by P. McDonough, seconded by G. Aiken, to appoint municipal ballot clerks for the two year period of May 2012 to May 2014, pursuant to MRSA Title 21-A §503. Exhibit A. (7 yes) So voted.

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Council Agenda Item #16: Consider acting upon Bids for Tax Acquired Properties:

- a. Tax Map 13 Lot 12D, 46 Ouellette Road – Min. \$1,000

Motion made by P. McDonough, seconded by G. Aiken, to accept the bid from Susan Palmer of \$2,222.22 for Map 13, Lot 12D, 46 Ouellette Road. (7 yes) So voted.

- b. Tax Map 36 Lot 97, 0 Mayo Street – Min. \$500

Motion made by P. McDonough, seconded by MK Barbosa, to accept the bid from Susan Palmer of \$1,616.16 for Map 36 Lot 97, 0 Mayo Street. (7 yes) So voted.

Council Agenda Item #18: Other Business

- a. Consider potential status change of High Street reconstruction, loss of Pin No. The Manager plans to communicate directly with MDOT Commissioner Bernhardt regarding this matter.
- b. Other – Recently Mayor Murchison attended the Red Cross’ Real Heroes Breakfast. He found the “Real Heroes” stories to be inspirational.

Meeting Dates previously set:

- Cary/Council Workshop – April 10, 2012 5:00PM Chan Center
- Special Council Meeting – April 23, 2012 Council Chambers 7:00PM
- Council Meeting – May 14, 2012 Council Chambers 7:00PM
- Council Meeting & Workshop – May 28, 2012 Council Chambers 7:00PM, Workshop following the Meeting

Council Agenda Item #17: Consider ratification of Terms of two Employment Agreements for:

- a. Teamsters Local 340 Police Unit
- b. Teamsters Local 340 Fire & Ambulance Unit

8:44 p.m. Motion made by P. McDonough, seconded by MK Barbosa, to move to Executive Session for the discussion of personnel matters and conduct, pursuant to MRSA Title 1 Chapter 13 Section 405 (6)(A). (7 yes) So voted.

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

Council discussed new items that were brought forward by Teamsters and directed Manager to forward a response.

Council Agenda Item #19: Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 9:46 p.m.

Jayne R. Farrin, Secretary