

October 22, 2012

12-31 wksp.

A Public Forum Workshop meeting of the Caribou City Council was held 6:00 p.m. on Monday, October 22, 2012 in Council Chambers with the following members present: Mayor Kenneth G. Murchison, Jr., Mary Kate Barbosa, John R. Boone, Philip McDonough II, Gary Aiken, and Joan L. Theriault. Deputy Mayor David Martin was absent and excused.

Margaret N. Daigle, Interim City Manager; Wanda Raymond, Finance Director; David Ouellette, Director of Public Works; Michael Shrewsbury, Community Development Director; Kathleen A. Mazzuchelli, Superintendent of Parks & Recreation; Stephen Wentworth, Code Enforcement Office; and Diane C. DuBois, Library Director were present.

Attending: Paul Theriault, John Swanberg, Milo Haney, Ann Gahagan, Doug Morrell, Jesse Taggett, Wyatt Taggett, Kate Bartlett, Makeyle Gahagan, Jon Seiler, Paul R. Camping, Susan White, James Cyr, and Wilfred Martin.

Aroostook Republican and Time Warner covered the meeting.

PUBLIC FORUM WORKSHOP

The Public Forum Workshops are a new requirement of the 2012 City Charter. This change is to allow a better understanding of the budgets and to allow discussion between the Council, Department Managers, and the Public. The last Public Forum Workshop will be held October 29th.

From the adopted City Charter:

Expense Budget. 5.06 [a] (3) (ii) On or before November 1st: The City Manager will have each City Department Head present a written detailed Expense Budget Report to both the City Council and the City's citizens in a public forum where both the City Council and Caribou's citizens can ask questions and provide input to the City Manager and each Department Head.

Capital Expense Budget. 5.06 [b] (3) (ii) On or before November 1st: The City Manager will have each City Department Head present their written detailed Capital Expense Budget Report to both the City Council and Caribou's citizens in a public forum where both the City Council and Caribou's citizens can ask questions and provide input to the City Manager and each Department Head.

Mayor Murchison opened the Public Forum Workshop and commented that this is the second Public Forum Workshop to be held under the new City Charter. The Mayor noted that both Councilors and the public will be able to ask questions as Department Managers give an overview of their proposed 2013 budget.

The following Department Budgets and Capital Expense Budgets were reviewed. All questions from the Council and members of the public were answered by the Interim City Manager, Department Managers, and Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors.

- Chamber of Commerce – Director and Chamber Budget Committee members
- Public Works Department (Capital Expense only)
- Recreation Department (Budget Expense only)
- Parks Department (Budget Expense only)
- Snowmobile Trail Maintenance (Budget Expense only)

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Council Agenda Item #1: Council presentation to Police Chief Michael Gahagan.

This agenda item took place during the Public Forum Workshop.

The Maine Commission for Community Service annually identifies a "Champion of Service" to honor during the Blaine House Conference on Service and Volunteerism. This year's "Champion of Service" is Caribou Police Chief Michael Gahagan. He was nominated by the City of Caribou. Chief Gahagan was unable to attend the conference so his award was presented by Interim City Manager Daigle. Ms. Daigle read the remarks made at the Conference by Conference Chair Barbara Wentworth and presented him his award and a clock. Mayor Murchison congratulated the Chief and presented him a framed letter of appreciation.

Workshop adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Jayne R. Farrin, Secretary