

March 14, 2011

11-06

A regular meeting of the Caribou City Council was held 7:00 p.m. on Monday, March 14, 2011 in Council Chambers with the following members present: Mayor Kenneth G. Murchison, Jr., Deputy Mayor Christopher A.R. Bell, David Martin, Mary Kate Barbosa, R. Mark Goughan, John R. Boone, and Miles R. Williams.

Steven R. Buck, City Manager and Michael J. Shrewsberry, Community Development Director.

Also attending the meeting were James T. Cerrato, Iver Soderberg, Wayne Belanger, Doug Morrell, Paul Theriault, and Wilfred Martin.

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

Council Agenda item #1: Consider the appointment of Miles R. Williams to fulfill a vacant Council seat through the end of 2011, pursuant to Charter Section 2.06 (C).

Motion made by C. Bell, seconded by D. Martin, to appoint Miles R. Williams to the Caribou City Council for the remainder of the calendar year 2011, said position to be subject to election this coming November pursuant to City Charter. (5 yes, 1 no, M. Goughan) So voted.

Council Agenda item #2: Election of Deputy Mayor for the remainder of 2011.

Motion made by MK Barbosa, second by D. Martin to support C. Bell for the position of Deputy Mayor for the remainder of 2011. Motion made by D. Martin, seconded by M. Williams to end nominations. (5 yes, 1 no, M. Goughan, 1 abstention, C. Bell) So voted.

Council Agenda item #3: Public Input. No Public Input.

Council Agenda item #4: Consider acceptance of the minutes of the following:

a. Council Meeting of February 28, 2011

Motion made by C. Bell, seconded by D. Martin, to accept the minutes of February 28, 2011 Council Meeting as presented. (6 yes, 1 abstention, M. Williams) So voted.

b. Council Workshop of February 28, 2011

Councilor MK Barbosa noted on page two of the presented Council Workshop minutes that it is written that she will be absent for the meeting of March 21st. She stated that it should read that she will be absent for any meetings scheduled the week of March 21st.

Motion made by C. Bell, seconded by J. Boone, to accept the minutes of February 28, 2011 Council Workshop as amended. (6 yes, 1 abstention, M. Williams) So voted.

Council Agenda item #5: Public Hearing to receive written and verbal comments on the 2011 Capital Improvements Program, pursuant to Charter Section 5.09.

7:07 p.m. Public Hearing Opened.

A PowerPoint presentation was provided by Manager Buck in which he provided information and details on the development of the 2011 Capital Improvements Program. The City Charter provides for a 5 year Capital Program to be updated annually and presented to the Council three months prior to the final Budget submission date which is the 3rd Monday in March. The initial departmental requests were

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\$704,887.00 after being reviewed by both the CIP Committee and Council the amended 2011 Capital Improvements Program totals \$539,420.00. The 2011 Gymnasium Debt Service totals \$215,511.00.

The 2011 CIP plus Debt Service totals \$754,931.00 which is an increase of \$141,815.00 as compared to 2010. See Exhibit "A".

Citizens for Responsible City Management Chair Doug Morrell asked what portion of the mil rate the Gymnasium Debt Service represents. Mr. Buck answered that it is approximately three-quarters of a mil. With the final payment being made this year, Mr. Morrell asked if the City's mil rate will reduce by that amount. Mr. Buck stated that it depends on the CIP, but that the Debt Service on the Gymnasium will have been paid. Councilor C. Bell asked if there had been an increase in the mil rate between 2006 and 2007, which is the year payment of the Gymnasium Debt Service started. Mr. Buck reported that the mil rate did not increase.

7:44 p.m. Public Hearing Closed.

Council Agenda item #6: Consider acting upon the 2011 Capital Improvements Program, pursuant to Charter Section 5.09.

Motion made by C. Bell, seconded by D. Martin, to adopt the 2011 Capital Improvement Program, pursuant to Charter Section 5.09 as presented. (6 yes, 1 no, M. Goughan) So voted.

Council Agenda item #7: Public Hearing to receive written and verbal input on the proposed 2011 Municipal Budget, pursuant to Charter Section 5.08.

7:45 p.m. Public Hearing Opened.

The City Manager gave an in depth PowerPoint presentation of the proposed 2011 Budget, which totals \$8,734,598.10, a net increase, before adjusting for Revenues, of \$116,247.13, under the 2010 Budget. The Council's overall goal was to mitigate the loss of State and Federal Receipts, and the current economic impacts upon the City's Budget to keep any increase in the net appropriations as small as possible while maintain service provisions. He summarized the major factors contributing to the impacts to expenses and revenues. The 2011 projected municipal mil rate is 13.26 which is an increase of 1.54. This projection assumes the City's valuation will remain level for 2011. There was no public comment. See Exhibit "B".

8:28 p.m. Public Hearing Closed.

Council Agenda item #8: Consider acting upon the adoption of the 2011 Municipal Budget, pursuant to Charter Section 5.08.

The Council stressed that the City will continue to look for savings and additional revenues right up to the time taxes are committed to the Tax Collector.

Motion made by D. Martin, seconded by C. Bell, to adopt the 2011 Municipal Budget, pursuant to Charter Section 5.08 as presented. (6 yes, 1 no, M. Goughan) So voted.

Council Agenda item #9: Consider Posting certain municipal roads to vehicles over 23,000 lbs, pursuant to 29-A MRSA § 2395 (4) .

Motion made by M. Williams, seconded by C. Bell, to post the municipal ways of the Albair Road, Bowles Road, Caribou Lake Road, George Watson Memorial Drive, Maysville Road, Ogren Road, Old

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Washburn Road, Plante Road, Railroad Street, Richards Road, Vance Road, and the West Gate Road to vehicles over 23,000 lbs. pursuant to 29-A MRSA § 2395 (4). (7 yes) So voted.

Council Agenda item #10: Consider authorizing the receipt of \$1,136.00 pursuant to criminal Forfeiture State of Maine v. Jason T. Francisco.

These monies are from a criminal investigation that the Caribou Police Department has been involved in. Chief Gahagan would like to utilize these monies to offset the cost of the Server Training Program

Motion made by C. Bell, seconded by MK Barbosa, to accept the transfer of funds pursuant to Title 15 MRSA § 5824 (2) and § 5826 (6) in the matter of State of Maine v. Jason T. Francisco, amount of \$1,136.00 and dedicate said funds to the Server Training Program. (7 yes) So voted.

Council Agenda item #11: Consider authorization of two B.Y.O.B. Function applications for:

- a. Amanda Parker, Spruce Haven 214 Doyle Road, August 6, 2011
- b. Kevin Saucier, VFW Hall 253 Van Buren Road, April 16, 2011

Chief Gahagan has reviewed the application and recommends their approval.

Motion made by D. Martin, seconded by J. Boone, to authorize the B.Y.O.B permits for Amanda Parker, Spruce Haven, 214 Doyle Road, August 6, 2011 and Kevin Saucier, VFW Hall, 253 Van Buren Road, April 16, 2011. (6 yes, 1 abstention, M. Williams) So voted.

Council Agenda item #12: Consider authorizing a Municipal Quitclaim Deed for taxes paid in full to Lisa Bruso, Tax Map 7 Lot 39-26.

Motion made C. Bell, seconded by D. Martin, to authorize a Municipal Quitclaim Deed for taxes paid in full to Lisa Bruso, Tax Map 7 Lot 39-26. (7 yes) So voted.

Council Agenda item #12a: Consider approval of a Game of Chance Texas Hold 'Em application for the American Legion, Post #15 located at 67 Sweden Street, Caribou.

Motion made by C. Bell, seconded by J. Boone to authorize approval of a Game of Chance Texas Hold 'Em application for the American Legion, Post #15 located at 67 Sweden Street, Caribou. (7 yes) So voted.

Council Agenda item #12b: Other Business

- a. Resolution – Community Development Director Michael Shrewsberry is requesting a Resolution authorizing and directing an application be submitted to the Maine Forest Service for its 2011 Wood to Energy Grant program for a total of \$500,000 to provide funding for the construction of the Caribou Central Biomass Boiler Project.

Motion made by D. Martin, seconded by M. Williams to authorize a Resolution endorsing an application to the Maine Forest Service for its 2011 Wood to Energy Grant program for a total of \$500,000 to provide funding for the construction of the Caribou Central Biomass Boiler Project. (6 yes, 1 no, M. Goughan) So voted.

Council Agenda item #13: Updates

The City Manager provided updated information on several topics including:

- a. Revenue Sharing – On March 1st, the City Manager provided testimony in front of the Appropriation and Taxation Committees regarding State Revenue Sharing. Mr. Buck remarked that Revenue Sharing is the greatest tool the State has to help offset property tax burden. If the communities are able to get Revenue Sharing fully restored it would be approximately an additional \$482,000 in Revenue for the City of Caribou.
- b. Rail Update – This week there will be a meeting in Presque Isle with Railroad America, they are one the three operators that will be bidding on the operation of the rail from Brownville Jct. to Madawaska.
- c. Informational Meeting – Representative of the Design Build Team and the Maine Department of Transportation will be available on Thursday, March 24, 2011 at 6:30 p.m. to present and discuss the design plans for Contract 2 of the Caribou Connector Project. The meeting will be held at C-PAC.
- d. Park and Ride – Manager presented updated information on the development of a new Park and Ride.
- e. West Gate Road and Snow plowing – There has been modification made as to how the City plows this intersection and a new driver has taken over the route.

Council Agenda item #14: Other Business

- a. Maine Municipal Association's Year-in-Review Report – The Councilor have received a copy.
- b. First Read: Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) Ordinance - Community Development Director Michael Shrewsberry provided explanation for the purpose and need for Caribou to adopt a PACE Ordinance. Caribou property owners would not be to apply for a PACE loan unless the City adopts a PACE Ordinance. PACE loans are to help finance the cost of making qualified “energy savings improvements” to a home.
- c. Announcement of two MDOT sponsored Mill and Fill Projects
 - i. Route 1 By-Pass Patten St. north to start of Segment 4
 - ii. Fort Street from By-Pass west to South Main (164)The City has received notice that these two projects will be completed during the summer of 2011.
- d. Letter of Support for a USDA Grant – Hope & Justice Shelter
Manager Buck provided a letter of support for a USDA Grant application which has since been approved. These monies will help fund a furnace replacement, restroom repairs plus pay for a washer and dryer.

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- e. Update of Airport Obstruction Removal processes – pending Contract
The Manager has been working with the Stantec to move forward with the obstruction removal process. Two FFA scoping meetings have been held. For 2011, obstruction removal will be confined to Airport property. The City's portion of this project will be 2-1/2% of the total cost.
- f. Other-None

Meeting Dates previously set:

- Public Information Meeting, March 24, 2011 at 6:00PM Caribou Performing Arts Center
- Council Meeting March 28, 2011 at 7:00PM Council Chambers 25 High Street
- Council Workshop March 28, 2011 at close of Council Meeting, Council Chambers 25 High Street
- Personnel Committee – March 21, 2011 at 5:00PM Council Chambers 25 High Street

Council Agenda item #15: Executive Session: Consider moving to Executive Session to discuss an appointment to the Caribou Planning Board, pursuant to Title 1 M.R.S.A. § 405 (6) (A).

9:21 p.m. Motion made by C. Bell, seconded by M. Williams, to move to Executive Session to discuss an appointment to the Caribou Planning Board, pursuant to Title 1 M.R.S.A. § 405 (6) (A).

9:32 p.m. Returned from Executive Session.

Motion made by M. Goughan, seconded by D. Martin, to appoint Wilfred Martin to a three year term of the Caribou Planning Board. (2 yes, 5 no, J. Boone, C. Bell, M. Williams, D. Martin, MK Barbosa)
Motion failed.

Motion made by M. Goughan, seconded by C. Bell, to appoint Doug Hunter to a three year term of the Caribou Planning Board. (7 yes) So voted.

Council Agenda item #16: Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 9:35 p.m.

Jayne R. Farrin, Secretary