

July 14, 2014

14-15A

A regular meeting of the Caribou City Council was held 7:00 p.m. on Monday, July 14, 2014 in Council Chambers with the following members present: Mayor Gary Aiken, Deputy Mayor David Martin, Philip McDonough II, Joan L. Theriault, Shane McDougall, Kenneth G. Murchison, Jr. and David R. Genthner.

Austin Bleess, City Manager and Tony Mazzucco, Assistant City Manager were present.

Department Managers: Michael Gahagan, Police Chief, Scott Susi, Fire Chief, Penny G. Thompson, Tax Assessor, Kathy Mazzuchelli, Supt. of Parks & Recreation, and Gary Marquis, Director of Parks & Maintenance.

Natalie De La Garza, representing the Aroostook Republican; and Time Warner covered the meeting.

Council Agenda Item #1: Public Input

Mayor Aiken introduced Gary Marquis, future Supt. of Parks & Recreation who has been hired to replace Kathy Mazzuchelli.

Paul Camping, spokesman for a group of citizens that have formed the Caribou Secession Committee, stated the group's intent is to lead Caribou's rural residents in a move to secede from urban Caribou. Their goal is to lower taxes through forming a new municipality named Lyndon. They have delineated the boundaries of the proposed territory which consists of 80% of Caribou's rural land mass.

Council Agenda Item #2: Declaration of Conflicts of Interest from the City Council regarding any agenda item.

Councilor Murchison abstained from Agenda Item #10.

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

- a) June 23, 2014 Council Meeting
- b) June 24, 2014 Special Council Meeting

Motion made by K. Murchison, seconded by J. Theriault, to accept the minutes of June 23, 2014 Council Meeting and June 24, 2014 Special Council Meeting as presented. (6 yes) So voted.

Council Agenda Item #4: Consent Agenda

- a) June 2014 Financials
- b) June 2014 Police Department Report
- c) June 2014 Fire Department Report
- d) 504 Self Evaluation and Transition Plan
- e) Lunch Wagon Application
 - 1. Daniels Ice Cream
- f) Accepting Forfeited money
- g) Approval of Quitclaim Deeds
 - 1. Bobby Thibodeau, Jr., Map 16, Lot 8J
 - 2. Jonathan Bouchard. Map 37, Lot 24

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Motion made by P. McDonough, seconded by K. Murchison, to approve the Consent Agenda with items A to G as presented. (6 yes) So voted.

Council Agenda Item #5: Public Hearing on CDBG Grant

7:16 p.m. Public Hearing opened.

Manager Bless explained the grant money will be used to install a septic system and driveway for Circle B Farms. The project as a whole is much larger with Mr. Blackstone putting in a new packing shed to meet the requirements of the Food Safety Modernization Act. The overall project expense is about \$221,000.

Samuel Blackstone spoke in favor of the grant for Circle B Farms. Mr. Blackstone has been growing blueberries for over 20 years. He needs to expand in order to meet the requirements and processing rules for a sanitary operation.

7:19 p.m. Public Hearing closed.

Motion made by D. Martin, seconded by P. McDonough, to accept the CDBG Grant Funds and direct the City Manager to execute the necessary documents pursuant to Resolutions 2014-2 and 2014-3 previously adopted by the City Council. (6 yes) So voted.

Council Agenda Item #6: Accepting FEMA Grant Award

Manager Bless stated the City was recently awarded a grant from FEMA. The grant is for a \$350,000 Fire Truck, of which the grant covers 95% or \$332,500 with the City's match being \$17,500.

Motion made P. McDonough, seconded by D. Martin, to accept a grant from FEMA to purchase a new Fire Truck. (6 yes) So voted.

Council Agenda Item #7: Caribou Community Swimming Pool

Supt. Mazzuchelli stated the pool was opened in summer of 1953 with the last major repair was completed in 1993. During the summer of 2013, 20 years later, the pool was losing an estimated 1500 gallons of water per day. Mazzuchelli has received two quotes:

1. Brock Enterprises, LLC- total \$685,882.63. Repair of pool shell, installation of new plumbing lines, new liner, installation of a complete circulation and filtration system and complete repair of the pool shell structural cracks.
2. Lane Construction Company-total \$66,105.00. Removing all colored surface areas, grinding the surface and pave prep, patching existing cracks and repaving the area inside the fence. Pipe removal to be performed by Caribou Parks and Rec.

Supt. Mazzuchelli answered several questions from Councilors. The Parks and Recreation Commission felt that monies could be better spent on developing a reserve account that could be funded to provide engineering for an aquatic therapy pool. This is purely suggestive and the estimates have been gathered to provide the City Council with information to make a decision about the future of the outdoor facility.

No action taken.

Council Agenda Item #8: Municipal Service Fee Ordinance

Over the past months, the Council has discussed the Municipal Service Fee Ordinance that could be adopted. Rose Acres, Caribou Garden, Central Aroostook Association and Facilities, Inc., are four of the organizations that would be affected if the Council adopts the proposed ordinance.

No action taken.

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Council Agenda Item #9: General Assistance Ordinance Amendment

Maine Municipal Association in coordination with the State, has issued an update to the Overall maximum amounts to be used in calculating General Assistance. Councilor McDonough introduced the ordinance 6-2014 City of Caribou, County of Aroostook, State of Maine an ordinance amending Chapter 17 General Assistance. Short title an ordinance amending General Assistance guidelines.

Motion made by K. Murchison, seconded by P. McDonough, to schedule a public hearing to discuss General Assistance Guidelines on August 11, 2014. (6 yes) So voted.

Council Agenda Item #10: MMA Legislative Policy Committee Ballot

City Manager has received the ballot for MMA's Legislative Policy Committee. The three candidates are as follows:

1. Donald Guimond, Town Manager, Fort Kent
2. Tony Mazzucco, Assistant City Manager, Caribou
3. Christina Therrien, Town Manager, Madawaska

Motion made by P. McDonough, seconded D. Martin to support Tony Mazzucco. (5 yes, 1 abstention K. Murchison) So voted.

Council Agenda Item #11: Putting Tax Acquired Property Out for Bid

1. 20 Pioneer Avenue, Map 36, Lot 52 minimum bid of \$13,000.00
2. 6 Morgan Drive, Map 23, Lot 7 minimum bid of \$13,000.00
3. 13 Vesta Drive, Map 24, Lot 60 minimum bid of \$12,000.00

As mentioned by Manager Bleess, if Council authorizes these properties to go out to bid the timeline would be to advertise July 23rd and 30th in the Aroostook Republican. The owners would have until August 6th at 3 p.m. to pay off all of the taxes on the books to keep ownership.

Motion made by P. McDonough, seconded by J. Theriault to advertise tax acquired properties out to bid. (6 yes) So voted.

Council Agenda Item #12: Other Business

1. Mayor Aiken inquired about liability insurance for volunteers. Assistant City Manager will check on fees for liability insurance from MMA.
2. Councilor Murchison mentioned he received a letter for Affordable Health Care Act.

Motion made by D. Genthner, seconded by P. McDonough to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 p.m. (6 yes) So voted.

Council Agenda Item #13: Executive Session pursuant to MRSA Title I §405(6)(E) to discuss a legal issue.

Executive Session was held at 5:00 p.m.

Upcoming Meeting Dates:

Regular City Council Meeting, August 11, 2014 at 7:00 p.m.

Kalen Hill, Secretary Pro-Tem