

June 22, 2015

15-16

A regular meeting of the Caribou City Council was held 6:00 p.m. on Monday June 22, 2015 in Council Chambers with following members present: Mayor Gary Aiken, Deputy Mayor David Martin, Philip McDonough II, Joan L. Theriault, Shane McDougall, and Tiffany J. Stewart. Jody R. Smith was absent and excused.

Austin Bleess, City Manager was present.

Department Managers: Penny G. Thompson, Tax Assessor; Gary Marquis, Supt. of Parks & Recreation; and David Ouellette, Director of Public Works.

Time Warner covered the meeting.

Council Agenda Item #1: Public Input

Milo Haney, Secession Committee member, read a statement stating their willingness to meet with the City Council or their designee and Caribou Secession Committee to find lasting solutions to the eight problems identified in the Secession Report in an effort to avoid secession. The committee further requested that the mil rate be set at no more than 21.3. Following his comments, Mr. Haney and Secession Committee members Freeman Cote and Doug Morrell left the meeting.

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

None.

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

- a) June 8, 2015 City Council Meeting

Motion made by P. McDonough, seconded by T. Stewart, to approve the minutes of the June 8, 2015 Council Meeting as presented. (5 yes) So voted.

Council Agenda Item #4: Consent Agenda

- a) May 2015 Financials
- b) May 2015 Police Department Report
- c) Nylander Board Appointment

Motion made by P. McDonough, seconded by J. Theriault, to approve the Consent Agenda with Business Items A-C as presented. (5 yes) So voted.

Council Agenda Item #5: Complete Street Policy

The Planning Board recommended the adoption of the proposed Complete Street Policy.

Julie Daigle, Power of Prevention Community Outreach Coordinator, answered several questions from the Council. This policy has been adopted by seven communities in Maine, including Fort Kent, plus by the Maine Department of Transportation (MDOT). The Policy shows the municipality's commitment to the needs of all users during the plan and design phases of road work.

The proposed policy was developed by a seven member committee which included the City's Public Works Director Ouellette and Supt. of Parks and Recreation Marquis.

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Councilors Theriault, McDougall, and McDonough suggested language changes; such as, changing “will” to “will endeavor to” and “shall” to “may”.

Ms. Daigle expressed her concerns with any changes to the proposed language.

Director Ouellette stated that once a Complete Street Policy is adopted then the City will have a Bike-Pedestrian Committee. This Committee is the group that can seek grant money.

Motion made by P. McDonough, seconded by J. Theriault, to table the Complete Street Policy pending language changes. (5 yes) So voted.

Council Agenda Item #6: 16 Sincock Street

Bruce Wesson, owner of 16 Sincock Street, did not attend the meeting.

Councilor Theriault wonders whether a lien for the City’s expenses could be placed on another property owned by the property owner.

Motion made by P. McDonough, seconded by J. Theriault, to approve and sign the Findings and Order Pursuant to Title 17 MRSA Section 2851-2859 Dangerous Buildings, to secure the building and bill the owner for associated costs. (5 yes) So voted.

Council Agenda Item #7: Nasiff Land LLC – Dangerous Building

Steve Nasiff, owner of the buildings, did not attend the meeting but hopes to attend the July Council meeting.

Motion made by S. McDougall, seconded by D. Martin, to authorize management to go out to bid for an asbestos survey for all buildings with the costs to be broken out by buildings. (5 yes) So voted.

Council Agenda Item #8: Sand and Paving Bids

Motion made by P. McDonough, seconded by D. Martin, to accept the low bid for paving of \$86.75 per ton from Steelstone Industries and to accept the lowest sand bid that meets the City’s specifications, i.e. through testing. (5 yes) So voted.

Council Agenda Item #9: Administration Ordinance Public Hearing

6:55 p.m. Public Hearing opened.

No public input.

6:56 p.m. Public Hearing closed.

Motion made by P. McDonough, seconded by S. McDougall, to adopt Ordinance No. 9, 2015 Series, An Ordinance amending Chapter 2 Administration, Short Title: An ordinance modifying the City’s Harassment Policy as presented. (5 yes) So voted.

Council Agenda Item #10: Façade Improvement Grant Program

Council discussion centered on whether or not signage should be an allowed expense through a Façade Improvement Grant Program.

Motion made by D. Martin, seconded by P. McDonough, to approve a Façade Improvement Grant Program with the grant amount to be capped at \$7,500, which is 50% of a \$15,000 project, signage

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maybe permitted through the Program, and the City has the right to accept or reject any and all applications. (5 yes) So voted.

Council Agenda Item #11: Planning Board Appointment

This item is was moved to Executive Session.

Council Agenda Item #12: Setting 2015 Mill Rate and Tax Commitment

Motion made by D. Martin, seconded by S. McDougall, to approve Revenue budget adjustments for property taxes, overlay, BETE and Homestead Reimbursement lines as reflected on the Mil Rate Calculation Sheet, to set the 2015 Mil Rate at 22.46 for the commitment of the 2015 Property taxes, to set the 2015 Tax Commitment Date as July 1, 2015 for the Board of Assessors to commit the same to the Tax Collector, pursuant to MRSA Title 36 §505(1), to make the 2015 Property Taxes due and payable as of July 1, 2015, pursuant to MRSA Title 36 § 505(2), to set the date for interest to begin accruing on any delinquent 2015 Property Taxes as October 1, 2015, pursuant to MRSA Title 36 § 505(4), to set the rate of interest to be charged on delinquent 2015 Property Taxes at 7% the maximum rate set by the State, pursuant to MRSA Title 36 § 505(4), and establish a rate of interest for the overpayment and/or abatement of property taxes for 2015 at 4% less than 7% or 3%, pursuant to MRSA Title 36 § 506-A. (5 yes) So voted.

Council Agenda Item #13: Other Business

1. The letter from the Caribou Secession Committee was read. (Exhibit A) The meeting with the Caribou Secession Committee was scheduled for Tuesday, July 7, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. and to broadcast the meeting.
2. Mayor Aiken will be absent from the July 13, 2015 meeting.

Council Agenda Item #14: Executive Session pursuant to 1 MRSA 405(6)(C) to discuss real property and economic development.

7:25 p.m. Time In. Motion made by T. Stewart, seconded by J. Theriault, to move into Executive Session pursuant to 1 MRSA 405(6)(C) to discuss real property and economic development with City Manager Bless, D. Gregg Collins, Samuel Collins, Philip St. Peter, and Clinton St. Peter. (5 yes) So voted.

8:10 p.m. D. Gregg Collins, Samuel Collins, Philip St. Peter, and Clinton St. Peter left.

8:29 p.m. Time Out. Motion made by P. McDonough, seconded by D. Martin, to move out of Executive Session. (5 yes) So voted.

Motion made by S. McDougall, seconded by J. Theriault, to not continue to sell the parking lots. (3 yes, S. McDougall, J. Theriault, T. Stewart, 3 no, D. Martin, P. McDonough, G. Aiken) Motion fails.

8:38 p.m. Time In. Motion made by P. McDonough, seconded by D. Martin, to move into Executive Session with City Manager Bleess pursuant to 1 MRSA 405(6)(A) to discuss a personnel issue.

8:41 p.m. Time Out. Motion made by P. McDonough, seconded by S. McDougall, to move out of Executive Session. (5 yes) So voted.

Motion made by P. McDonough, seconded by D. Martin, to appoint Evan Graves to fill the vacancy on the Planning Board. (5 yes) So voted.

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Meeting adjourned 8:42 p.m.

Upcoming Meeting Dates:

Regular City Council Meeting July 13, 2015 at 6:00 p.m.

Regular City Council Meeting August 10, 2015 at 6:00 p.m.

Jayne R. Farrin, Secretary