

June 24, 2013

13-16

A regular meeting of the Caribou City Council was held 7:00 p.m. on Monday, June 24, 2013 in Council Chambers with the following members present: Mayor Gary Aiken, Deputy Mayor Kenneth G. Murchison, Jr., David Martin, Philip McDonough II, Joan L. Theriault, David R. Genthner, Sr., and Aaron P. Kouhought.

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

Department Managers: William Tasker, Director Chamber of Commerce; Kathleen A. Mazzuchelli, Superintendent of Parks & Recreation; Scott Susi, Fire Chief; Michael Gahagan, Police Chief; Elizabeth A. O'Bar, Tax Assessor; and David Ouellette, Director of Public Works were present.

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

Council Agenda Item #1: Public Input

- ❖ Jan Murchison – expressed her concerns with the bad morale, negativity, and budget cutting that has been happening within the City. It is important for the City to maintain its infrastructure; such as, buildings, airport, and roads.
- ❖ Wilfred Martin – requested that the Council hold another budget workshop before setting the mil rate. Mr. Martin wonders if the school could send a separate tax bill and if the City's tax bill could go out right after the first of the year.

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 meetings:

- a) June 10, 2013 Council Meeting
- b) June 17, 2013 Council Workshop

Motion made by P. McDonough, seconded by K. Murchison, to accept the minutes of the June 10, 2013 Council Meeting as presented and June 17, 2013 Council Workshop as presented with the amendments to *Agenda Item #3 2013 Budget Library* to change "*Councilor Kouhought is not in favor of making any cuts to the Library budget*" to, "*Councilor Kouhought supports whatever cuts to the Library that the Department Head recommends. He is not in favor of any additional cuts to the library*" and to *Agenda Item #3 2013 Budget Recreation Department* to change "*He does not favor closing the Center on holidays or eliminating programs during Christmas Week Programs*" to, "*Councilor Kouhought agreed with the Department Head's recommendation of closing the center on holidays and Christmas week programs because the explanation given made perfect sense to him*". (6 yes) So voted.

Council Agenda Item #4: Consent Agenda

- a) May 2013 Caribou Police Department Report
- b) License Approval
- c) Approval of May Financials

Motion made by P McDonough, seconded by D. Martin, to approve the Consent Agenda with Business items A, B, & C as presented. (6 yes) So voted.

Council Agenda Item #5: July, August, September Council Meetings

Motion made by K. Murchison, seconded by D. Martin, to have one Council Meeting to be held on the second Monday for the months of July, August, and September. (6 yes) So voted.

Council Agenda Item #6: License Approvals for Thursday's on Sweden

Motion made by P. McDonough, seconded by J. Theriault, to delegate the authority to City Manager Bless to approve all necessary licenses needed for Thursday's on Sweden. (6 yes) So voted.

Council Agenda Item #7: City owned parking lots

Over the past few months, the Street and Highway Committee has reviewed and discussed the number of parking lots that are owned and maintained by the City.

Name	Lot Number	Acreage	Assessed Value
7 Hatch Drive	90	1.03	\$45,900
North Mall Lot	39	1.08	\$39,000
6 Water St	143	0.11	\$11,700
South Mall Lot	60	0.45	\$24,800
37 Hatch Dr	97	0.21	\$16,900
37 Hatch Dr	102	0.73	\$31,000
Legion Lot	31	0.10	\$11,200

All lots are located on Map 31.

If the City sold these lots, it is estimated that the City could annually save \$50,000 in equipment, labor, and material costs. The consensus of the Committee is to place the lots out to bid with the Assessed Value amount being the minimum bid; additionally, to add a clause to the deed of the North Mall lot that it is to remain a parking lot. The Committee recommends retaining the Hershel Street parking lot which has approximately 60 spaces.

Councilor Murchison questioned if the Committee had looked at marketing the lots for development. Councilor Theriault offered that the Committee had discussed this and that marketing and development would be up to the new owners.

Motion made by D. Martin, seconded by P. McDonough, to move forward with process as outlined by Street and Highway Committee. (4 yes, 2 no, K. Murchison, A Kouhoupt) So voted.

Council Agenda Item #8: LED Street Lights

During the June 17<sup>th</sup> Workshop, Council requested additional information on maintenance and warranty, which cities have had LED lighting the longest, and can the City give the lights away if they are financed. Manager Bless reported that maintenance is not part of the warranty and that if the lights fail the materials are covered but labor is not. Mr. Bless has found that the City of Ann Arbor has had a long

June 24, 2013

13-16 Pg. 3

and positive experience with LED lighting. The City may not give away the lights if they are financed through USDA.

Discussion.

Motion made by D. Martin, seconded P. McDonough, move forward with the 4.b. City owns and maintain LED 50 and 150 only proposal and to report back to Council. (6 yes) So voted.

Council Agenda Item #9: Time Warner Cable Franchise Agreement

The negotiation of the proposed Time Warner Cable Franchise Agreement (TWC) has been a long process as it was started before Manager Bleess was hired. The new agreement follows the State model agreement and was compiled with assistance from TWC and Maine Municipal Association. The issue of streaming meetings over the internet is outside the scope of the franchise agreement. The new Agreement is for 5 years versus those in the past that were for 15 years; the City's franchise fee is 5% of TWC's gross annual revenues (cable services only), and contains an expressed non exclusivity clause.

Motion by P. McDonough, seconded by D. Martin, to accept the proposed Time Warner Cable Franchise Agreement. (6 yes) So voted.

Council Agenda Item #10: Approval of 2013 budget and Setting Tax Commitment

In light of the Governor vetoing the State Budget, the Council discussed whether or not to take action this evening.

Motion made by P. McDonough, seconded by K. Murchison, to table action on the 2013 budget and setting tax commitment until a Special Council Meeting is held Thursday June 27, 2013 at 5:00 p.m. in Council Chambers. (6 yes) So voted.

Council Agenda Item #11: Other Business

- Councilor McDonough complimented the new "Welcome to Caribou" signs.

Motion made by P. McDonough, seconded by J. Theriault, to adjourn at 8:45 p.m. (6 yes) So voted.

Upcoming Meeting Dates:

Regular City Council Meeting, July 8, 2013 at 7 p.m.

Jayne R. Farrin, Secretary