

November 25, 2013

13-28

A regular meeting of the Caribou City Council was held 7:00 p.m. on Monday, November 25, 2013 in Council Chambers with the following members present: Mayor Gary Aiken, Deputy Mayor Kenneth G. Murchison, David Martin, Philip McDonough II, Joan L. Theriault, David R. Genthner, Sr., and Shane McDougall.

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

Department Manager: William Tasker, Chamber of Commerce Director and Diane DuBois, Library Director.

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

Council Agenda Item #1: Public Input

Ellie Jordan, Cain Realty Trust, had some questions regarding their Bog Road property. The Mayor informed her to speak directly with the City Manager.

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) November 12, 2013 Council Meeting

Motion made by P. McDonough, seconded by D. Genthner, to accept the minutes of the November 12, 2013 as presented. (6 yes) So voted.

Council Agenda Item #4: Chamber of Commerce Ordinance

7:02 p.m. Public Hearing Opened.

Laurie Colton, President of the Chamber Board of Directors, supports the adoption of the Ordinance separating the Chamber of Commerce from the City of Caribou. Ms. Colton commented on the successes the Chamber has realized during the past year; including, increases in membership and revenues, bringing the Hog Rally to Caribou, and partnering with the City for *Caribou Cares about Kids*, *O.P. Pierson Days*, and *Thursdays on Sweden Street*. The Chamber has three requests: 1) continued financial assistance from the City with the final dollar figure to be determined after additional budget work has been completed by the Board, 2) a commitment from the City to pay this annual contribution at the first of the year rather than monthly installments, and 3) the City commit to a long-term partnership between the Chamber of Commerce and the Nylander Museum.

Patrick Bennett, Chamber member, supports both the Caribou Chamber of Commerce and the Nylander Museum. Mr. Bennett is very happy as a Chamber member. He requested that the City continue to financially support the Chamber and to allow the Chamber the use of the Nylander building.

Councilor Theriault stated that the proposed change is not to get rid of the Chamber. She sees the current arrangement allowing for possible conflicts of interest for the Chamber Director between the goals of the Chamber members and the wishes of his employer, the City of Caribou. She stated that the

November 25, 2013

13-28 Pg. 2

Chamber needs to be a separate entity and to be governed by their board rather than City administration.

Councilor Martin fully supports both having the Chamber located at the Nylander and providing financial support.

The Mayor stated that the Council as a whole supports the Chamber and wants the Chamber to be successful. The Chamber Director needs to be taking direction from the Chamber Board rather than the City Manager.

Councilor Murchison questioned what is being asked of him, commented that he does not recall having a fully vetted conversation about this, and furthermore the Council has not even met with the Chamber Board. At this time, Councilor Murchison does not support this ordinance.

7:17 p.m. Public Hearing Closed.

Motion made by P. McDonough, seconded by J. Theriault, to adopt an ordinance amending Section 10-103 Chamber of Commerce, an ordinance removing the Chamber of Commerce. (4 yes, J. Theriault, D. Genthner, D. Martin, P. McDonough, 2 no, K. Murchison, S. McDougall) So voted.

Council Agenda Item #5: Fire Permit Ordinance

7:18 p.m. Public Hearing Opened.

No public input.

The proposed ordinance would allow Council to determine the fee for a fire permit. Councilors asked questions about when an individual needs a fire permit and expressed their opinions on the proposed ordinance.

7:23 p.m. Public Hearing Closed.

Motion made by P. McDonough, seconded by K. Murchison, to adopt an ordinance amending Section 5-106 Fire Prevention – Permits, an ordinance establishing Fire Permit Fees. (6 yes) So voted.

Council Agenda Item #6: Mobile Home Ordinance

The public hearing for this ordinance has already been held.

Motion made by D. Martin, seconded by K. Murchison, to accept the Mobile Home Ordinance as presented.

Mayor Aiken's recommendation for this evening is not to adopt this ordinance but rather to move forward with an ad hoc committee. This committee would work with park owners and Planning Board members on this ordinance so it is complete and the way it should be.

Councilor Theriault stated that there are safety issues that need to be addressed and she too suggested not adopting the ordinance.

Councilor Martin asked if the work could be completed by April 15th. Assistant City Manager Mazzucco stated that it might be difficult to complete all the necessary work by that date. Any work done to

November 25, 2013

13-28 Pg. 3

the ordinance will not have an effect on Ayer Farms because they have a Consent Agreement from the Council.

Councilor K. Murchison withdrew his second, and Councilor D. Martin withdrew his motion to accept the Mobile Home Ordinance as presented.

Motion made by D. Martin, seconded by J. Theriault, to not accept the Mobile Home Ordinance as presented. (6 yes) So voted.

Council Agenda Item #7: Joint Public Works Committee appointments

Motion made by D. Martin, seconded D. Genthner, to appoint Councilors P. McDonough and S. McDougall to a Joint Public Works Committee with Councilor D. Martin to serve as alternate member. (6 yes) So voted.

Council Agenda Item #8: Introduction of GA Ordinance

Councilor P. McDonough introduced Ordinance No. 17, 2013 Series An Ordinance establishing Chapter 17 – General Assistance. Short Title: An ordinance establishing General Assistance Guidelines.

Council Agenda Item #9: 2014 Budget

Consensus: to hold a workshop prior to the December 9th meeting to discuss and review the proposed 2014 Budget.

2014 Budget Workshop was scheduled for December 3rd at 6:00 p.m. in Council Chambers.

Council Agenda Item #10: Other Business

Councilor Murchison encouraged citizens to attend the next Community Visioning Session to be held December 7th from 10:00 a.m. to noon at the Caribou Wellness and Recreation Center.

Councilors J. Theriault, D. Genthner, P. McDonough, and S. McDougall volunteered to serve on the Mobile Home Ad Hoc Committee.

Council Agenda Item #11: Executive session pursuant to MRSA Title 1 Chapter 13 Section 405 (6)(D) to discuss Labor Negotiations with New England Police Benevolent Association Local 605, Teamsters Local 340, and Police Sergeants.

7:59 p.m. Motion made by P. McDonough, seconded by K. Murchison, to move to executive session with City Manager and Assistant City Manager pursuant to MRSA Title 1 Chapter 13 Section 405 (6)(D) to discuss Labor Negotiations with New England Police Benevolent Association Local, Teamsters Local 340, and Police Sergeants. (6 yes) So voted.

Motion by K. Murchison, seconded by P. McDonough, to come out of executive session. (6 yes) So voted.

9:00 p.m. time out. Motion made by D. Martin, seconded by K. Murchison, to approve the agreement with the New England Police Benevolent Association Local 605. (5 yes, 1 no, P. McDonough) So voted.

November 25, 2013

13-28 Pg. 4

Motion made by D. Martin, seconded by P. McDonough, to offer counter proposal to the Sergeants and authorize the City Manager to sign the agreement if accepted by the Sergeants Union. (6 yes) So voted.

Council Agenda Item #12: Executive session pursuant to MRSA Title 1 Chapter 13 Section 405 (6)(D) to personnel issues.

9:02 p.m. Motion made K. Murchison, seconded by D. Genthner, to move to executive session with City Manager pursuant to MRSA Title 1 Chapter 13 Section 405 (6)(D) to discuss personnel issues. (6 yes) So voted.

Motion by P. McDonough, seconded by K. Murchison, to come out of executive session. (6 yes) So voted.

9:21 p.m. time out. Motion made by P. McDonough, seconded by J. Theriault to congratulate Manager Bless on a great job for the previous year and the Council is looking forward to many year. (6 yes) So voted.

Meeting adjourned at 9:22 p.m.

Upcoming Meeting Dates:

Regular City Council Meeting, December 9, 2013 at 7:00 p.m.

Organizational City Council Meeting, January 2, 2014 at 7:00 p.m.

Regular City Council Meeting, January 13, 2014 at 7:00 p.m.

Jayne R. Farrin, Secretary