

October 14, 2014

14-23

A regular meeting of the Caribou City Council was held 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday October 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, and Kenneth G. Murchison, Jr.

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

Department Managers: Penny G. Thompson, Tax Assessor; Scott Susi, Fire Chief; Gary Marquis, Supt. of Parks & Recreation; and Lisa Shaw, Library Director

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

Council Agenda Item #1: Public Input

- a) Jamie Bell, resident of 318 Grimes Mill Road, spoke in opposition to the continued use of the shooting range located off the Grimes Road. Mr. Bell reminded the Council that he had submitted a petition signed by residents of the area requesting the closure of the shooting range. He stated that the range has not been closed and it appears that its use has increased. Mr. Bell disagrees with some of the data provided in the Police Chief's report.
- b) Jessica Bell, resident of 318 Grimes Mill Road, spoke in opposition to the continued use of the shooting range located off the Grimes Road. Mrs. Bell stated that the shooting range has changed their quality of life.
- c) James Cushman, resident of 470 Grimes Mill Road, spoke in opposition to the continued use of the shooting range located off the Grimes Road. Mr. Cushman's concerns include noise and safety issues. He stated that an increase of \$2,738.00 is not a whole lot compared to safety and peace of mind.

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) September 8, 2014 Special Council Meeting
- b) September 8, 2014 Regular Council Meeting

Motion made by P. McDonough, seconded by D. Martin, to accept the minutes of September 8, 2014 Special Council Meeting and September 8, 2014 Regular Council Meeting as presented. (5 yes) So voted.

Council Agenda Item #4: Consent Agenda

- a) September 2014 Financials
- b) September 2014 Police Department Report
- c) September 2014 Fire Department Report
- d) November 2014 Election
  1. Approval of an 8:00 a.m. opening time for the November 4, 2014 Election
  2. Appointment of Jayne R. Farrin as Election Warden and Kalen Hill as Deputy Election Warden for the November 4, 2014 Elections.
  3. Approve the Notice of Municipal Election
- e) Board Appointments
  1. Nylander Board – Philip Bosse – term ending December 31, 2015
  2. Library Board – Ryan Scheiber – term ending December 31, 2014

3. Library Board – Wendy Bossie – term ending December 31, 2015
  4. Library Board – Brian Massie – term ending December 31, 2017
- f) Approval of Quit Claim Deeds
1. Map 36, Lot 52 – Cheryl and Scott Drost
  2. Map 23, Lot 7 – Rino and Susan Marquis

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

Council Agenda Item #5: Land & Water Conservation Fund Grant

Since last meeting with the Council, Supt. Marquis and the Recreation Department have been studying and considering the development of a splash pad type facility. The Department has been approached by a charitable organization that would like to donate a significant amount of money for the development of a splash pad facility. Department staff is working on writing a Land & Water Conservation Fund Grant for \$100,000, and if approved, could be combined with current reserves and a charitable donation leading to the development of a splash pad facility located on the site of the outdoor pool.

Supt. Marquis is requesting Council approval to move forward with the Land & Water Conservation Fund Grant. Council questions were answered by Supt. Marquis.

Motion made by D. Martin, seconded by P. McDonough to authorize the Recreation Department to apply for a Land & Water Conservation Fund Grant. (5 yes) So voted.

Council Agenda Item #6: General Assistance Ordinance Amendments

Councilor P. McDonough introduced Ordinance No. 7, 2014 Series, An Ordinance amending Chapter 17 General Assistance, Short Title: An Ordinance Amending General Assistance Guidelines.

The proposed amendment would make changes to Appendix B Food maximums and Appendix C Housing maximums. The proposed amendment would bring Caribou's General Assistance Ordinance in to compliance with State guidelines.

The Public Hearing scheduled for October 27, 2014.

Council Agenda Item #7: Ambulance Purchase

Chief Susi presented information and answered questions as to the Ambulance Department's request to purchase a new ambulance in 2015. The current fleet has three units that have been remounted three times each and can no longer be remounted. A new ambulance would replace one that has over 124,000 miles and is simply worn out. So far in 2015, the Department has had 232 trips over 60 miles; which is an increase from the yearly average of 150 to 170 trips.

The recommended ambulance is a 2014 Chevy G4500 Chief XL, which would match with two other units currently in the fleet. The box would have a lifetime guarantee. After ordering, it takes nearly six months for the ambulance to be delivered. The purchase price of \$174,507.00 is available in the 2015 Ambulance Reserve Account.

This is a scheduled purchased.

Motion made by P. McDonough, seconded by K. Murchison, to approve the purchase of a 2014 Chevy G4500 Chief XL ambulance with a purchase price of \$174,507.00. (5 yes) So voted.

Council Agenda Item #8: Ambulance Contracts

The 2015 Ambulance Contracts are the same with the exception of a \$0.25 per capita fee increase.

Woodland	\$13,646
New Sweden	\$ 6,773
Westmanland	\$ 698
Stockholm	\$ 2,846
Connor TWP	\$ 5,141
Perham	\$ 4,343
Madawaska Lake	\$ 1,238

Motion made by D. Martin, seconded by P. McDonough, to approve the 2015 Ambulance Contracts as presented. (5 yes) So voted.

Council Agenda Item #9: Fire Contracts

The 2015 Fire Contracts are the same with the exception of a 3% increase to fee.

Woodland	\$59,405
New Sweden	\$32,763
Westmanland	\$10,512
Connor TWP	\$26,836

Motion made by P. McDonough, seconded by D. Martin, to approve the 2015 Fire Contracts as presented. (5 yes) So voted.

Council Agenda Item #10: Pellet Bids

The City received one bid for wood pellets from Daigle Oil Company. The price of \$223 per ton delivered is for pellets that meet most of the City's specifications but they cannot guarantee the no more than 2% fines.

The European pellets recommended by TRANE are not available in Maine. It TRANE's stance that the problems the City is having with the boilers is caused by the type of pellets being used. The closest New England vendor declined to bid citing the high cost of transportation. Discussion centered on the City having guaranteed energy saving from TRANE and whether the City could obtain a load of European pellets to test TRANE's assertion that the pellets are the problem with the boilers.

Motion made by D. Martin, seconded by S. McDougall, to reject Daigle Oil Company's bid of \$223 per ton delivered. (5 yes) So voted.

Council Agenda Item #11: Shooting Range Report

The Police Chief provided a written report outlining the steps that have been taken to address the public's concerns, including the installation of a gate and trespassing signs. He suggested that a safety wall could be built towards the road using railroad ties. A range coordinator for the government is willing to work with the City to further develop the range's safety issues.

Council discussed safety, noise, availability of other sites; the officers need to qualify with firearms annually, and the revenue received from other law enforcement agencies for using the City's shooting range.

Motion made by K. Murchison to suspend use of the range by the City and other Law Enforcement Agencies until the City addresses the safety concerns. Died for the lack of a second.

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Motion made by S. McDougall, seconded by J. Theriault, to suspend operations until we determine the gun range meets NRA recommended safety standards for a gun range and to determine the outcome of our contracts. (4 yes, 1 no, P. McDonough) So voted.

Council Agenda Item #12: Other Business

- a) Maine Municipal Association has presented the Supreme Award (the highest award for communities with population over 5000) to the City of Caribou for its 2013 Annual Report.

Motion made by K. Murchison, seconded by D. Martin, to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 p.m. (5 yes) So voted.

Upcoming Meeting Dates:

Budget Workshop Thursday, October 16, 2014 at 6:00 p.m.

Budget Workshop Monday, October 20, 2014 at 6:00 p.m.

Budget Workshop Wednesday, October 22, 2014 at 6:00 p.m.

Regular City Council Meeting, October 27, 2014 at 7:00 p.m.

Jayne R. Farrin, Secretary