

December 13, 2016

16-35

Per Mayor Aiken, the 6:00 p.m. Monday, December 12, 2016 Caribou City Council meeting was postponed to 6:00 p.m. Tuesday, December 13, 2016.

A regular meeting of the Caribou City Council was held 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, December 13, 2016 in Council Chambers with following members present: Mayor Gary Aiken, Deputy Mayor David Martin, Philip McDonough II, Joan L. Theriault, Shane McDougall, Jody R. Smith, and Timothy C. Guerrette.

Austin Bleess, City Manager and Jim Chandler, Assistant City Manager.

Department Manager: Penny Thompson, Tax Assessor; David Ouellette, Public Works Director; and Lisa Plourde, Housing Executive Director.

Chris Bouchard representing the Aroostook Republican and Time Warner covered the meeting.

Council Agenda Item #1: Public Input.

None.

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) October 17, 2016 Budget Forum
- b) October 18, 2016 Budget Forum
- c) November 28, 2016 Council Workshop

Motion made by P. McDonough, seconded by J. Theriault, to approve the minutes of the October 17, 2016 Budget Forum, October 18, 2016 Budget Forum, and November 28, 2016 Council Workshop as presented. (6 yes) So voted.

Council Agenda Item #4: Consent Agenda

- a) Department Reports
 1. Caribou Fire and Ambulance – November 2016
 2. Caribou Police Department – November 2016
 3. Monthly Permit – November 2016
 4. Clerk and General Assistance – November 2016
- b) Approval of Quit Claim Deeds
 1. Morris and Debra Bragdon – Map 18 Lot 31 #66
- c) November 2016 Financials

Motion made by P. McDonough, seconded by J. Smith, to approve Consent Agenda Items A-C as presented. (6 yes) So voted.

Council Agenda Item #5: Maine Housing Home Modification for Seniors Program

Veronica Plourde, program leader, explained the pilot program the Housing Authority of Fort Fairfield has been selected to offer to seniors and disabled home owners. The Home Modification for Seniors

Program will allow eligible homeowners to apply for home modification that will improve safety or accessibility. The program is free and allows up to \$1,500 in repairs to be made. They are looking to extend the range of the program up to 25 miles from Fort Fairfield which would include Caribou.

Eligibility requirements include being 60 years of age or older, homeowner or living in a home of a relative, and income guidelines with the limit for one individual to be \$40,000, \$45,700 for two, and \$51,400 for three. Potential repairs include grab bars, handrails, existing ramps, and smoke detectors.

Ms. Plourde, Wayne Troicke, and Lisa Plourde answered several questions. Discussion.

Motion made by P. McDonough, seconded by D. Martin, in their role as Housing Commissioners to support the expansion of the Fort Fairfield Housing Authority's Home Modification for Seniors Program into Caribou's jurisdiction. (6 yes) So voted.

Council Agenda Item #6: Fuel Tanks at Public Works

Option 1: Installation of in ground tanks

Option 2: Installation of above ground tanks

Option 3: Use of off-site vendors

With either of the three options, the City will have to have the current tanks out of the ground by June 29, 2018.

Motion made by P. McDonough, seconded J. Theriault, to accept the Public Works Director's recommendation and to authorize Option 1. (6 yes) So voted.

Council Agenda Item #7: Ambulance Contracts

- Woodland \$13,950
- New Sweden \$6,923
- Westmanland \$713
- Stockholm \$2,909
- Connor \$5,244
- Perham \$4,439
- Madawaska Lake \$1,265

Motion made by P. McDonough, seconded by D. Martin, to approve renewal of the City's ambulance contracts. (6 yes) So voted.

Council Agenda Item #8: Fire Contracts

- Woodland \$62,411
- New Sweden \$34,421
- Connor \$28,194

Motion made by P. McDonough, seconded by J. Theriault, to approve renewal of the City's fire contracts. (6 yes) So voted.

Council Agenda Item #9: Other Business

- A. Previously tax-acquired property Map 31 Lot 169-A has been put out to bid and no one bid on the property. Willey Rentals has expressed an interest in acquiring the property and has agreed to pay the advertised bid amount.
Motion made by J. Smith, seconded by P. McDonough, to sell for \$1,100 Map 31 Lot 169-A to Willey Rentals. (6 yes) So voted.
- B. The Mayor questioned how many buildable lots are owned by the City and wonders if the City might consider giving them away. He wonders if the offer of a free house lot would encourage individuals to relocate to Caribou. He noted that a free lot would come with certain conditions; such as, building within 18 months.
- C. Councilor Martin noted the deadline to submit bills for the next Legislative session is nearly here and suggested that Caribou's State Senator and Representative be contacted about their submitting a bill concerning State unfunded mandates.

Motion made by, J. Smith, seconded by J. Theriault to adjourn the meeting at 6:20 p.m. (6 yes) So voted.

Upcoming Meeting Dates:

Organizational City Council Meeting Tuesday, January 3, 2017 at 6:00 p.m.

Regular City Council Meeting Monday, January 9, 2017 at 6:00 p.m.

Regular City Council Meeting Monday, January 23, 2017 at 6:00 p.m.

Jayne R. Farrin, Secretary