

February 8, 2016

16-06

A regular meeting of the Caribou City Council was held 6:00 p.m. on Monday, February 8, 2016 in Council Chambers with following members present: Mayor Gary Aiken, Deputy Mayor David Martin, Philip McDonough II, Joan L. Theriault, Shane McDougall, and Timothy C. Guerrette. Jody R. Smith was absent.

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

Department Managers: Lisa Plourde, Housing Director; Penny Thompson, Tax Assessor; David Ouellette, Public Works Director; Michael Gahagan, Police Chief; Scott Susi, Fire Chief; and Gary Marquis, Supt. of Parks and Recreation.

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) January 25, 2016 City Council Meeting
- b) January 27, 2016 City Council Workshop

Motion made by P. McDonough, seconded by J. Theriault, to approve the minutes of the January 25, 2016 Council Meeting and January 27, 2016 Council Workshop as presented. (5 yes) So voted.

Council Agenda Item #4: Consent Agenda

- a) January 2016 Library Report
- b) January 2016 Police Department Report
- c) January 2016 Fire Department Report
- d) License Renewals
 - 1. Liquor Licenses – KBS Enterprises, Inc. d/b/a Caribou Inn and Convention Center and Gary St. Peter d/b/a Napolis Restaurant LLC.
 - 2. Special Amusement Permit – KBS Enterprises, Inc. d/b/a Caribou Inn and Convention Center and Gary St. Peter d/b/a Napolis Restaurant LLC.

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

Council Agenda Item #5: Parking Lot Ordinance

6:03 p.m. Public Hearing opened.

Anissa Levesque – County Qwik Print – 56 Sweden Street – requested that the proposed ordinance be changed to allow overnight parking in the Hatch Drive parking lot. Ms. Levesque wonders what the benefits are by taking away their overnight parking.

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Councilor McDonough stated that it is the building owner's responsibility to provide parking.

Ms. Levesque stated that it would be cheaper for the City to plow Hatch Drive lot with 24 parking spots versus the 90 plus in the larger parking lot plus approving this change would be business friendly.

Dave Levesque - County Qwik Print – 56 Sweden Street – wonders what the goal or benefit is with the proposed overnight parking ordinance.

Public Works Director Ouellette stated that it is for the ease of plowing.

Mr. Levesque requested that overnight parking be allowed on one side of Hatch Drive and offered to make any necessary signs.

Highway and Protection Committee Chair Theriault stated the committee has met and discussed overnight parking with Director Ouellette and the committee agreed to keep overnight parking at the North Mall parking lot. This lot is more convenient to plow and has more available spaces. The City Code has for some time required building owners, whether apartments or service, to provide their own parking.

Mr. Levesque questions whether this is business friendly.

Councilor Martin noted that it is probable that these buildings are older than the City Code. He stated that it is only reasonable to allow parking on one side. He asked Mr. Levesque if he would be interested in purchasing the parking lot.

Discussion.

CB Smith – Virtual Managed Solutions (VMS) – stated that he has never been told that it is the building owner's responsibility to provide parking during the 12 years in Caribou with 8 years as a business owner.

Dana Cassidy, Rob Kieffer, and Arlen Dow are the property owners that abut the Hatch Drive parking lot.

Mr. Smith suggested for the short-term that overnight parking be allowed on the road side in the Hatch Drive parking lot.

Mr. Smith is open to a conversation about purchasing the parking lot. Mr. Smith doesn't agree with two hour parking as his employees need to park on the street for 8 hours. He stated that everyone is being courteous about not parking in front of the two retail stores located on this section of Sweden Street.

The Mayor stated that the City can't enforce 2 hour parking for Sitel employees and not enforce same 2 hour restriction for VMS employees.

Mr. Smith stated he was promised a business friendly community, he is trying to grow his business and grow the City of Caribou. He offered to pay \$1000 for the parking lot. He would like to meet with the parking lot committee and requested the Council not act on this ordinance until he has met with the committee.

6:44 p.m. Public Hearing closed.

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Motion made by D. Martin, seconded T. Guerrette, to table the ordinance and to continue with current moratorium allowing overnight parking in Hatch Drive parking lot. (3 yes, T. Guerrette, D. Martin, S. McDougall, 3 no, J. Theriault, P. McDonough, G. Aiken) Motion failed.

Motion made by S. McDougall, seconded by T. Guerrette, to allow overnight parking in half of the Hatch Drive parking lot and to have the proposed parking ordinance reflect that change, and then adopt amended Ordinance No. 2, 2016 Series An Ordinance amending Chapter 12 Traffic, Short Title: An ordinance amending parking restrictions. (3 yes, T. Guerrette, S. McDougall, D. Martin, 3 no, J. Theriault, P. McDonough, G. Aiken) Motion failed.

Motion made by T. Guerrette, seconded by D. Martin, to amend the current moratorium allowing overnight parking in the Hatch Drive parking lot, south side only. (4 yes, T. Guerrette, S. McDougall, D. Martin, G. Aiken, 2 no, J. Theriault, P. McDonough) So voted.

A Highway/Protection Committee meeting was set for February 23, 2016 at 5:00 p.m.

No action taken on Ordinance No. 2, 2016 Series An Ordinance amending Chapter 12 Traffic, Short Title: An ordinance amending parking restrictions.

Council Agenda Item #6: Liquor License Hearing for Northern Maine Brewing LLC

7:03 p.m. Public Hearing opened.

Patrick Bennett - member of the applicant Northern Maine Brewing Company LLC – stated he was available to answer any questions.

Other members of the company attending: Christopher Bell, Richard Solman, and Spenser Ouellette.

No questions. The Council extended their well wishes to the owners.

7:05 p.m. Public Hearing closed.

Motion made by P. McDonough, seconded by D. Martin, to approve the liquor license and Special Amusement Permit for Northern Maine Brewing, LLC. (5 yes) So voted.

Council Agenda Item #7: Personnel Policy Change

7:07 p.m. Public Hearing opened.

No public input.

7:08 p.m. Public Hearing closed.

Motion made by P. McDonough, seconded by J. Theriault, to adopt Ordinance No. 3, 2016 Series An Ordinance amending Chapter 2 Administration, Short Title: An ordinance modifying sick and vacation buyouts striking out Section 2: Chapter 2. (5 yes) So voted.

Council Agenda Item #8: Grange Street Parking

Councilor McDonough introduced Ordinance No. 4, 2016 Series An Ordinance amending Chapter 12 Traffic, Short Title: An ordinance amending street parking restrictions.

Public Hearing was set for the March 14, 2016 Council meeting.

Council Agenda Item #9: Approval of Tax Anticipation Note Request

Motion made by D. Martin, seconded by P. McDonough, to authorize Resolution 2016-1 A Resolution Authorizing Municipal Officials to Utilize a Tax Anticipation Note Pursuant to 30-A MRSA §5771. (5 yes) So voted.

Council Agenda Item #10: Replacing Fire Engine #2:

The City received two bids with the lower of the two bids coming from Ferrara with a price of \$312,946. Staff is recommending the acceptance of this bid. It will take 240 days for the new engine to be built. Following this purchase the balance of the Truck Replacement Account will be \$27,188.

Motion made by S. McDougall, seconded by P. McDonough, to approve the replacement of Engine #2 and to accept staff's recommendation. (5 yes) So voted.

Council Agenda Item #11: DOT Overweight Vehicle Permit

Motion made by P. McDonough, seconded by S. McDougall, to approve the requested over limit permit for Maine Department of Transportation (MDOT) Project No. 022592.00. (5 yes) So voted.

Council Agenda Item #12: 2016 Revenue Budget

The Council questions were answered by Manager Bless. Councilor Martin proposed that nonresident fees for use of the Library and Recreation to be set at the City's per capita cost plus additional 10%. Manager Bless commented that it might be easier to look at household versus the per capita. "Whatever is reasonable plus 10%" was Councilor Martin's response. Manager Bless will prepare something for March.

Motion made by P. McDonough, seconded by D. Martin, to adopt the 2016 Revenue Budget as presented. (5 yes) So voted.

Council Agenda Item #13: Other Business

- a) Motion made by P. McDonough, seconded by S. McDougall, to approve the Administrative Plan for the Housing Choice Voucher Program for Caribou Housing as presented. (5 yes) So voted.
- b) Councilor Martin would like to see the Fire & Ambulance department budgets separated.
Discussion.
Council consensus: To add the City's monthly financials to the website.
- c) 150 have registered to run the Caribou Marathon. Two larger sponsors are Cary Medical Center and Pines Health Services. The total cost of the marathon will be between \$50,000 and \$60,000.
- d) The revenue from the selling of parking lots has gone into the Parking Lot Reserve Account.
- e) The \$19,000 received from Caribou Housing has been put into the Municipal Building Reserve Account.
- f) The quarterly investment statements were added to the September 2015 and December 2015 City Financial Reports.
- g) A joint Council and Economic Growth Council meeting was scheduled for February 22, 2015 at 6:00 p.m.
- h) On April 7th, MMA is holding a training on the roles of elected officials in Presque Isle from 4:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

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Council Agenda item #14: Executive Session pursuant to 1 MRSA §405(6)(D) to discuss union negotiations with Teamsters Local Union No. 340 and New England Police Benevolent Association Local 605.

7:41 p.m. Time in. Motion made by P. McDonough, seconded by T. Guerrette, to move to executive session pursuant to 1 MRSA §405(6)(D) with Manager Bleess and Assistant Manager Chandler to discuss union negotiations with Teamsters Local Union No. 340 and New England Police Benevolent Association Local 605. (5 yes) So voted.

9:33 p.m. Time out. Motion made by S. McDougall, seconded by D. Martin to move out of executive session. (5 yes) So voted.

Motion made by S. McDougall, seconded by D. Martin, to approve the changes as discussed in executive session and if ratified by the unions to allow the City Manager to sign the contracts for both the fire and police unions. (4 yes, 1 no, P. McDonough) So voted.

Motion made by T. Guerrette, seconded by J. Theriault, to adjourn the meeting at 9:34 p.m. (5 yes) So voted.

Upcoming Meeting Dates:

Regular City Council Meeting March 14, 2016 at 6:00 p.m.

Regular City Council Meeting March 28, 2016 at 6:00 p.m.

Jayne R. Farrin, Secretary