November 1, 2016

A workshop meeting of the Caribou City Council was held 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, November 1, 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 Guerrette.

Austin Bleess, City Manager.

Department Manager: Gary Marquis, Supt. of Parks and Recreation; Scott Susi, Fire Chief; Lisa Plourde, Caribou Housing Executive Director; and Michael Gahagan, Police Chief.

Nylander Board: Richard Clark, Kimber Noyes, Gail Hagelstein, and Nelson Ketch.

<u>Item #1:</u> Discussion on 2017 Budget

Following Council direction to revise the CIP budget for the out years, a few departments have added more information. Also the City has received the 2017 health insurance rates which are increasing by 8.17% and the Tri-Community Landfill bill which is estimated to stay the same for 2017.

Discussion points:

- What is a Capital Improvement versus a maintenance item?
- Replacement of the City's fleet vehicles
- Trio upgrade – server replacement
- Paving City Office parking lot
- City Office boiler replacement
- Tax Assessment Reserve
- Library Memorial Funds cannot be used to replace windows
- Library Trustee Gail Hagelstein informed the Council that there is a hole in the wall in the Caribou Room and at times flooding occurs. Dave Ouellette stated that the roof drains are the cause for the water. On occasion water is running in the area of an electrical panel. Council Consensus: to move window replacement to 2018 so the water/drainage issue can be addressed in 2017.
- Library boiler replacement
- Insurance companies do not consider pellet boilers or heat pumps as a primary source of heat.
- Match money for Homeland Security grants are budgeted in the Police CIP. Council suggested the establishment of a grant funding account so grants matches can be tracked.
- Streetlights – Currently there are approximately 520 streetlights. Councilor Martin doesn't support adding any additional streetlights and would support turning off more. When Caribou changes to LED streetlights, the costs should go from $10,000 to $2,000 a month.
- Regionalization for animal control, code enforcement and, assessing is being discussed with surrounding communities.
- Councilor McDougall praised Dave Ouellette's utilization of the DMRO Program.
- High Street is on the MDOT docket for 2018-2019.
- The City has 12 miles of roads within urban compact zone.
- Discussion about the life remaining in the airport plowing equipment.

November 1, 2016

- Recreation Department has a goal to build a splash pad when the new park is built.
- There are about 30 trees in Teague Park that were planted in 2009 when the City celebrated its sesquicentennial. There will be an expense to save and move those trees to a new Teague Park.
- Discussion as to whether a five year CIP goes out far enough.
- Councilor Martin suggest putting $35,000 into wage adjustments for next year with the goal of being at 100% in three years. Councilors Smith, McDougall, and Theriault agree with that. Plus leaving in the 3.5% wage increase.
- Councilor Theriault wonders if the City should bring everyone to 100% and not give the 3.5%.
- Discussion about a mil rate increase.
- Councilor McDonough is in favor of bringing everyone up to 100% right now.
- After additional discussion, Council Consensus: To bring everyone to 100% on the Wage & Classification.
- Councilors Martin and Theriault stated that they would be willing to accept a mil increase, which is approximately $384,000. Councilor Smith will not commit to a mil increase.
- Councilor Theriault doesn't support funding the Chamber.
- Next Workshop to be held November 9, 2016 with the time TBD.

Public Hearing is scheduled for November 14, 2016.

Motion made by P. McDonough, seconded T. Guerrette, to adjourn the workshop adjourned at 8:15 p.m. (6 yes) So voted.

Upcoming Meeting Dates:

Regular City Council Meeting Monday, November 14, 2016 at 6:00 p.m.
Regular City Council Meeting Monday, November 28, 2016 at 6:00 p.m.

Jayne R. Farrin, Secretary