

April 30, 2018

18-09 Wksp.

Item #1: Call to Order

A Workshop meeting of the Caribou City Council was held 6:00 p.m. on Monday, April 30, 2018 in Council Chamber with the following members present: Mayor David Martin, Deputy Mayor Nicole L. Cote, Joan L. Theriault, Timothy Guerrette, R. Mark Goughan, and Hugh A. Kirkpatrick. Philip McDonough II was absent and excused.

Dennis L. Marker City Manager.

Department Managers and Staff: Gary Marquis, Supt. of Parks & Recreation; Dave Ouellette, Public Works Director; and Michael Gahagan, Police Chief.

Spectrum covered the meeting.

Public Input: There wasn't any public input.

Item #2: Discussion Regarding Municipal Relationship to Caribou Hospital District

The City Manager reviewed a PowerPoint presentation on the development of a hospital in the Caribou.

- In 1912, Dr. Jefferson Cary passed away and in his will he provided monies for the establishment of a hospital.
- The establishment of a Board of Managers with three members.
- In 1923, the City voted to build a hospital and it was completed in 1924.
- The establishment of a hospital board to manager the hospital and they are appointed by City Council.
- In 1953, the Cary Hospital District was created and their three trustees are appointed by the City Council. The District cannot be dissolved as long as the hospital has debt.
- In 1975, the District was given the power to tax. The property on the Van Buren road was purchased.
- The Jefferson Cary Foundation 501(C)(3) is separate and is a fundraising group for capital projects.

Questions have been coming to the City Manager asking if the hospital is still a city hospital and if so, shouldn't they be functioning as a public body by having advertised meetings that are open to the public. Manager Marker stated that the short answer is "yes" they should be advertising appropriately according to state law and they should be open to the public. He further stated that the hospital district should be operating as an open public entity. Councilor Goughan noted that the City does have control through the appointment of individuals to the Hospital District and Cary Medical Board. Discussion. Councilor Kirkpatrick reminded the Council, how the prior City Council removed Tri-Community Landfill Board members. The City Manager offered to forward to the Council the Cary Board monthly packet that he receives as an ex-officio member. Councilor Goughan was surprised to learn that the Hospital District has the power of taxation. Councilor Kirkpatrick has more questions that need to be answered by the Hospital District.

The Mayor stated that the whole Council need to decide which projects the City Manager is to work on.

Item #3: Personnel Compensation Policy

The Council and City Manager discussed the draft Wages and Salaries Program. The City Manager offered that wages is only one element of a complete benefit package. Other items include years of service awards or an occasional bonus.

Discussion:

- Longevity and merit pay
- How to select communities to use for the tool
  - Population only
  - Should municipal valuation be considered
  - Should the distance from Caribou be considered
- Include Houlton and Presque Isle
- How many communities do we need to compare to
- How do evaluations fit in
- Suggested a wage and salaries tool for all of Aroostook County would be a great idea
- Find out how other communities handle wage and salaries

Council Consensus: Keep steps (longevity)

Mayor requested that this topic be added to the May 14<sup>th</sup> agenda.

Item #4: Update on Public Safety Facilities Citizens Advisory Committee

The Manager reviewed what the Citizens' Advisory Committee (CAC) have been discussing. The Committee hasn't started to look at dollar amounts. They are considering six options.

Option 0 – maintaining existing facilities

Option 1 - renovate the Police Station and maintain the Fire Station

Option 2 – building a brand new Police Station and leave the Fire Station where it is and just maintain it

Option 3 – building a brand new Police Station and expand the current Fire Station

Option 4 – to expand the Fire State to accommodate the Police

Option 5 – building a brand new combined Police and Fire Station

The sites being looked at are the Birdseye property, Mecon building at 60 Access Highway, hospital own property, National Guard building on York Street, Pines Health building, land near Public Works and Airport, and Learning Center.

Next meeting of the CAC is scheduled for May 9<sup>th</sup>.

Discussion: Potential uses for the Birdseye property and there are 20 year government strings attached to \$100,000 grant the City has been awarded from Northern Border Regional Commission (NBRC).

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Item #5: Other Discussion Items by Mayor and Council Members

RSU 39 New School – The Supt. of Schools will let Supt. Marquis know by this Wednesday as to whether the Recreation Department can use Teague Park or not. The building of the new school could be delayed for a year. Only one construction company bid on building the new school. It is expected that negotiations will take place with Bowman Construction in an effort to lower the overall price.

River Road – The City Manager shared pictures showing the damage that has occurred. The impact area is 1800' to ½ mile in length. Both Maine Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) and the Governor's Office are aware of the situation. There are four homeowners that are in the impacted area. PW Director Ouellette stated that the road will not be fixed this year. Mr. Ouellette stated that he would not place a loaded city truck on this section of the River Road.

Aroostook Council is working on a Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) application for disaster relief funding.

Item #6: Next Council Meeting – May 14, 2018

Item #7: Adjournment

The workshop adjourned at 8:13 p.m.

Jayne R. Farrin, Secretary