

Council Agenda Item #1: Roll Call

The Caribou City Council held a special meeting Monday, November 26, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. in Council Chambers with the following members present: Mayor David Martin, Deputy Mayor Nicole L. Cote, Philip McDonough II, Joan L. Theriault, Timothy C. Guerrette, R. Mark Goughan and Hugh A. Kirkpatrick.

Dennis L. Marker, City Manager was present.

Department Managers and Staff: Penny Thompson, Tax Assessor; Gary Marquis, Supt. of Parks & Recreation; Christina Kane-Gibson, Events and Marketing Director; and Scott Susi, Fire Chief.

Council Candidate: Thomas Ayer, Councilor-elect

Melissa Lizotte of the Aroostook Republican, Spectrum, and YouTube covered the meeting.

Council Agenda Item #2: Pledge of Allegiance

The Mayor led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Council Agenda Item #3: Public Input

There wasn't any public input.

Council Agenda Item #4: Declaration of Potential Conflicts of Interest

None of the Councilors declared any Conflicts of Interest.

Council Agenda Item #5: Consent Agenda

There weren't any consent agenda items.

Council Agenda Item #6: Bid Openings, Awards, and Appointments

a. Recognition of Christina Kane-Gibson, MaineBiz Next 2018

MaineBiz, in their October 1, 2018 edition, announced their "2018 Next List". This list honors business people who are changing Maine economy for the better. Caribou's own Director of Events and Marketing Christina Kane-Gibson was one of eleven recognized by the publication.

Ms. Kane-Gibson extended her thanks to the Council for their support.

Council Agenda Item #7: Formal Public Hearings

There weren't any public hearings.

Council Agenda Item #8: New Business & Adoption of Ordinances and Resolutions

a. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding River Road Reconstruction options

Project Manager Shane McDougall of DuBois & King, attended the meeting to review the City's options to repair the River Road and to answer questions from the Council.

- Groundwater appears to be the underlying cause for the failure that occurred. A great deal of water comes off the hill and the road doesn't have any drainage.
- The feasibility study done by DuBois & King's analyses four repair alternatives.
- If the go ahead is given soon, Dubois & King could have the bid materials ready as early as March or April. If this is something the Council wants, it would be

necessary to have additional survey work done before winter sets in. Depending on the alternative chosen, it is estimated that it would take a contractor between 60 and 90 days to complete the project.

- The Mayor stated that he wants to see what happens to the road in the spring.
- Discussion among the Councilors as to which alternative was their preference and why. Discussion centered on alternatives one and two. Discussion as to whether if any of the four properties could be resold. Further discussion about the need to obtain easements from the owner of the property on the river side of the road.
- The engineer recommends Alternative 2.
- Councilor Goughan expressed his concern that the City will see a 1-1/2 mil increase in 2019. Because of the expense, he wants to make sure all options are looked at. As a 50 year resident of the River Road, Councilor Theriault stated that there are a lot of problems along the road.
- The engineer stated that he has concerns about people driving along this area in the spring.
- Discussion.

Motion made by J. Theriault, seconded by T. Guerrette, for the City to move forward with Option (Alternative) 2. (4 yes, J. Theriault, T. Guerrette, D. Martin, N. Cote, 3 no, RM Goughan, H. Kirkpatrick, P. McDonough) So voted.

Motion made by J. Theriault, seconded by T. Guerrette, to have City Manager and Shane McDougall of DuBois & King revise the scope of work in a contract and then for it to come back to the Council before any design work is started. (4 yes, J. Theriault, T. Guerrette, D. Martin, N. Cote, 3 no, RM Goughan, H. Kirkpatrick, P. McDonough) So voted.

- b. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding An Agreement with Wade for Provision of Ambulance Services

Motion made by P. McDonough, second by T. Guerrette, to approve the Ambulance Coverage Interlocal Cooperation agreement with the town of Wade as presented. (7 yes) So voted.

Council Agenda Item #9: Reports and Discussion by Mayor and Council Members

- a. 2019 Budget Discussion:

Per Caribou's Charter, the Budget must be adopted by December 15th. The next regular Council meeting is scheduled for December 10th.

The Manager and Department Managers have met and discussed where to cut to meet the Council's target. Another \$33,000 needs to be cut to achieve the target. Most of the proposed cuts are coming from the CIP.

Discussion about the proposed Senior Tax Credit program.

Motion made by P. McDonough, seconded by J. Theriault, to delay the implantation of the Senior Tax Credit program until 2020. (6 yes, 1 no, D. Martin) So voted.

Councilor Kirkpatrick has shared through email, his thoughts on where to cut the budget.

- b. Grooming of Snowmobile Trails:

Winter snow has come early this year. Supt. Marquis expressed his interest in grooming snowmobile trails earlier than normal and open trails into the City's local businesses.

Motion made by T. Guerrette, seconded by J. Theriault, to authorize the early grooming of the City's snowmobile trails. (7 yes) So voted.

a. 2019 Budget Discussion (continued)

Councilor Kirkpatrick has shared an email discussing four budget items. One of the items is not to purchase streetlights. Discussion. The Council was reminded that once the 2019 Budget is adopted that the total expense amount cannot be increased. Another item from the email concerns the front-end loader purchase requested by Public Works. The PW Director would rather defer the purchasing of a 15-foot batwing mower at a cost \$24,000 than deferring the purchase of a 3-1/2 yd. loader.

Councilor Goughan commented that he would like the Council to discuss their philosophy regarding a mil plus increase of the City's budget.

Discussion about using the City's unexpended reserve (Undesignated Fund Balance) to reduce the 2019 Budget. For each of the past two years, the City's has been able to roll approximately \$450,000 into the Undesignated Fund Balance. It isn't expected that the amount rolling into the Undesignated Fund Balance at the end of 2018 will not be as large.

Zero-based budgeting is supported by Councilor Goughan, he wonders through this process if the City could deliver the same or better services for less money.

c. Bi-weekly Payroll

Motion made by P. McDonough, seconded by J. Theriault, to defer the two-week pay program until the 2020 Budget year. (6 yes, 1 no, H. Kirkpatrick) So voted.

Council Agenda Item #10: Reports of Officers, Staff, Boards and Committees

There weren't any reports from Officers, Staff, Boards, or Committees.

Council Agenda Item #11: Executive Session (May be called to discuss matters identified under Maine Revised Statutes, Title 1, §405(6))

There weren't any executive sessions held.

Council Agenda Item #12: Next Meeting: December 10th

Council Agenda Item #13: Adjournment

Motion made by T. Guerrette, seconded by J. Theriault, to adjourn at 7:25 p.m. (7 yes) So voted.

Jayne R. Farrin, Secretary