

Council Agenda Item #1: Roll Call

The Caribou City Council held a regular meeting Tuesday May 28, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. in Council Chambers with the following members present: Deputy Mayor Jody R. Smith, David Martin, Joan Theriault, Hugh Kirkpatrick, and Thomas Ayer. Mayor R. Mark Goughan and Nicole L. Cote were absent and excused.

Dennis L. Marker, City Manager was present.

Department Managers and Staff: Penny Thompson (Tax Assessor), Kenneth G. Murchison (Zoning Administrator), Michael Gahagan (Police Chief), Gary Marquis (Supt. of Parks & Recreation), Erin Albers (Children's Librarian), and Hope Shafer (Library Director).

Christopher Bouchard for the Aroostook Republican, Spectrum, and YouTube covered the meeting.

Council Agenda Item #2: Pledge of Allegiance

The Deputy Mayor led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Council Agenda Item #3: Public Forum

No public input.

Council Agenda Item #4: Minutes

- a. Council Workshop held May 13, 2019

Motion made by J. Smith, seconded by H. Kirkpatrick, to approve the minutes from the May 13, 2019 Council Workshop as presented. (5 yes) So voted.

- b. Regular Council Meeting held May 13, 2019

Motion made by J. Theriault, seconded by D. Martin, to approve the minutes from the May 13, 2019 Regular Council Meeting as presented. (5 yes) So voted.

Council Agenda Item #5: Bid Openings, Awards, and Appointments

- a. Richard Schueller Memorial Award

Children's Librarian Erin Albers was introduced by Library Director Shafer. Ms. Albers explained that the Caribou Public Library has received a Richard Schueller Memorial Telescope from Cornerstones of Science as part of its Library Telescope Program. This is only the 2nd one that has been awarded. It is a 4-1/2" table top reflecting (Newtonian) telescope.

- b. Appointment to the Citizen's Rural/Urban Renewal Committee

Motion made by H. Kirkpatrick, seconded by T. Ayers, to appoint Jessica Plourde to the Citizen's Rural/Urban Renewal Committee. (5 yes) So voted.

- c. Appointment of Election Warden(s) for June 11, 2019 election

Motion made by H. Kirkpatrick, seconded by T. Ayers, to appoint Jayne R. Farrin Election Warden and Danielle M. McLaughlin as Deputy Election Warden for the June 11, 2019 Election. (5 yes) So voted.

Council Agenda Item #6: Public Hearings and Possible Action Items

There weren't any Public Hearings.

Council Agenda Item #7: New Business

- a. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding June 11, 2019 Election Warrant and Notice.

Motion made by H. Kirkpatrick, seconded by J. Theriault, to countersign Warrant and Notice of Election for the RSU 39 Budget Validation Referendum and to set 8:00 a.m. as the opening time for the polls. (5 yes) So voted.

- b. Discussion regarding RSU 39 Budget for 2019-2020

Supt of Schools Tim Doak and Business Manager Mark Bouchard attended to review RSU 39's 2019-2020 Proposed Budget.

- Transition year with the withdrawal of Limestone, loss of MSSM revenue and the building of the Caribou Community School
- Debt Service – total payments FY 19-20: \$3,497,402
- Student Population – 2019-2020 1,263 which 104.5 less from previous year – Limestone's 8th class – 9 will attend Caribou and 2 will attend Fort Fairfield
- Teachers' retirement is shared 50-50 between the State and the RSU. At one time the State paid all of the teachers' retirement.
- Items that were removed from the proposed budget were reviewed
- Future Capital Project needs: Underground fuel storage tank, CHS paving, and track at CHS.
- Included in 2019-2020 Budget: salary and health insurance increases (per collection agreements), property & casualty insurance, worker's compensation, roof renovation for CPAC, LED conversion at CHS, abate & replace floor tiles near library at CHS, and travel van.
- Outside revenues total \$4,622,220.
- \$19,725,588 Total Budget. Increase of \$739,111 with a mil rate 10.1 for education.
- Tax increase for Caribou is \$187,791.

Councilors' questions were answered. Discussion.

- The new school will cost \$53 million with the local share being only \$2.5 million.
- The City of Caribou will end up with a new park.
- The RSU will be holding a "Beam Signing" event for the last beam that will be placed into the new building.
- Next fall, approximately 52 students from Limestone will be attending the RSU.

- c. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Sale of Tax Acquired Properties

Motion made by J. Theriault, seconded by H. Kirkpatrick, to sell the properties identified as Map 3 Lot 21 and Map 3 Lot 23 to the former owner for the amount of \$2,562.84 which is the amount due for all past due taxes including an estimated amount for 2019. (5 yes) So voted.

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

a. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding River Road Properties Disposal

Manager Marker outlines three methods the City could use to salvage all, or portion of the River Road properties now owned by the City.

1. Sell Buildings
2. Bid for Salvage
3. Retain Buildings

He recommends #3 Retain Buildings, as it will avoid potential liabilities and administrative time loss.

Motion made by J. Theriault, seconded by D. Martin, to accept the Manager's recommendation of retaining the buildings – Option 3. (3 yes, J. Theriault, D. Martin, J. Smith, 2 no, H. Kirkpatrick, T. Ayer) Motion failed.

Motion made by T. Ayer, seconded by H. Kirkpatrick, to table until the June 10th Council meeting. (2 yes, H. Kirkpatrick, T. Ayer, 3 no, J. Theriault, D. Martin, J. Smith) Motion failed.

b. Resolution 05-02-2019 Recognizing June as Men's Health Month

Motion made by T. Ayer, seconded by H. Kirkpatrick, to adopt Resolution 05-02-2019 Recognizing June as Men's Health Month. (5 yes) So voted.

Council Agenda Item #9: City Manager's Report

- High Street - Work has started on High Street
- LED - The City has received a revised quote of \$9,900 from Emera concerning the City's cost to purchase the current lights. The City had been previously quoted \$13,442.
- CDBG - The application for Porvair Filtration Group for \$180,000 has been submitted. Award notices will be made in July
- Birdseye Cleanup – The EPA grant awards will be sent out in June
- 60 Access Highway – The hired appraiser has been to Caribou and met with Tax Assessor and Zoning Administrator.
- Mil Rate Calculation – It is projected that the mil rate will increase.
- Sincock Park Design – Supt. Marquis reviewed the proposed design of a dog park for the new park to be located on the site of the former Sincock School. Councilor questions were answered.
- High School Prom – The Manager extended praise to those involved in the putting on the High School Prom that was held this past weekend at the Wellness Center.

Council Agenda Item #10: Reports and Discussion by Mayor and Council Members

There was a brief discussion concerning retaining walls located on North Main Street and their ownership.

Council Agenda Item #11: Reports of Officers, Staff, Boards and Committees

The City Clerk reminded the public that the Clerk's Office will be available to register people to vote at the May 29th 6:00 p.m. RSU 39 Budget Meeting.

Supt. Marquis noted that several of the City's properties have been infested with grubs and he is working towards correctly this.

Council Agenda Item #12: Executive Session (May be called to discuss matters identified under Maine Revised Statutes, Title 1, §405(6))

a. §405(6)(D) Union contract negotiations

7:42 p.m. Motion made by T. Ayer, seconded by J. Theriault, to move into executive session under MRSA Title 1 §405(6)(D) with Chief Gahagan to discuss union contract negotiations. (5 yes) So voted.

8:47 p.m. Returned from Executive Session.

No action was taken.

b. §405(6)(E) Pending Litigation

8:47 p.m. Motion made by H. Kirkpatrick, seconded by T. Ayer, to move into executive session under MRSA Title 1 §405(6)(E) to discuss pending litigation. (5 yes) So voted.

9:01 p.m. Returned from Executive Session.

No action was taken.

A brief discussion took place regarding remote participation in meetings via phone or electronic means. A bill is being considered at the legislature which would permit cities to allow for such participation. The Council indicated that they would be comfortable allowing remote participation in discussions but anyone not physically present in the meeting should not be able to vote.

Council Agenda Item #13: Next Meetings(s): June 10

Council Agenda Item #14: Adjournment

Motion made by T. Ayer, seconded by D. Martin, to adjourn the meeting at 9:05 p.m. (5 yes) So voted.

Jayne R. Farrin, Secretary