

Council Agenda Item #1: Roll Call

The Caribou City Council held a regular meeting Monday, December 9, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. in Council Chambers with the following members present: Mayor R. Mark Goughan, Deputy Mayor Jody R. Smith, David Martin, Joan Theriault, Nicole Cote, Hugh Kirkpatrick, and Thomas Ayer.

Dennis L. Marker, City Manager was present.

Douglas C. Morrell, Councilor-elect was present.

Department Managers and Staff: Kenneth G. Murchison (Zoning Administrator), Scott Susi (Fire Chief), Hope Shafer (Library Director), David Ouellette (Public Works Director), Christina Kane-Gibson (Events and Marketing Director), and Gary Marquis (Supt. of Parks and Recreation).

Christopher Bouchard of the Aroostook Republican and YouTube covered the meeting.

Council Agenda Item #2: Pledge of Allegiance

The Mayor led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Council Agenda Item #3: Public Forum

No public input.

Council Agenda Item #4: City Council Minutes

a. November 25, 2019 Regular Council Meeting

Motion made by J. Theriault, seconded by J. Smith, to approve the November 25, 2019 City Council minutes as presented. (7 yes) So voted.

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

a. Recognition of Planning Board Members: Phil Cyr, Phil McDonough III, Todd Pelletier

After serving several years on the Planning Board, Phil Cyr, Phil McDonough III, and Todd Pelletier are retiring from the board.

The Mayor commented on the importance of the Planning Board to the City and that they receive very little recognition and gratitude for their efforts. The Mayor suggested to Phil Cyr that he take a year off and then come back. Mr. Cyr commented that it is a team effort that involves city staff, with work that just goes on and on. On behalf of the City, Mr. Cyr was given a Certificate of Appreciation by the Mayor.

Phil McDonough III and Todd Pelletier were unable to attend.

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

There weren't any public hearings.

Council Agenda Item #7: New Business

a. Liquor License Renewal for the American Legion Located at 67 Sweden Street

Motion made by H. Kirkpatrick, seconded by T. Ayer, to approve a liquor license renewal for the American Legion located at 67 Sweden Street. (7 yes) So voted.

- b. Accepting of Bid for Tax Acquired Property Located at 7 Washington Street, Map 28 Lot 48

Motion made by D. Martin, seconded by J. Smith, to accept a bid amount of \$17,700 from Edward Mierzwa for 7 Washington Street, Map 28 Lot 48. (7 yes) So voted.

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

- a. Discussion regarding Drafted 2020 Municipal Budget

On November 12, the draft 2020 Municipal Budget prepared by City Administration was presented to the City Council. The Council held a 2020 Municipal Budget Workshop on the 18<sup>th</sup> of November.

The Mayor summarized the events and discussion leading to the proposed draft 2020 Municipal Budget. Previous Council direction: No mil increase on the City portion of the 2020 Budget, no increase in Capital expenses, and no use of one time funds. On the 25<sup>th</sup> of November, the City Manager presented a draft 2020 Municipal Budget utilizing their direction. The Council didn't adopt the presented Budget as they wanted to discuss it further. On the 25<sup>th</sup>, the Mayor had asked Councilors to provide suggested amendments to the draft 2020 Municipal Budget.

Motion made by D. Martin, seconded by H. Kirkpatrick, to add \$4,600 to the 2020 Municipal Budget for the Aroostook Area Agency on Aging (6 yes, 1 no, J. Theriault) So voted.

Motion made by D. Martin, seconded by Mayor Goughan, to add \$50,000 to the 2020 Municipal Budget for the establishment of a Senior Tax Credit Program. (3 yes, D. Martin, RM Goughan, N. Cote, 4 no, T. Ayer, H. Kirkpatrick, J. Smith, J. Theriault) Motion failed.

Motion made by Mayor Goughan, seconded by J. Smith, to reduce the 2020 Airport Budget by \$8,000, the stipend paid to the Public Works Director David Ouellette for additional services rendered at the airport. (4 yes, RM Goughan, H. Kirkpatrick, T. Ayer, J. Smith, 3 no, J. Theriault, D. Martin, N. Cote) So voted.

Motion made by J. Theriault, seconded by D. Martin, to add \$60,000 to the 2020 Capital Road Account-River Road. (5 yes, J. Theriault, D. Martin, N. Cote, H. Kirkpatrick, T. Ayer, 2 no, RM Goughan, J. Smith) So voted.

Motion made by J. Theriault, seconded by H. Kirkpatrick, to add \$6,000 to the 2020 Municipal Budget for the Nylander Museum to be used for part-time staffing. (5 yes, J. Theriault, D. Martin, J. Smith, H. Kirkpatrick, N. Cote, 2 no, RM Goughan, T. Ayer) So voted.

Motion made by J. Smith, seconded by D. Martin, to add \$400 donation to the TIF Economic funds for the Central Aroostook Chamber of Commerce. (7 yes) So voted.

The voted changes increase the Draft 2020 Municipal Budget by \$63,000.

Manager Marker noted that the 2020 Street Light Budget can be reduced by \$10,000 resulting in a total increase of \$53,000 to the draft 2020 Municipal Budget.

The Manager commented that there are items to be discussed later in executive session that could impact the draft 2020 Municipal Budget and recommended that the vote on the budget to be held following the executive session.

Motion made by T. Ayer, seconded by H. Kirkpatrick, to table action on the draft 2020 Municipal Budget with the voted amendments until the evening's executive sessions are held. (7 yes) So voted.

b. Discussion regarding Urban and Rural Blight Remediation

On April 22, 2019, Mayor Goughan created and selected members to serve on a Citizens Advisory Board for Residential Rural/Urban Renewal. The Mayor selected James Cerrato, Timothy Ring, Karen Rockwell Ouellette, and Paul Camping (who served as Chair) with Jessica Plourde added to the Board on May 28<sup>th</sup>. Since his appointment, James Cerrato left the board for personal reasons.

Attending the meeting were several members of the board. Chair Camping introduced the members of the committee, outlined the formation of the board and their directive, and presented the Council with the Board's twenty-one page report plus four appendices on blight and land banking. Board member Jessica Plourde served as spokesperson. Ms. Plourde reviewed the reasons to address blight, defined blight, noted that status quo isn't an option, and gave an overview of the Board's recommendations.

The Mayor and Councilors praised and thanked Board members for their work. After the first of the year, the Mayor plans to hold a Workshop and get started on this.

Chair Camping introduced Caribou resident David Wakem, who has experienced the effects of blight in his Reservoir Street neighborhood and other areas of Caribou. Mr. Wakem hopes the Council is serious and takes a good look at blight and its effects in Caribou.

c. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Airport Lease to Civil Air Patrol

The Council Airport Committee has met and they are recommending a one year \$300 lease with the Civil Air Patrol for use of the airport facilities.

Motion made by H. Kirkpatrick, seconded by J. Theriault, to authorize the City Manager to sign a one year \$300 lease with the Civil Air Patrol for use of the airport facilities. (7 yes) So voted.

d. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Contracts for Providing Ambulance Billing Services to Calais, and Patten

Motion made by H. Kirkpatrick, seconded by T. Ayer, to table action on the proposed contracts for providing ambulance billing services to Calais, and Patten. (7 yes) So voted.

e. Award of Architectural Services Related to a New Police Station

Motion made by J. Theriault, seconded by N. Cote, to authorize the City Manager to sign a \$41,520 contract for architectural services as related to a new Police Station with Artifex. (4 yes, J. Theriault, D. Martin, N. Cote, T. Ayer, 3 no, J. Smith, H. Kirkpatrick, RM Goughan) So voted.

f. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding City Manager's Employment Contract

This will be discussed later in the evening during Executive Session.

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

There weren't any reports.

Council Agenda Item #10: City Manager's Report

Manager Marker reviewed his City Manager's Report dated December 5, 2019.

Events and Marketing Director provided an update on the holiday events organized and sponsored through them.

Library Director provided on an update on the holiday events being held at the Library.

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

The City Clerk noted that approximately 200 Tax Club booklets are nearly ready to be mailed out, dog licenses are due, and volunteers are needed for the various boards and Citizen Board applications are available in the Clerk's Office.

The December 23<sup>rd</sup> Council Meeting was canceled.

Councilor Martin was recognized for serving on Council from 2007 to 2019. Mayor Goughan praised Councilor Martin for staying true to his philosophy and beliefs. He was presented a gift of a clock for all his "time" spent on the Council. Members of the Council donated money to purchase a \$100 gift certificate for Mr. Martin's wife.

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

- a. Contractual Negotiations, Economic Development and Real Estate under §405(6)(C)
  - i. 30 Access Highway
  - ii. Utilization of Airport Lands for Solar Power Generation
  - iii. Discussion Regarding Contracts for Providing Fire and EMS Services to outside Communities

7:53 p.m. Motion made by T Ayer, seconded by J. Smith, to enter into executive session with Fire Chief Scott Susi and Councilor-Elect Douglas C. Morrell to discuss contractual negotiations under Title 1, §405(6)(C). (7 yes) So voted.

9:19 p.m. Council returned from executive session.

No action taken.

- b. Collective Bargaining Agreement with the Police Department and Public Works Unions under §405(6)(D)

9:19 p.m. Motion made by T. Ayer, seconded by H. Kirkpatrick, to enter into executive session to discuss collective bargaining agreements with the police and public works unions under Title 1, §405(6)(D). (7 yes) So voted.

9:33 p.m. Council returned from executive session.

No action taken.

- c. Consideration of City Manager's employment

9:33 p.m. Motion made by T. Ayer, seconded by J. Smith, to enter into executive session to discuss personnel matters pertaining to the City Manager's contract under Title 1, 405(6)(A). (7 yes) So voted.

10:12 p.m. Council returned from executive session.

Motion made by H. Kirkpatrick, seconded by J. Theriault, to adopt the 2020 Municipal Budget as amended by the Council earlier in the meeting. (7 yes) So voted.

Motion made by D. Martin, seconded by J. Theriault, to extend the City Manager's contract.

Councilor Kirkpatrick asked for clarification on the date when the contract automatically renews. Manager Marker stated it was January 4, 2020 and would extend the contract for 2 years. Councilor Kirkpatrick expressed that he felt the sitting Council should take action on this motion during their January 2, Organizational Meeting. Mayor Goughan agreed and noted that he doesn't have concern extending the contract, but would like to have an executive session on the next agenda before the Council takes action. Mayor Goughan called for a vote.

(3 yes, D. Martin, J. Theriault, N. Cote, 4 no, J. Smith, RM Goughan, H. Kirkpatrick, T. Ayer) Motion failed.

Council Agenda Item #13: Next Meeting(s): January 2 (Organizational Meeting), January 13<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup>.

Council Agenda Item #14: Adjournment

Motion made by D. Martin, seconded by T. Ayer, to adjourn the meeting at 10:18 p.m. (7 yes) So voted.

Jayne R. Farrin, Secretary