

Council Agenda Item #1: Roll Call

The Caribou City Council held a regular meeting Monday, January 13, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. in Council Chambers with the following members present: Mayor R. Mark Goughan, Deputy Mayor Thomas Ayer, Joan L. Theriault, Nicole L. Cote, Hugh A. Kirkpatrick, and Douglas C. Morrell. Jody R. Smith was absent.

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 and Recreation), and Denise Lausier (Executive Assistant to the City Manager).

YouTube covered the meeting.

Council Agenda Item #2: Invocation / Inspirational Thought

Denise Lausier, Caribou employee and minister, gave the invocation.

Council Agenda Item #3: Pledge of Allegiance

The Mayor led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Council Agenda Item #4: Public Forum

The Mayor stated time for public comments is at the start of the meetings and once closed then public comments will cease.

- John Rasmussen – Selectboard Chair for the Town of Perham – spoke in opposition to the proposed rate increase from \$11.50 to \$100 per person for ambulance services. He noted that Perham’s town meeting is in March and requested an extension to March 31, 2020. He stated that it would be a 1.5 mil increase for Perham. He requested that the increase be broken up into smaller increments. Mr. Rasmussen disagreed with Council’s use of Title 1 §405(6)(C) to enter into executive session for their discussions on this topic.
- Wilfred Martin – Stated that Perham has the right to start their own ambulance.
- John DeVeau – Representative District 149 – he asked to partake in the executive session that will be held later in the meeting on this topic. He would like to see the Chief come in so they can go over the budget to see why it is \$2.6 to \$2.8 million range. He believes that there might be other avenues that would be more fair.
- John Hedman – Town of Perham – regarding Council Agenda Item #8.a, Mr. Hedman requested for “reasonableness”. He has legal questions concerning Perham and Caribou’s legal exposure after the January 31, 2020 deadline. Perham is more than willing to work with Caribou.
- Wilfred Martin – Noted that his comment may have been insulting to those living in other towns but living in outside communities has consequences. These communities need to pay at least, if not more, than Caribou pays for these services.

- Ellen Angel – Artifex Engineers regarding Police Station study – Ms. Angel noted that since 2012, public safety buildings have to meet a higher building standard, so this increases the cost. Artifex is going to do its very best to find the most reasonable way that provides everything that Caribou needs, the department needs, and what the Council is looking for. Starting Tuesday, Artifex will start the process of evaluating three potential sites for the Police Station:
 - Municipal Building
 - VMS
 - Sitel

Council Agenda Item #5: November Financial Report

Motion made by T. Ayer, seconded by J. Theriault, to accept the November 2019 financials as presented. (5 yes, 1 abstention, D. Morrell) So voted.

Mayor requested on the next agenda an explanation of how the City is going to introduce a new line item for 2020 called the Rainy Day Fund.

Council Agenda Item #6: City Council Minutes

- a. Regular Meeting Held December 9, 2019

Motion made by H. Kirkpatrick, seconded by J. Theriault, to accept the minutes of the December 9, 2019 meeting as presented. (5 yes, 1 abstention, D. Morrell) So voted.

- b. Organizational Meeting Held January 2, 2020

Motion made by D. Morrell, seconded by N. Cote, to accept the minutes of the January 2, 2020 meeting as presented. (6 yes) So voted.

Council Agenda Item #7: Bid Openings, Awards, and Appointments

- a. Recognition of Service – Residential / Urban Renewal Committee Members

Members of the Residential / Urban Renewal Committee were recognized and thanked for their hard work: Tim Ring, Jay Kamm, Karen Rockwell Ouellette, Jessica Plourde, and Chairman Paul Camping.

The Mayor noted that Caribou will be moving forward in implementing the committee's 5 step quick plan to address blight. Mr. Camping was in attendance and received his certificate.

- b. Recognition of Service – David Wakem, Hospital District

The Mayor recognized David Wakem for his many years of service on the Hospital District Board. Mr. Wakem wasn't in attendance and Paul Camping, who is also on the Hospital District Board, offered to give the City's framed certificate of appreciation to him.

- c. Appointment of Members to Community and Advisory Boards

- i. Nylander Museum Board of Trustees (3)

Motion made by D. Morrell, seconded by H. Kirkpatrick, to appoint Gail Hagelstein and Kimber Noyes to the Nylander Museum Board of Trustees for a three year term. (6 yes) So voted.

Motion made by J. Theriault, seconded by D. Morrell, to appoint Heather Hale to the Nylander Museum Board of Trustees for a one year term. (6 yes) So voted.

ii. Citizens Airport Advisory Committee (1)

Motion made by D. Morrell, seconded by H. Kirkpatrick, to appoint Tom Goetz to the Citizens Airport Advisory Committee for a three year term. (6 yes) So voted.

iii. Planning Board (2)

Motion made by T. Ayer, seconded by D. Morrell, to appoint David Corriveau for a three year term and Drew Ayer for a one year term to the Planning Board. (6 yes) So voted.

iv. Blight Commission

Facilitator: Dennis Marker

Members: John Swanberg, Ken Murchison, Phil Cyr, Penny Thompson, and Paul Camping

Goals: #1, to gain a consensus for developing a blight strategy with categories and definitions for each category, #2 assess nature and extent of the blight within the different categories, #3 develop strategies and priorities for the development of the categories through flowcharts of authority, flowcharts of financial, and flowcharts of problem solving, #4, review tools required to implement problem solving.

The Council wants the report by May 1, 2020.

Motion made by H. Kirkpatrick, seconded by T. Ayer, to appoint Dennis Marker, John Swanberg, Ken Murchison, Phil Cyr, Penny Thompson, and Paul Camping to the Blight Commission. (6 yes) So voted.

The first meeting will be January 14, 2020 at 1:00 p.m. Blight Commission minutes will be provided to the Council.

d. Appointment of Councilors to Council Committees

Position	Member
Highway/Protection	
Chair	Joan Theriault
Member	Nicole Cote
Member	Jody Smith
Staff	Dave Ouellette
Investment	
Chair	Jody Smith
Member	R. Mark Goughan
Member	Douglas Morrell
Staff	Carl Grant
CEGC	
Board Member	Hugh Kirkpatrick
City Rep	City Manager
NMDC	
Board Member	R. Mark Goughan
Board Member	City Manager
Personnel	
Chair	Nicole Cote
Member	Thomas Ayer
Member	Joan Theriault

Position	Member
Nylander Board	
Council Liaison	Jody Smith
Planning Board	
Council Liaison	Thomas Ayer
Staff	Kenneth Murchison
Municipal Buildings	
Chair	Douglas Morrell
Member	Thomas Ayer
Member	Hugh Kirkpatrick
Staff	City Manager
Staff	Dave Ouellette
Staff	Gary Marquis
Agency on Aging	
Member	R. Mark Goughan
Member	Lisa Plourde
Housing Board	
Board Member	Douglas Morrell
City Rep	R. Mark Goughan
Staff	Lisa Plourde
Staff	Kenneth Murchison

Personnel Continued	
Staff	City Manager
Staff	Carl Grant
Airport	
Chair	Thomas Ayer
Member	Joan Theriault
Member	Hugh Kirkpatrick
Staff	Airport Manager
Staff	PT TBD

The appointment of the Capital Committee will be considered at a later date.

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

- a. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding 2020 EMS Service Contracts with Caswell, Connor TWP, Limestone, New Sweden, Perham, Stockholm, Wade, Washburn, Westmanland, Woodland, and Madawaska Lake TWP

Since March 2019, the Council members have been analyzing revenues and expenses for Caribou’s Fire and Ambulance services and reviewing the City’s contracts with surrounding communities. This review used the actual numbers for the last 25 years.

City Manager Marker gave a PowerPoint presentation titled “Caribou Region Ambulance Services, if everyone pays the same per population fee”. (Exhibit A) Topics covered: contracted areas, population, call volume trends, 2020 Draft Expense Budget, changes in payer mix, and Caribou’s Proposal.

Caribou’s Proposal:

EMS #1: No contract for EMS services	EMS #2: Contract for EMS services	Option 3: Contract for FIRE/EMS
<p>No annual fee</p> <p>Caribou will charge a flat \$500 per run to the community from which the call is made. Transport or not.</p> <p>No billing of insurance companies</p> <p>Limited paging in staff to cover outside runs. Caribou may respond if crews are available or stack calls.</p>	<p>\$100 per person annual payment</p> <p>No additional fee to towns</p> <p>Caribou will page in staff to cover outside runs. Caribou will respond if crews are available.</p> <p>(prelude to district)</p>	<p>\$125 per person annual payment</p> <p>No additional fee to towns</p> <p>Caribou will page in staff to cover outside runs. Caribou will respond if crews are available</p> <p>(prelude to district)</p>

The Mayor noted later in the evening, that the Council will be going into Executive Session to discuss various points, their options, and the various timeframe that Council has given.

Perham Chair John Rasmussen handed administration a FOAA request from the Town of Perham.

Community Budget Impacts (Based on 2016-2018 run history and 2017 Census estimates)

	EMS #1 No contract for EMS services	EMS #2: Contract for EMS services	Option 3: Contract for Fire/EMS
Caribou	\$618,847	\$782,700	\$859,465
Caswell	\$17,500	\$24,100	NA
Connor TWP	\$14,000	\$41,500	\$51,875
New Sweden	\$42,000	\$59,300	\$74,125
Stockholm	\$11,333	\$24,600	\$30,750
Perham	\$9,166	\$41,500	\$51,875
Woodland	\$37,000	\$103,100	\$128,875
Westmanland	\$3,167	\$7,900	\$9,875
Washburn	\$4,500	\$83,350	NA
Wade		\$18,550	NA

b. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Bids for Tax Acquired Property at 142 Lower Lyndon

In 2019, Caribou tax-acquired power generation facilities located at 142 Lower Lyndon. The taxes and fees due to the City amount to \$69,840. The City has spent approximately \$10,000 since it was acquired. The Caribou Utilities are owed approximately \$70,000.

Motion made by H. Kirkpatrick, seconded by T. Ayer, to place the property at 142 Lower Lyndon out to bid for a minimum bid of \$150,000. (6 yes) So voted.

c. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Lease Option for Solar Project on Ogren Dump

The City Manager reviewed the proposed lease between the City and SynerGen Solar, LLC. The option fee to the City if \$2,500. Mayor Goughan noted that this is a First Read item.

Tax Assessor Penny Thompson explained how solar arrays were assessed in the past and the change occurring in 2020.

Councilor Morrell wants some language included to protect the City, if SynerGen Solar does something at the old closed Ogren Dump to cause contamination. The Public Works Director has commented that Ogren Road site has to be keep mowed. The Manager will continue to develop language for the lease.

d. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding 2020 Council Priority Projects

Under Infrastructure: add additional streetlights

Community Development Priorities: delete blight survey of community

Economic Development Priorities: add small business retention and blight

Councilors are to rank their priorities and submit them prior to the next meeting or at the next meeting.

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

The Mayor asked Blight Committee Chair Paul Camping to comment on Libertarian views as it relates to the City's working on blight issues.

The City Manager has been able to reach out to Spectrum regarding the City's non-working PEG channel. Progress is being made.

Councilor Morrell asked Tax Assessor Penny Thompson about the City's assessing personal property taxes methodology. He suggested the City give a \$1,000 credit in personal property tax valuation across all personal property tax accounts, discussion.

Council Agenda Item #10: City Manager's Report

Manager Marker gave his City Manager's Report that was included as part of the January 13, 2020 Council Packet.

Councilor Kirkpatrick asked to have the Wage & Classification Policy added to the next Council agenda.

Councilor Morrell questioned why the RSU 39's buildings are being served as part of the City's cable franchise agreement and that they should be handling their own cable needs. The Mayor requested the addition of this topic to a Council agenda.

Council Agenda Item #11: Reports by Staff and Appointed Officials

A ribbon cutting for County AG was scheduled for January 14th at 4:30 p.m.

Council Agenda Item #12: Executive Session(s) (May be called to discuss matters identified under Maine Revised Statutes, Title 1, §405.6)

a. Economic Development Issue

8:12 p.m. Motion made by H. Kirkpatrick, seconded by T. Ayer, to move to executive session to discuss an economic development issue under MRS Title 1, §405(6)(C). (6 yes) So voted.

9:46 p.m. Council returned from executive session.

No action taken.

Council Agenda Item #13: Next Meeting: January 27, 2020 Council Meeting

Council Agenda Item #14: Adjournment

Motion made by T. Ayer seconded by D. Morrell, to adjourn the meeting at 9:46 p.m. (6 yes) So voted.

Jayne R. Farrin, Secretary

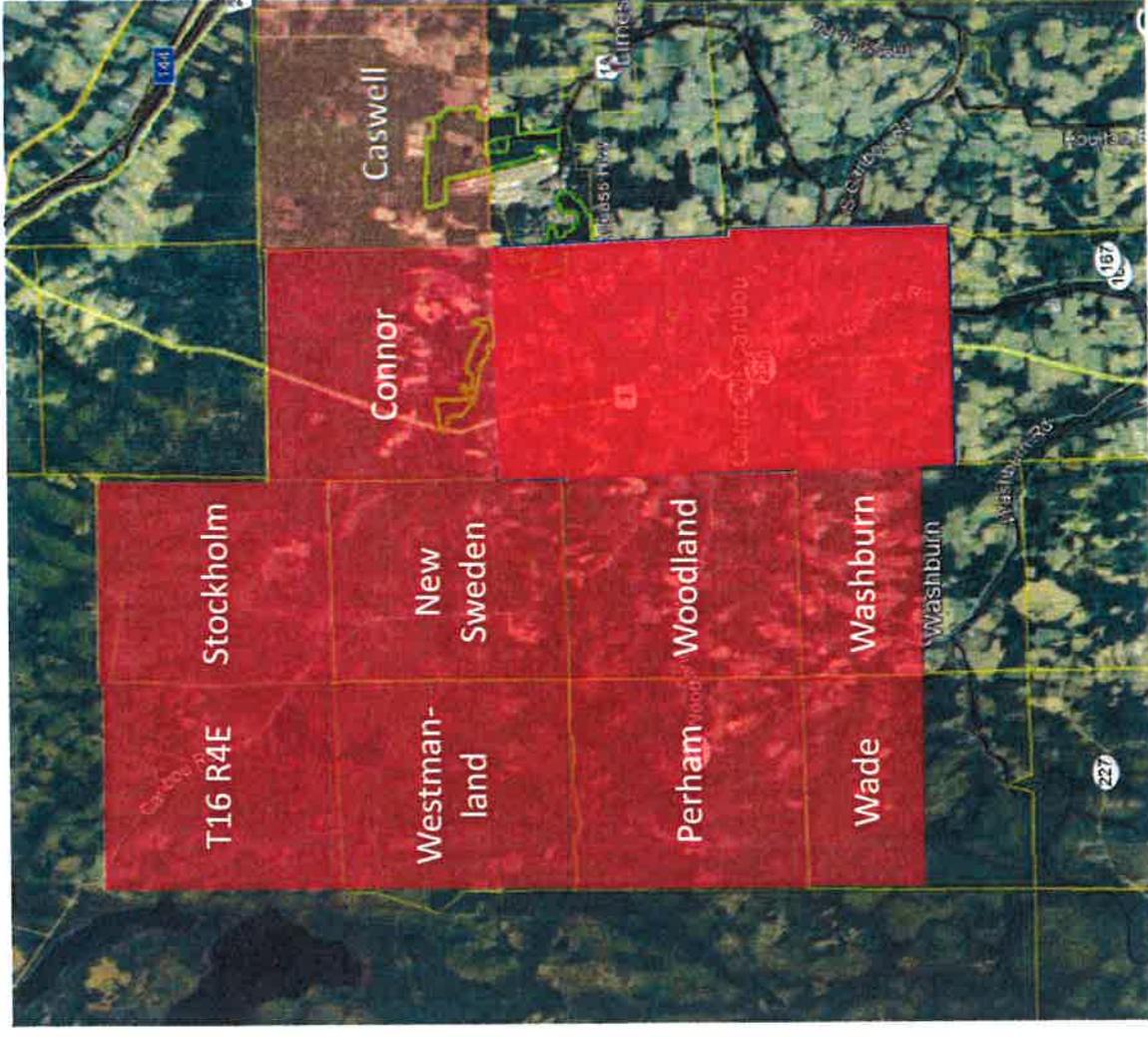


Caribou Region Ambulance Services

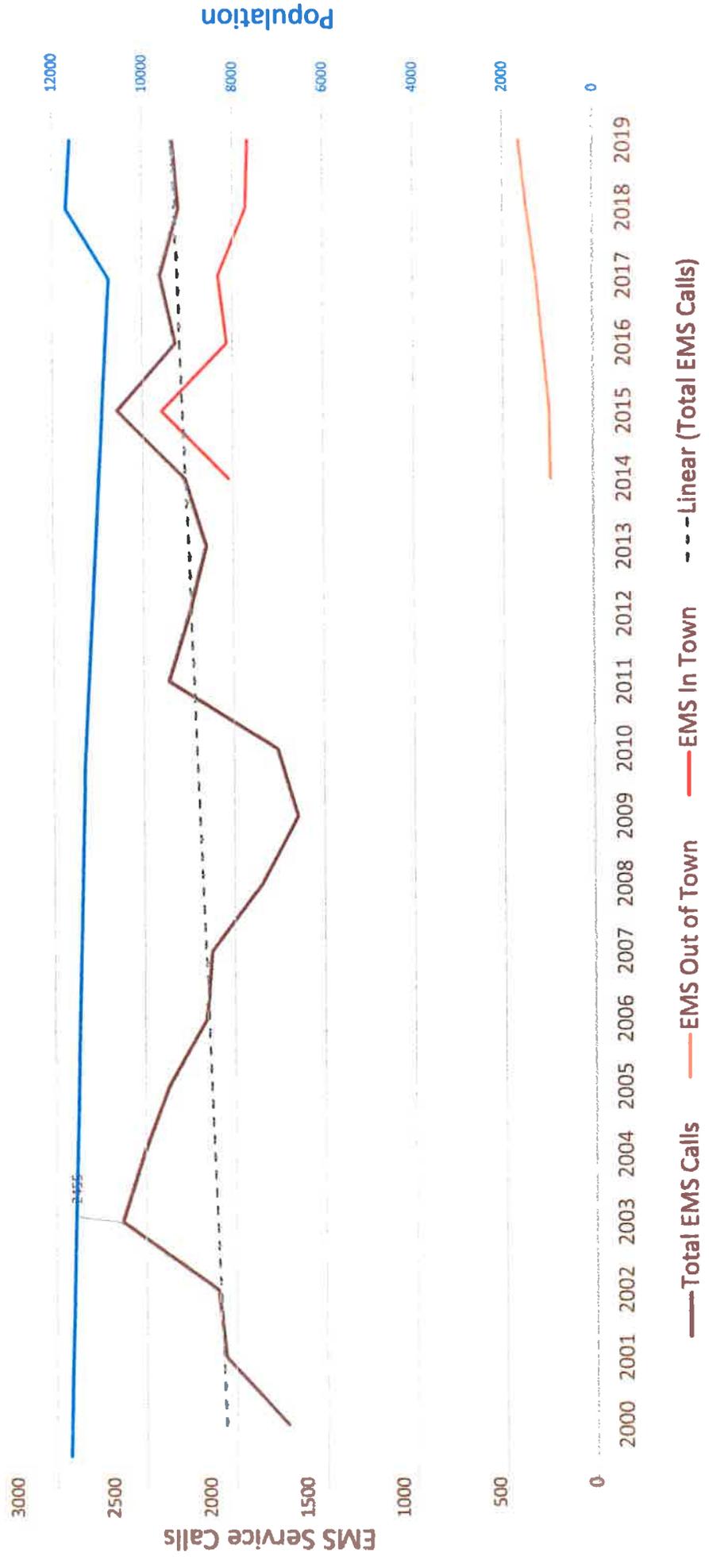
If everyone pays the same per population fee

The Contracted Region

- EMS
- Connor
- Woodland
- New Sweden
- Lake Township
- Westmanland
- Perham
- Stockholm
- ½ of Wade (2019)
- ½ of Washburn (2019)
- Caswell (2020?)

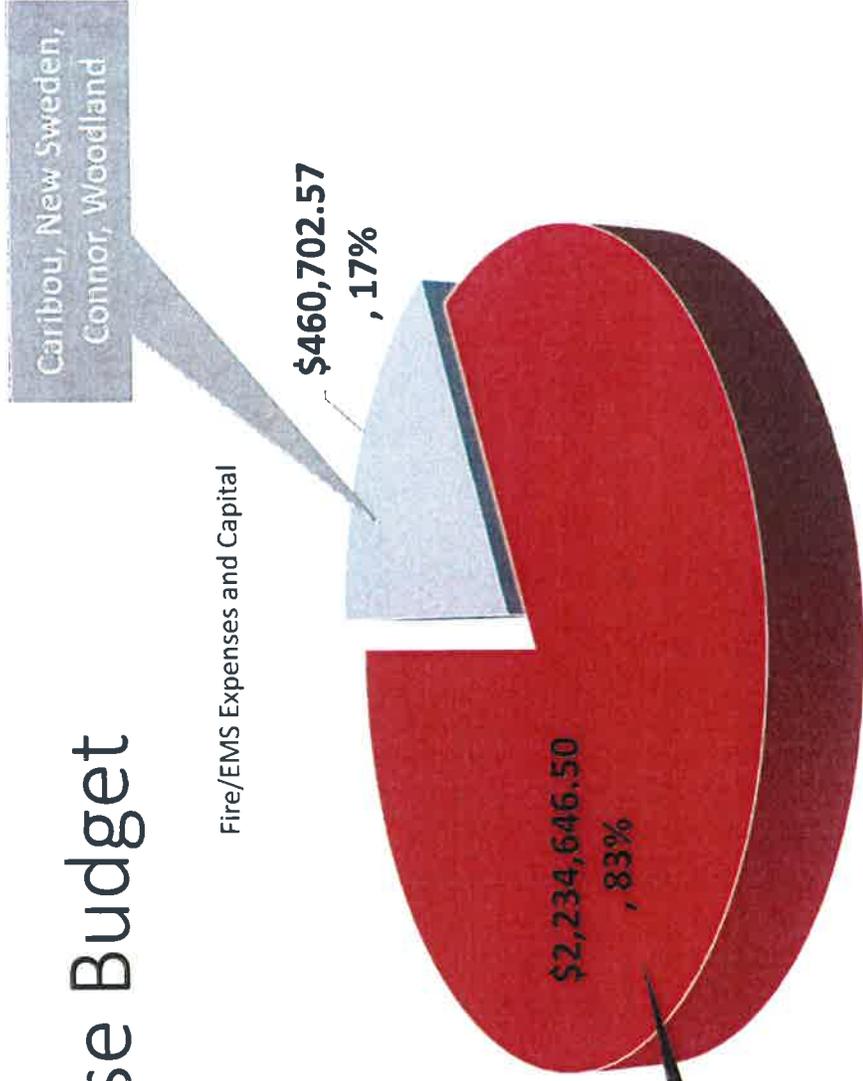


Call Volume Trends



2020 DRAFT Expense Budget

Breakdown of Fire/EMS Dept Costs separating Fire from EMS results in the following:



Caribou, New Sweden, Connor, Perham, Wade, Westmanland, T16-R4, Washburn, Woodland

Total of \$2,695,348 with operations and capital costs

2020 DRAFT Expense Budget

The Population currently served under those expenses is as follows:

Fire
Caribou, New Sweden,
Connor, Woodland
9866

Fire/EMS Expenses and Capital

\$460,702.57
, 17%



EMS

Caribou, New Sweden,
Connor, Perham, Wade,
Westmanland, T16-R4,
Washburn, Woodland
11773

**Per Person Cost:
\$190 Before Revenues**

**Per Person Cost:
\$47 Before Revenues**

Revenue Dilemmas

Payor Mix Considerations for Ambulance Services

Insurance Reimbursements

State MaineCare
(40% of Medicaid
Payment) (i.e.
32% of Max)*



Federal Medicare
(Dictates Max Bill &
Pays 80% of Max)



Private Insurance
(~98% of Max)



Self Pay
(Unanticipated
Payments)



EMS Revenue – Payor Mix Issue

\$100 Billable Service Scenario

	60%	10%	20%	10%	Total
2014 Mix (2119 Calls)	1271	212	424	212	2,119 Calls
Payment	\$101,700	\$8,480	\$41,550	\$0	\$151,730 or \$72/call



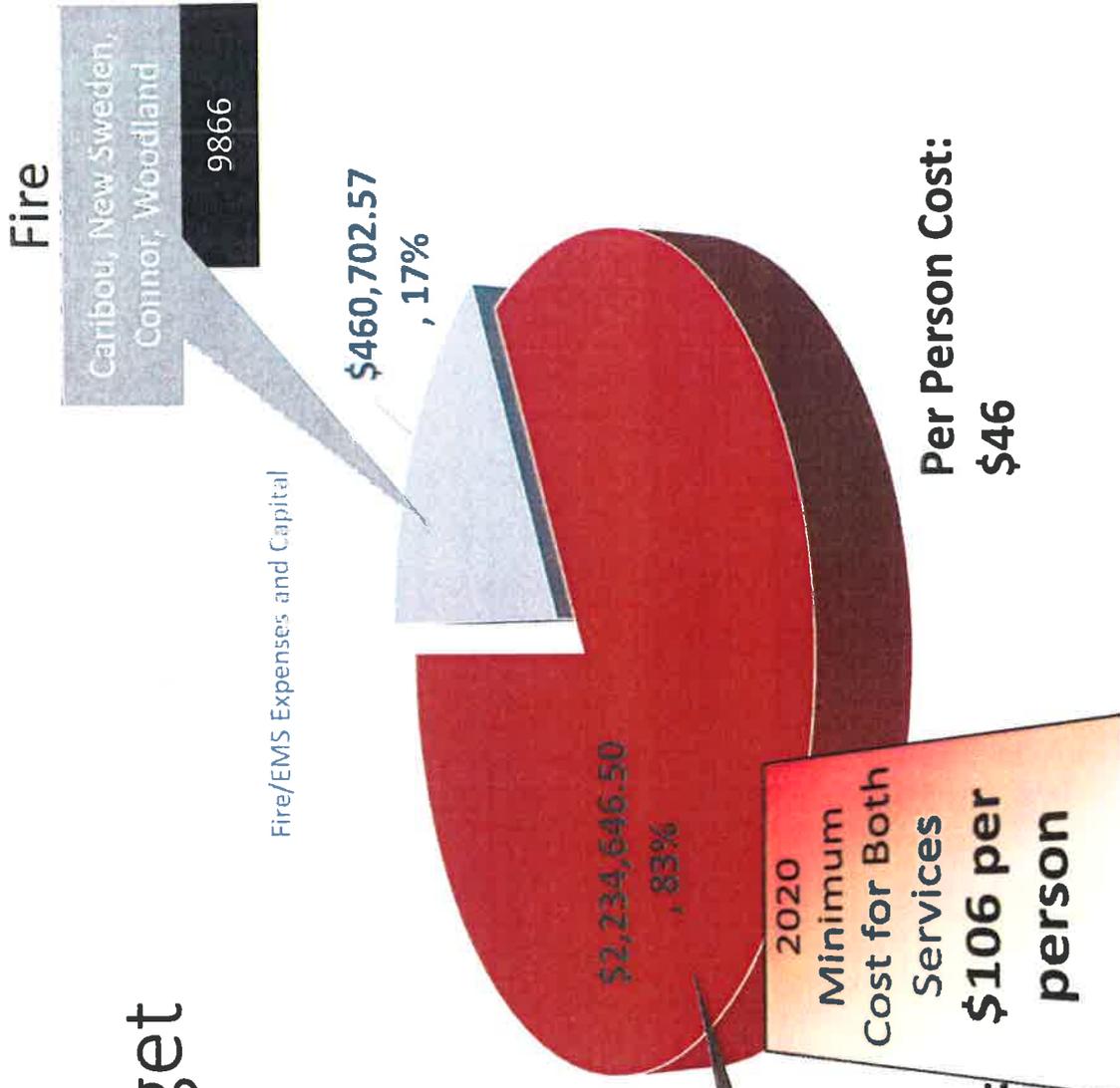
	40%	30%	10%	20%	Total
2018 Mix (2150 Calls)	860	645	215	430	2150 Calls
Payment	\$68,800	\$25,800	\$21,100	\$0	\$115,700 or \$54/call

*2019 Legislation increased payment to equal Medicaid amounts at Urban Bangor rates. This increases state payment by 50%. Approx. \$60/call

2020 Expense Budget

Projected Revenues for Services:

Fire: \$ 5,125
 Net: \$ (455,577)
 EMS: \$1,536,633
 Net: \$ (698,013)



EMS

Caribou, New Sweden,
 Connor, Perham, Wade,
 Westmanland, T16-R4,
 Washburn, Woodland

11773

Per Person Cost:
\$60

Per Person Cost:
\$46

Fire

Caribou, New Sweden,
 Connor, Woodland

986

Fire/EMS Expenses and Capital

Town	Contract \$	\$ per Person
New Sweden	\$7,116	\$11.5
Connor	\$4,980	\$11.5
T16-R4		\$11.5
Perham	\$4,980	\$11.5
Wade (1/2)	\$1,113	\$11.5
Westmanland	\$2,952	\$11.5
Washburn (1/2)	\$5,001	\$11.5
Woodland	\$12,372	\$11.5
Caribou	\$653,385	\$82.8

Caribou, New Sweden,
Connor, Perham, Wade,
Westmanland, T16-R4,
Washburn, Woodland

11773

Per Person Cost:
\$61

Caribou, New Sweden,
Connor, Woodland

9866

Town	Contract \$	\$ per Person
New Sweden	\$35,459	\$60
Connor	\$29,078	\$70
Woodland	\$64,301	\$62
Caribou	\$331,864	\$42

Per Person Cost:
\$49

Caribou's Proposal

EMS #1: No contract for EMS services	EMS #2: Contract for EMS services	Option 3: Contract for Fire/EMS
<p>No annual fee</p> <p>Caribou will charge a flat \$500 per run to the community from which the call is made. Transport or not.</p> <p>No billing of insurance companies.</p> <p>Limited paging in staff to cover outside runs. Caribou may respond if crews are available or stack calls.</p>	<p>\$100 per person annual payment</p> <p>No additional fee to towns</p> <p>Caribou will charge patient for services rendered.</p> <p>Caribou will page in staff to cover outside runs. Caribou will respond if crews are available.</p> <p>(prelude to district)</p>	<p>\$125 per person annual payment</p> <p>No additional fee to towns</p> <p>Caribou will charge patient for services rendered.</p> <p>Caribou will page in staff to cover outside runs. Caribou will respond if crews are available.</p> <p>(prelude to district)</p>

Community Budget Impacts*

	EMS #1: No contract for EMS services	EMS #2: Contract for EMS services	Option 3: Contract for Fire/EMS
Caribou	\$618,847	\$782,700	\$859,465
Caswell	\$17,500	\$24,100	NA
Connor	\$14,000	\$41,500	\$51,875
New Sweden	\$42,000	\$59,300	\$74,125
Stockholm	\$11,333	\$24,600	\$30,750
Perham	\$9,166	\$41,500	\$51,875
Woodland	\$37,000	\$103,100	\$128,875
Westmanland	\$3,167	\$7,900	\$9,875
Washburn	\$4,500	\$83,350	NA
Wade		\$18,550	NA

Based on 2016-2018 run history and 2017 Census estimates



Caribou Region Ambulance Services