

June 15, 2020

20-15

Council Agenda Item #1: Roll Call The Caribou City Council held a regular meeting Monday, June 15, 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, Hugh A. Kirkpatrick, and Douglas C. Morrell. Jody R. Smith and Nicole L. Cote were absent and excused. Dennis L. Marker, City Manager was present in Council Chambers.

Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, this meeting was closed to the public and was broadcasted via Spectrum, Caribou's YouTube Channel.

Council Agenda Item #2: Invocation / Inspirational Thought

Mayor Goughan read an invocation.

Council Agenda Item #3: Pledge of Allegiance

The Mayor led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Council Agenda Item #4: Public Forum

Comments were to be submitted to the City Clerk prior to 5:30 p.m. on the day of the meeting to be read at the meeting. Comments must include the individuals name and address.

Gary Aiken: 471 Main Street, Caribou: email read by the Deputy City Clerk.

"Council has spent a lot of time over the past couple of months discussing how they can lower the mill rate by 1 mil for the Caribou taxpayers. If my memory serves me correctly 1 mil is approx.. \$370,000.

Since the first of this year Council has passed a motion to place \$896,029 of unencumbered taxpayers money into an emergency account, which I don't believe was legal from the standpoint of how it was done or where all the amounts that were used came from based on our existing Charter. The City of Caribou has a 3 million dollar CD of unencumbered tax payers money which is due for re-investment. The City will be receiving another \$324,000 from the landfill operation which could be added to the Revenue line in this years budget. The City is receiving \$477,000 from the surrounding communities for fire and ambulance service. How much of the taxpayers money is this council going to keep squirreling away before the finally agree to give the taxpayers a break which you keep saying you want to do.

Gary Aiken

471 Main St."

Council Agenda Item #5: Financials

Manager Marker reviewed the May 2020 Financial Summary Report

Discussion about financials and whether winter fuel can be pre-purchased to lock in a rate and save money.

Motion made by T. Aye, seconded by H. Kirkpatrick to accept the May 2020 Financial Summary Report as presented. (5 Yes) So voted.

Council Agenda Item #6: Bid Awards, Appointments & Recognitions

a. Approval of Tax acquired Property Bids

Property Number	Property Address	Bidder Name	Minimum Bid Amount	Submitted Bid Amount
18	Emond Road	Patty Schmid	\$1,500.00	\$1,600.00
19	Emond Road	Patty Schmid	\$1,500.00	\$1,600.00
24	14 View Street	WJV Holdings, LLC	\$4,700.00	\$4,848.48
31	774 East Presque Isle Road	Terry, Kathleen & Evan Susee	\$6,200.00	\$13,250.00
33	138 Lombard Road	C.S.S. Development	\$3,300.00	\$5,651.00
34	Access Highway	Scott Englund	\$500.00	\$ 500.00
35	Plante Road	Keith Draper	\$2,800.00	\$4,501.00
36	13 Vesta Drive	Nicole Fox	\$7,800.00	\$13,076.00
38	19 Patten Street	Brandon Adams	\$4,200.00	\$5,000.00
42	160 Limestone Street	Colleen Brennan	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
44	West Presque Isle Road	Patty Schmid	\$400.00	\$410.00

Motion made by H. Kirkpatrick, seconded by J. Theriault, to accept highest bid, with the exception of 47 Sincok Street (5 yes) So voted.

Motion made by D. Morrell, seconded by J. Theriault to sell back the property at 47 Sincok Street to the previous owner Gary Rossignol for the full payment of his outstanding taxes including the estimated 2020 taxes. (5 yes) So voted.

Council Agenda Item #7: New Business

- a. Countersigning RSU 39 Budget Validation Referendum warrant and Notice of Election Discussion regarding countersigning the warrant and wanting more information about the budget.

Motion made by T. Ayer, seconded by D. Morrell, to wait until the day after the RSU meeting. (5 yes) So voted.

- b. Public Hearing on Ordinance #1, A Charter Amendment Modifying the Budget Process Timeframes  
6:50 p.m. Mayor Goughan opened the public hearing

Manager Marker read an email from Philip J McDonough II:

“Good Day Council

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There is a public hearing on tonight's agenda for changes to the charter for the budget process. Agenda item 7b. Can the council explain how this can be conducted without an audience? How can this be debated properly in the public forum if the public is not present? And did you seek legal advice prior to scheduling this to see if it was even proper? I respectfully ask for an answer to these questions. Also after reading what you want to do the simplest way to attain this would be to change the fiscal year from January 1st to July 1st through June 30th. Then you would be on the same calendar as the state, school and the county if I am not wrong.

Thanks and have a nice day and stay healthy. Phil

Philip J McDonough II

8 Pioneer Ave

Caribou, Maine"

Deputy Mayor T. Ayer stated that Phil should know the answers to his questions because he was on the council for many, many years.

Motion made by D. Morrell, seconded by J. Theriault, to continue the Public Hearing at the next council meeting. (5 yes) So voted.

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

There weren't any.

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

- a. Letter to Governor Regarding Reopening Maine Discussion to see what needs to be done to get activities moving for kids, rec programs, restaurants, etc. Discussion is to be continued at next meeting to include N. Cote and J. Smith.
- b. Budget Adjustments Prior to Setting the 2020 mil rate Manager Marker explained his spread sheet and how the changes would affect the current year's budget anticipating reduced revenues. Discussion about how to possibly reduce the mil rate. Manager Marker does not recommend a full 1 mil reduction this year. Mayor Goughan spoke about the projected budgets and that he is confident that the numbers should come out and that he is pushing for a full 1 mil reduction in the mil rate. Councilor Theriault suggested .25 or .50 mil because you don't want to have a huge negative that needs to be made up next year, Deputy Mayor T. Ayer agrees that the lower amount would be the best but that a 1 mil reduction is doable.
- c. The councilors had a discussion regarding the intersection on the Van Buren Road for the connector where an accident had just occurred and claimed the life of a 17-year-old girl. They discussed reducing speeds and wanting to have something done because it is not the first fatality at this intersection. Councilors would like a study for what can take place at the intersection.

- d. Discussion regarding planning board and violations and what steps need to be done for everything to be enforced. Mayor Goughan suggested giving the board some time to see if they will resolve the violations.

Council Agenda Item #10: City Manager's Report

Manager Marker reviewed Managers Report dated June 12, 2020

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

Manager Marker reported that Rec is open for walking, basketball courts are also open, you need to bring your own supplies.

Council Agenda Item #12: Executive Session

Collective Bargaining

Motion made by T. Ayer, seconded by H. Kirkpatrick, to enter executive session to discuss collective bargaining matters under M.R.S.A. Title 1 §405(6)(D) at 8:57 p.m. (5 yes) So voted.

Council exited executive session at 9:35 p.m. No action was taken.

For a Poverty Abatement Request under M.R.S.A. Title 36, §841

Motion made by H. Kirkpatrick, seconded by D. Morrell, to enter executive session to discuss a poverty abatement request under M.R.S.A. Title 36, §841 at 9:35 p.m. (5 yes) So voted.

Council exited executive session at 9:41 p.m.

Motion made by H. Kirkpatrick, seconded by J. Theriault, that the request for poverty abatement be denied at this time based on staff recommendation. (5 yes) So voted.

Council Agenda Item #13: Executive Session

Motion made by T. Ayer, seconded by J. Theriault, to executive session to discuss matters of real estate and economic development under M.R.S.A Title 1, §405(6)(B) at 9:41 p.m. (5 yes) So voted.

Council exited executive session at 9:52 p.m. No action was taken.

Council Agenda Item #14: Next Meeting(s): June 24, June 29, July 27

Council Agenda Item # 15 Adjournment

Motion made by T. Ayer, seconded by J. Theriault, to adjourn the meeting at 9:52 p.m. (5 yes) So voted.

Danielle M McLaughlin, Secretary Pro tem