

Council Agenda Item #1: Roll Call

The Caribou City Council held a City Council Meeting on Monday, June 28, 2021, in the Council Chambers with the following members present; Councilors Ayer, Boma, Goughan, Morrell, Theriault, Willey and Mayor Smith.

Penny Thompson, Deputy City Manager and Danielle Brissette, City Clerk were present.

Ken Murchison was present at the meeting.

Council Agenda Item #2: Invocation / Inspirational Thought

Mayor Smith read an invocation.

Council Agenda Item #3: Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Smith led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Council Agenda Item #4: Public Forum

John Morrell, owner of Custom Car Wash came to speak regarding the Caribou Utilities District meeting, he commended both Councilor Boma and Manager Marker for being in attendance. He expressed his frustration regarding the utility cost increase.

Councilor Goughan stated that in his opinion, the city council is not cutting city employees, and nothing is being kept a secret at Aroostook Waste Solutions.

Mayor Smith closed public forum at 6:13 p.m.

Council Agenda Item #5: Minutes

a. June 14, 2021, City Council Regular Meeting

Motion made by Councilor Morrell, seconded by Councilor Ayer to accept the June 14, 2021 City Council Meeting Minutes as presented.

Roll Call Vote: T. Ayer - Yes, C. Boma - Yes, R.M. Goughan – Yes, D. Morrell - Yes, J. Theriault - Yes, L. Willey - Yes, J. Smith - Yes (So voted)

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

There were none scheduled for discussion.

Council Agenda Item #7: Reports by Staff and Committees

a. Memo regarding Planning Board appointment

Motion made by Councilor Ayer, seconded by Councilor Willey to appoint Steve Wentworth to fill the vacancy on the Planning Board for the City of Caribou.

Roll Call Vote: T. Ayer - Yes, C. Boma - Yes, R.M. Goughan – Yes, D. Morrell - Yes, J. Theriault - Yes, L. Willey - Yes, J. Smith - Yes (So voted)

b. Manager's Report

Deputy City Manager Penny Thompson reviewed the City Manager's Report dated June 28, 2021.

Council Agenda Item #8: New Business, Ordinances and Resolutions

a. Resolution 06-01-2021, Establishing the 2021 Property Tax Rates and Related Deadlines.

Mayor Smith explained that the discussion regarding Resolution 06-01-2021, Establishing the 2021 Property Tax Rates and Related Deadlines is being continued from the last meeting when the discussion was tabled.

Deputy Manager Thompson explained that she received a phone call from Superintendent Doak, and their business manager Mr. Bouchard from the RSU and based on the conversation it might be wise not to set the mil rate tonight. In the conversation today with them they are waiting on hearing from the state when they go back on June 30th to consider other budget issues including this 55% funding which will mean additional revenue that is being divided into school districts including RSU #39. The money that they received for an estimate today was less than they previously had received for an estimate because the state is taking from the funds available to fund the JMG program. Based on what they are getting for additional state aid after that is done then the board of education will meet and at that point the board of education can decide what they're going to do with that money. At the school budget meeting there are articles about spending. Article 18 authorizes the disposition of any additional state subsidy received. The article spells out three things that can be done with the additional money that is received. They would be authorized to use all or part of the additional state subsidy to increase expenditures for school purposes and cost center categories approved by the school board, they could increase the allocation of finances and reserve fund approved by the school board or they could decrease the local cost share expectation as defined in title 20-A § 15671-A1B for local property taxpayers for funding public education as approved by the school board.

Deputy Manager Thompson stated that she was left with the impression that option 3 which is to reduce what the taxpayers would pay would not be their choice if we set the tax rate right now. The current recommendation is to not set the mil rate tonight.

Motion made by Councilor Ayer, seconded by Councilor Morrell to table Resolution 06-01-2021, Establishing the 2021 Property Tax Rates and Related Deadlines until the July 12, 2021 meeting.

Roll Call Vote: T. Ayer - Yes, C. Boma - Yes, R.M. Goughan – Yes, D. Morrell - Yes, J. Theriault - Yes, L. Willey - Yes, J. Smith - Yes (So voted)

Council Agenda Item #9: Old Business

There were none scheduled for discussion.

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

Councilor Boma stated that their will be an open house would be from 5-7 on July 7th at the Wellness Center for the Public Safety designs.

Councilor Morrell asked if there was any progress on the property on the Access Highway.

Deputy Manager Thompson explained that the property deed is not yet in the new person's name, and she stated that she cannot afford to deal with it.

Deputy Manager Thompson provided information regarding the contact she has had with owners of the properties that are on the Dangerous Buildings list.

Mayor Smith stated that Dangerous Buildings could be an agenda item for the upcoming meeting.

Councilor Ayer that there was a citizen that cleaned off the front part of the Grimes Road with an orange shovel. He stated that the Grimes Road is controlled by MDOT and Fort Fairfield in the summertime but plowed by Caribou in the winter. They would like to know if anyone has spoken with the contacts regarding the sand that is in the roadway. He would like to see a system put into place for the people that are on the roads for the city that see everything to be able to have a way to report it so that it can be cleaned up.

Council Agenda Item #11: Next Regular Meetings: July 12

Council Agenda Item #12: Adjournment

Motion made by Councilor Morrell, seconded by Councilor Ayer to adjourn the meeting at 7:03 p.m.

Roll Call Vote: T. Ayer - Yes, C. Boma - Yes, R.M. Goughan – Yes, D. Morrell - Yes, J. Theriault - Yes, L. Willey - Yes, J. Smith - Yes (So voted)

Danielle Brissette, Secretary