

Council Agenda Item #1: Roll Call

The Caribou City Council held a City Council meeting on Monday, September 20, 2021, in the Council Chambers with the following members present: Mayor Smith, Deputy Mayor Ayer, Councilors Boma, Goughan, Morrell, Theriault, and Willey.

Penny Thompson, Interim City Manager was present at the meeting.

Department managers Kenneth G Murchison (CEO/Zoning Administrator), Carl Grant (Finance Director), and Scott Susi (Fire Chief) were present at the meeting.

Hannah Catlin of the Aroostook Republican covered the meeting, and it was broadcasted via Spectrum and YouTube.

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

There were no comments made.

Council Agenda Item #5: Minutes

- a. City Council Regular Meeting August 23, 2021
- b. City Council Regular Meeting September 7, 2021
- c. City Council Special Meeting September 14, 2021

Motion made by Councilor Morrell, seconded by Deputy Mayor Ayer to approve the meeting minutes from August 23, September 7 and September 14, 2021, 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: Bid Openings, Awards and Appointments

Motion made by Councilor Theriault, seconded by Councilor Willey to appoint Kristen Henry to fill the vacancy on the Nylander Board of Trustees.

Roll Call Vote: T. Ayer – No, C. Boma - Yes, R.M. Goughan – Yes, D. Morrell – Yes, J. Theriault - Yes, L. Willey - Yes, J. Smith - Yes, (So voted)

Council Agenda Item #7: Public Hearings and Possible Action Items

- a. Ordinance No. 16, 2021 Series, Chapter 20 Riverfront Development Committee

Open Public Hearing: 6:06 p.m.

Kenneth G Murchison (CEO/Zoning Administrator) explained why they were wanting to create the Riverfront Development Committee and have it as an official committee of the City.

There were no comments made by the public.

Closed Public Hearing: 6:06 p.m.

Motion made by Councilor Theriault, seconded by Councilor Boma to approve Ordinance No. 16, 2021 Series, Chapter 20 Riverfront Development Committee.

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 #8: Reports by Staff and Committees

a. Financial Reports for August 2021

Carl Grant, Finance Director reviewed the August 2021 Financial Report.

Motion made by Councilor Theriault, seconded by Councilor Willey to accept the August 2021 Financials as presented.

Roll Call Vote: T. Ayer – No, C. Boma - Yes, R.M. Goughan – Yes, D. Morrell – Yes, J. Theriault - Yes, L. Willey - Yes, J. Smith - Yes, (So voted)

b. Dangerous Buildings List

Kenneth G Murchison (CEO/Zoning Administrator) explained that the new list has been comprised by Penny Thompson, Tony Michaud, and himself. The properties all have structural issues and are considered dangerous.

Councilor Goughan would like to know a timeframe on when they needed to complete items like the last time they were done.

Councilor Willey would like to see the process to get started and get the ball rolling.

c. Manager's Report

Interim Manager Penny Thompson reviewed the City Manager's Report dated September 17, 2021.

d. Municipal Building Committee: update on Nylander Museum water damage

Councilor Morrell explained that he was able to tour the building with Dave Ouellette, public works director. He explained that there needs to be work done with the sprinkler system, paint, electrical and the floors refinished. He recommended that the city get quotes on the priorities.

e. Police Station Committee

Councilor Boma explained that the committee had met on Friday and had discussions with Carl Grant (Finance Director), Sargent Gahagan and the Bond Bank. She stated that the citizens should be able to vote on this topic.

Motion made by councilor Theriault, seconded by Councilor Willey to let the citizens vote on a non-binding survey question for the citizens which asks "Do you favor borrowing money to provide an amount not to exceed \$10,000,000 to pay costs of expenditures for the construction and equipping of a new police station for the City of Caribou provided that the money is authorized by Caribou City Council and a referendum approved as specified in the Charter?"

Councilor Morrell stated that he can't see this going forward.

Councilor Goughan explained that this could mean a 2 mil increase to the taxpayers and should be on the question. He is in opposition of the question and that this is a representative form of government, and he was elected to make a decision.

Mayor Smith explained that he is not opposed to a new police station and agrees to take it to the community for a vote.

Councilor Theriault explained that what we are trying to find out is if the taxpayers want this and if it is something that should be continued with or not.

Roll Call Vote: T. Ayer – No, C. Boma - Yes, R.M. Goughan – No, D. Morrell – No, J. Theriault - Yes, L. Willey - Yes, J. Smith - Yes, (So voted)

Council Agenda Item #9: New Business, Ordinances and Resolutions

a. Introduction of Ordinance No. 19, 2021 Series, Chapter 21 Remote Participation Policy

Deputy Mayor Ayer Introduced Ordinance No. 19, 2021 Series, Chapter 21 Remote Participation Policy.

b. City Council consent agreement with Troy Haney re: Kacie's Place Campground

Council signed the consent agreement from the special meeting regarding Kacie's Place Campground at the end of the meeting.

Council Agenda Item #10: Old Business

There were no items of discussion.

Council Agenda Item #11: Reports & Discussion by Mayor and Council Members

Mayor Smith stated that there are public hearings coming up regarding the supermajority ordinance, remote participation policy and general assistance.

Councilor Willey stated that she attended a Library Board meeting, they seem very organized, and she got to learn that there are kids from both the Middle and High School age levels. The board is working to come up with funding so that the kids can keep the books once they have read them with the group. She also thanked Christina for her work and dedication to the city.

Councilor Morrell would like to discuss the Ambulance Transfer Committee and the goals of the committee. He is requesting a list of positions and annual gross pay & benefits.

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

a. Caribou Professional Fire Fighters Association, AIFF Local 5191, request for impact bargaining (Personnel item under §405.6.A)

Motion made by Deputy Mayor Ayer, seconded by Councilor Willey to enter executive session at 7:39 p.m. to discuss the Caribou Professional Fire Fighters Association, AIFF Local 5191, request for impact bargaining (Personnel item under §405.6.A).

Roll Call Vote: T. Ayer – Yes, C. Boma - Yes, R.M. Goughan – No, D. Morrell – No, J. Theriault - Yes, L. Willey - Yes, J. Smith - Yes, (So voted)

Council exited executive session at 8:20 p.m.

Motion made by Deputy Mayor Ayer, seconded by Councilor Morrell to reject the proposal presented by the Caribou Professional Firefighters Local 5191.

Roll Call Vote: T. Ayer – Yes, C. Boma - No, R.M. Goughan – Yes, D. Morrell – Yes, J. Theriault - Yes, L. Willey - No, J. Smith - Yes, (So voted)

b. Caribou City Manager contract

Motion made by Deputy Mayor Ayer, seconded by Councilor Boma to enter executive session for a personnel item under MRSA Title 1, §405.6 for the purpose of discussing the Caribou City Manager Contract.

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 exited executive session at 9:25

Motion made by Deputy Mayor Ayer, seconded by Councilor Theriault to continue negotiations for Caribou City Manager position with Penny Thompson and extend interim City Manager contract to December 31, 2021 noting that Thompson has full authority of a permanently appointed City Manager.

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 #13: October 4 & 18, November 1, 15 & 29

Council Agenda Item #14: Adjournment

Motion made by Deputy Mayor Ayer to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Councilor Boma.

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