



**City Manager's Report  
February 13, 2023**

**Economic Projects**

<b>River Front - Powerplants</b>	The City Manager had a first meeting with students and faculty working in the University of Connecticut Municipal Assistance Partnership for 2023. They will assist with brownfields reuse as part of their curriculum. This will help the city when applying for EPA Brownfields and other grant funds.
<b>Broadband Initiative</b>	The CUD Fiber division did not receive funding in the "Connect The Ready" round of grants. They did receive feedback on their application and the projects that were funded are in "least served areas".
<b>CDBG</b>	City is looking for eligible projects for this program
<b>Ogren Dump Solar Project</b>	No new updates
<b>Events and Marketing</b>	The first annual SnowBowl will be held March 2 - 5, 2023. The dates for Thursdays on Sweden Street have been released. We encourage anyone who is planning a reunion to consider including a Thursdays on Sweden Street event in their plans.
<b>Landbank</b>	No new updates
<b>Chapter 13 Rewrite</b>	Planning Board working on this in addition to the 2024 comprehensive plan
<b>Federal American Rescue Plan Act</b>	Aroostook County has released the program statement for 2023. On agenda for tonight.
<b>Blight Cleanup</b>	No new updates
<b>Birdseye Cleanup</b>	Staff has been gathering information on the work done by CES at the Birdseye site to determine exactly what it would take to get it cleaned up and ready for development in anticipation of applying for grants.
<b>60 Access Highway</b>	Evergreen Lanes featuring Rendezvous Restaurant is open
<b>River Front - Master Plan</b>	\$10,000 has been raised to date for this effort, currently seeking a USDA grant for funding. CRRC is requesting an appropriation from the City Council in the 2023 Municipal Budget.
<b>Façade Improvement Program</b>	The Spring application period is open. Please check the website for details. Please apply by March 15.
<b>Aldrich ATV/Snowmobile Storage</b>	No new updates
<b>Jarosz Storage - Limestone St</b>	No new updates
<b>Business Outreach</b>	Memere Rae's Designs will open at 82 Herschel Street on February 14. Business Newsletters going out soon.

## Other Administrative Projects

<b>Tax Acquired Property Policy</b>	No new updates
<b>Nylander</b>	The City Council Municipal Buildings committee toured the museum on Thursday.
<b>Fire Structural Work</b>	No new updates
<b>Fire Station Renovations</b>	A bid was received for the removal of the air handling and pellet boiler is currently out for bid. Contractors are working on the design for a new heat and air system.
<b>Police Station</b>	USDA has requested a lot of information. Staff is working on fulfilling those requests.
<b>River Road</b>	No new updates
<b>Investment Policy</b>	No new updates
<b>Trailer Park Closure</b>	The occupants of a mobile home in the park appeared in court on February 7 due to non-payment of rent. They are aware that the City's intent is to close the mobile home park and they need to be out in July. The City has agreed not to request a writ of possession until at least April 30, 2023.
<b>Cable Franchise Renewal</b>	Interestingly, a citizen called recently to express her concern that the City Manager contact information is listed on her cable bill. She is not happy that she is being charged a fee for cable that is remitted to the City and wants to know where the money is going. I let her know that it is revenue that goes into the General Fund to pay for city services.
<b>Airport</b>	The citizen Airport Advisory Committee met on January 25. It was a very productive meeting.
<b>Personnel Policy</b>	No new updates
<b>New LED Street lights</b>	No new updates
<b>Comp Plan Update</b>	There was a work session the Wellness Center to discuss "Arts, History and Culture". The Code Enforcement Officer is working with NMDC to get a quote for technical assistance to complete the 2024 Comprehensive Plan. The Planning Board is requesting an appropriation from the City Council in the 2023 Municipal Budget.
<b>COVID-19 Status</b>	There has been a surge in COVID-19 cases locally
<b>15 Prospect Street</b>	The Code Enforcement Officer is working through the process in the manner advised by the City Attorney.
<b>Water Street Fire</b>	There was a fatal fire at 7 Water Street on Wednesday January 25. The incident is under investigation by the Office of the State Fire Marshal. City police and public works departments worked together to keep the scene secure and safe so that the city fire department, along with mutual aid from others could work the fire. After the scene was released, the debris left by the office of the State Fire Marshal on Water Street was hauled by public works to the landfill. The building had only "force placed" insurance. The owner is two years behind on paying property tax.
<b>Age-Friendly Efforts</b>	No new updates
<b>Other Updates</b>	The City of Caribou should soon be receiving the updated GIS shape files from the state's orthoimagery project from Spring 2022. This was a joint project with the Caribou Utilities District.