

**Council Agenda Item #1:** Roll Call

The Caribou City Council held a City Council meeting, Monday, May 8, 2023, in the Council Chambers with the following members present; Deputy Mayor Boma, Councilors Goughan, Morrill, Theriault and Willey. Mayor Smith and Councilor Bagley were absent and excused.

Manager Thompson was present for the meeting.

Department Managers Brian Lajoie (Fire Chief) Ken Murchison (CEO/Zoning Administrator), Carl Grant (Finance Director) and Gary Marquis (Superintendent of Parks and Recreation) were present for the meeting.

Paul Bagnall of the Aroostook Republican covered the meeting, and it was broadcasted via Spectrum and YouTube.

**Council Agenda Item #2:** Invocation/Inspirational Thought

Deputy Mayor Boma read an invocation.

**Council Agenda Item #3:** Pledge of Allegiance

Deputy Mayor Boma led the Pledge of Allegiance

**Council Agenda Item #4:** Public Forum

Troy Haney, Caribou Resident & Business Owner

Mr. Haney came to express his concerns regarding the Caribou Economic Development Committee. He explained that the Council member and the City Manager normally do not have voting rights. He continued to explain that if a person on the committee is a developer and there is a conflict then they should abstain from the vote. He urged the City Council to move forward with the proposal as it is and amend as time goes on as needed.

**Council Agenda Item #5:** Minutes

a. Regular City Council meeting – April 10, 2023

Motion made by Councilor Theriault, seconded by Councilor Willey to accept the minutes from April 10, 2023, as presented.

Roll Call Vote: D. Bagley – Absent, R.M. Goughan – Yes, J. Morrill – Yes, J. Theriault – Yes, L. Willey – Yes, J. Smith – Absent, C. Boma – Yes (So voted)

**Council Agenda Item #6:** Bid Openings, Awards, and Appointments

a. Introduction of the new Chief of the Caribou Fire and Ambulance Department

Manager Thompson introduced Brian Lajoie as the new fire chief for the City of Caribou as of May 9, 2023. Chief Lajoie is a graduate of Caribou High School. He attended Northern Maine Technical College and Southern Maine Community College. Chief Lajoie began on the paid call force in April of 1992 and was hired as a career member of the department in October of 1995.

He was later promoted to Captain in February of 2016. Chief Lajoie has also been the treasurer for the Caribou Volunteer Fire Department since 2002 and is a Master Mason with Caribou Masonic Lodge #170 and Washburn Lodge #193 and is an ANAH Shrine member.

Chief Lajoie thanked Manager Thompson and the Council for the opportunity and explained that he is excited to get into his new role.

b. Annual Appointment of members to the Northern Maine Development Commission

Motion made by Councilor Willey, seconded by Councilor Theriault to appoint Mayor Jody Smith and City Manager Penny Thompson as the Northern Maine Development Commission membership appointments.

Roll Call Vote: D. Bagley – Absent, R.M. Goughan – Yes, J. Morrill – Yes, J. Theriault – Yes, L. Willey – Yes, J. Smith – Absent, C. Boma – Yes (So voted)

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

There were no items scheduled for discussion.

**Council Agenda Item #8:** Reports by Staff and Committees

a. Tax-Acquired property at 8 Shirley Drive

Carl Grant (Finance Director) explained that he has received an offer from Mr. Corriveau for Map 37, Lot 18, 8 Shirley Drive in the amount of \$8,000. The property had previously been out to bid for \$18,000 and received no bids.

Motion made by Councilor Goughan, seconded by Councilor Morrill to accept the \$8,000 from Mr. Corriveau for Map 37, Lot 18, 8 Shirley Drive.

Roll Call Vote: D. Bagley – Absent, R.M. Goughan – Yes, J. Morrill – Yes, J. Theriault – No, L. Willey – No, J. Smith – Absent, C. Boma – No (motion failed, no quorum)

b. Manager's Report

Manager Thompson reviewed the City Manager's Report dated May 8, 2023.

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

a. Request from RSU #39 for additional funding for capital project (track)

Evan Graves, Athletic Director, RSU #39

Mr. Graves came to speak to the Council regarding a funding request to repair/replace the track located at the High School. The track is an all-weather surface track and a space that the whole community uses. Typically, a track like this would last 15-18 years, and the current track is 30 years old. The renovation of the track would give improved safety for both the students and the community to exercise. He is estimating that they will need \$133,940 to help fund the difference of the track. Mr. Graves explained that at one time the school department had given money back

to the City and that the money is still in a reserve and that is the money he is requesting a portion of.

Council had a brief discussion and asked him if this is to reuse or expand, and if they have considered charging outside communities for the use of the track.

Mr. Graves explained that the current bid is to replace the same size track that is there with the 6 lanes and that they have considered charging outside organizations and municipalities for use of the track, but there are no charges at this time.

Council had a brief discussion and asked about cleats (i.e., soccer cleats), vehicles, equipment, and other items on the track, if the Athletic Boosters has been able to help with the track and when the ESSR funds are due to expire.

Mr. Graves answered that once the new track is in place it will go back to the rules that were previously in place that no cleats or vehicles are allowed on the track, and that the Athletic Boosters have not been able to help because they weren't able to do much during COVID. The ESSR funds expire on September 30, 2023.

Mr. Graves explained that it is going to be a 2-phase project, in the first phase they would be concentrating on the track, then the second phase would work on the fencing and demolition of the old buildings.

b. Countersign the RSU#39 Budget Validation Referendum Warrant

Motion made by Councilor Morrill, seconded by Councilor Willey to countersign the RSU # 39 warrant.

Roll Call Vote: D. Bagley – Absent, R.M. Goughan – Yes, J. Morrill – Yes, J. Theriault – Yes, L. Willey – Yes, J. Smith – Absent, C. Boma – Yes (So voted)

c. Conveyance of half of a paper street off Corriveau Street

Motion made by Councilor Morrill, seconded by Councilor Willey to convey the east half of Violette Street extension where it adjoins Lot 46 according to the survey and plan of the Walter J. and Rose Marie Corriveau subdivision by A.H. Rheinlander, Surveyor which is recorded at the Southern Aroostook Registry of Deeds in Volume 14, Page 31 to J&A, LLC subject to a water and sewer line easement in favor of Caribou Utilities District.

Roll Call Vote: D. Bagley – Absent, R.M. Goughan – Yes, J. Morrill – Yes, J. Theriault – Yes, L. Willey – Yes, J. Smith – Absent, C. Boma – Yes (So voted)

d. Discussion and possible revision of Ordinance #1, 2023 Series – Chapter 22

Motion made by Councilor Morrill, seconded by Councilor Theriault to table the discussion regarding Chapter 22 until the next meeting when all councilors would be present.

Roll Call Vote: D. Bagley – Absent, R.M. Goughan – Yes, J. Morrill – Yes, J. Theriault – Yes, L. Willey – Yes, J. Smith – Absent, C. Boma – Yes (So voted)

e. Discussion and possible action on having one monthly meeting in June, July and August

Motion made by Councilor Theriault, seconded by Councilor Willey to move to one meeting in June, July in August.

Roll Call Vote: D. Bagley – Absent, R.M. Goughan – No, J. Morrill – Yes, J. Theriault – Yes, L. Willey – Yes, J. Smith – Absent, C. Boma – Yes (So voted)

**Council Agenda Item #10:** Old Business

There were no items scheduled for discussion.

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

Councilor Willey said she is not sure if the library is participating in the yard sale this year but that they will be having their perennial sale June 10<sup>th</sup> in the Caribou room. They are also working on their Story Walk. They have one set up and ready and it will be at McElwain's Strawberry Farm, and offers are going to be going to Goughan's farm for one as well.

Councilor Morrill stated that the Pellet boiler has been removed from the Fire Department and that he wanted to say that Staples Construction did a great job. It is also in place for the Highway department to repair the retaining wall at some point, but they are currently down by 5 employees, the fire station is down by 3, Police Department is down by 2, the rec is down by at least 2.

Deputy Mayor Boma explained that she would like to schedule a Police Department committee meeting.

**Council Agenda Item #12:** Next Regular Meeting: May 22

**Council Agenda Item #13:** Executive Session(s) (May be called to discuss matters identified under MRSA, Title, §405.6)

Council did not enter executive session.

**Council Agenda Item #14:** Adjournment

Motion made by Councilor Theriault, seconded by Councilor Willey to adjourn the meeting at 6:57 p.m.

Roll Call Vote: D. Bagley – Absent, R.M. Goughan – Yes, J. Morrill – Yes, J. Theriault – Yes, L. Willey – Yes, J. Smith – Absent, C. Boma – Yes (So voted)

Danielle Brissette, Secretary