

Council Agenda Item #1: Roll Call

The Caribou City Council held a Special City Council meeting, Monday, August 14, 2023, in the Council Chambers with the following members present; Mayor Smith, Deputy Mayor Boma, Councilors Bagley, Goughan, Morrill, Theriault and Willey.

Manager Thompson was present for the meeting.

Department Managers Michael Gahagan (Police Chief), Gary Marquis (Superintendent of Parks and Recreation), Dave Ouellette (Public Works Director) and Lisa Plourde (Housing Director) were present for the meeting.

Melissa Lizotte of the Aroostook Republican covered the meeting, Rothery Sullivan of WAGM-TV covered the meeting, and it was broadcasted via YouTube and Spectrum.

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 by the public.

Council Agenda Item #5: New Business, Ordinances and Resolutions

a. Resolution 08-01-2023, Establishing the 2023 Property Tax Rates and Related Deadlines

Manager Thompson explained that at the second meeting in July because things when moving into the states form had a missing calculation. There was also a discussion to cut from municipal appropriation and add from other revenues the amount from the resource reserve which has been done. She stated that the proposed mil rate using the resource reserve is 19.5.

Motion made by Councilor Bagley, seconded by Councilor Goughan to set the 2023 mil rate at 19.3 and reduce our 2023 expense budget by\$88,400 as follows:

10- General Government: Reduce \$860,871 by \$6,500 for a new total of \$854,371 (which is still a 13.7% increase over 2022, compared to the 183.9% increase requested)

12- Nylander Museum: Reduce \$53,903 by \$5,000 for a new total of \$48,903 (which is still a 157.5% increase over 2022, compared to the 183.9% increase requested.

20- General Assistance: Reduce \$43,047 by \$8,400 for a new total of \$34,647 (which is still a 29.3% increase over 2022, compared to the 60.6% increase requested.

25- Library: Reduce \$246,852 by \$6,400 for a new total of \$240,452 (which is still a 10.7% increase over 2022, compared to the 13.7% increase requested)

35- Police: Reduce \$1,870,971 by \$16,800 for a new total of \$1,854,171 (which is still a 10.0% increase over 2022, compared to the 11.1% increase requested)

50- Recreation: Reduce \$656,660 by \$27,000 for a new total of \$629,665 (which is still a 14.8% increase over 2022, compared to the 19.6% increase requested).

51- Parks: Reduce \$198,997 by \$5,000 for a new total of \$193,997 (which is still a 13.1% increase over 2022, compared to the 16.0% increase requested)

60- Airport: Reduce \$101,462 by \$7,000 for a new total of \$94,462 (which is still a 10.2% increase over 2022, compared to the 18.3% increase requested)

61- Caribou Trailer Park: Reduce \$13,455 by \$6,300 for a new total of \$7,155 (which reflects a 43% decrease from 2022, compared to the 6.4% increase requested, taking into consideration that the trailer park has closed).

Councilor Morrill stated that the mil rate has 3 components, and that the municipality always takes a big hit, and that we really have no say over the RSU and the County.

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

Motion made by Councilor Morrill, seconded by Councilor Theriault to set the 2023 mil rate at 19.5.

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

Motion made by Councilor Morrill, seconded by Councilor Theriault to set the date of commitment as Thursday, August 17, 2023.

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

Motion made by Councilor Morrill, seconded by Councilor Theriault to set the due date as Monday, August 31, 2023.

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

Motion made by Councilor Morrill, seconded by Councilor Theriault to set the date for interest to begin as Sunday, October 1, 2023.

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

Motion made by Councilor Bagley to set the rate of interest on delinquent taxes at 4%.

Motion failed for lack of second.

Motion made by Councilor Morrill, seconded by Deputy Mayor Boma to set the rate of interest on delinquent taxes at 8%.

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

Motion made by Councilor Morrill, seconded by Deputy Mayor Boma to establish a rate of interest on overpayments and or abatement of property taxes at 0%.

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

Motion made by Councilor Morrill, seconded by Councilor Willey to close the city office at 1:00 pm on Friday, December 29, 2023 so staff can complete the year end process.

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

Motion made by Councilor Morrill, seconded by Councilor Theriault to change the revenue lines as follows:

Line Number	Description	Original Budget	Amended Budget
R10-01-32	Property Taxes	\$ 3,615,900	\$ 3,621,819.19
R10-01-34	Overlay	\$ 0	\$ 21,341.98
R11-01-01	Economic Development (TIF)	\$ 315,000	\$ 747,801
R22-01-04	Homestead Exemption	\$ 830,000	\$ 914,086.63
R22-01-05	BETE Reimbursement	\$ 175,000	\$ 392,153.93

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

Council Agenda Item #6: Reports and discussion by Mayor and Council Members

Councilor Goughan commended both Councilors Bagley and Morrill and stated that they did a great job at expressing their opinions even though they were on opposite sides. He also thanked Councilor Bagley for the work that he did to bring the information to the table.

Councilor Morrill thanked the department heads and employees for the work that they do. He also stated that you should check out the construction at the landfill with the creation of the new cell.

Council Agenda Item #7: Next Regular Meeting August 28

Council Agenda Item #8: Executive Session(s) (May be called to discuss matters identified under MRSA, Title 1, §405.6)

The Council did not enter executive session.

Council Agenda Item #9: Adjournment

Motion made by Councilor Willey, seconded by Councilor Theriault to adjourn the meeting at 6:26 pm.

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

Danielle Brissette, Secretary