

City Manager's Report January 22, 2024

THE UNITED STREET	Economic Projects
River Front - Powerplants	The CRRC (Riverfront Development Committee) is the steering committee for the River Front Power Plants Brownfields project. A public hearing will be held on Tuesday January 30 at 6:00 pm to discuss the ABCA and the Community Engagement Plan. We encourage anyone interested to attend this important meeting.
Broadband Initiative	In the most recent email from MCA (1/4/2024), it is reported that, "The target for a contract is the end of this month. Charter has provided us with the location data, but we are reviewing it for all towns in the Reach Me grant, which takes time as we ensure that we're matching that data against what is included in the FCC maps that we are required to use. You are correct that there have been several mapping efforts to review unserved locations, including in Caribou. The complication now is that because of the source of these funds (US Dept of Treasury), we're required to match those locations to the map of broadband locations that the FCC has developed (and is updated every 6 months). For some locations, this is a relatively simple matching process, but in some cases, the dot on the map being in just a slightly different location means that the address used in Charter's system doesn't match perfectly with how the FCC has coded that particular home or business."
Ogren Dump Solar Project	This is changing ownership. City Attorney Rick Solman is looking over an estoppel that has been presented for signature.
Events and Marketing	Trails are open. Have fun, be safe and please patronize our Caribou businesses.
Landbank	Councilor Bagley has information to present about moving forward with a Landbank Initiative.
Chapter 13 Rewrite	The Caribou Planning Board is prioritizing this for 2024.
Federal American Rescue Plan Act	The County of Aroostook had a public hearing on program changes for 2024.
Blight Cleanup	The Caribou Planning Board is prioritizing this for 2024.
Birdseye Cleanup	Staff is working with the EPA and DEP on funding for the clean-up.
Caribou Development Committee	Next meeting is Wednesday January 24, 2024 @ 6 pm
River Front - Master Plan	Staff is working with NBRC on a "partial notice to proceed" so that work can begin on the Riverfront Master Plan.
Façade Improvement Program	The Spring Façade Improvement Grant period will be opening in February with a March 15 application deadline.
Caribou Economic Growth Council	Next meeting is Thursday January 25, 2024 @ 7am

	Other Administrative Projects
Tax Acquired Property Policy	No new updates.
Nylander	Look for more information soon on "Dino Days" coming during February break.
Fire Structural Work	No new updates.
Fire Station Renovations	No new updates.
Police Station	Police Station meeting held Friday January 19. The Chair will provide an update.
River Road	No new updates.
Investment Policy	No new updates.
Trailer Park Closure	All mobile homes have been removed.
Cable Franchise Renewal	No new updates.
Airport	Staff has been working on compliance with all Federal mandates for DBE (Disadvantaged Business Enterprise) program.
Personnel Policy	No new updates.
New LED Street lights	No new updates.
Comp Plan Update	No new updates.
LD 2003 Implementation	No new updates.
15 Prospect Street	Notices of violation were sent. Letters were received 1/16/2024. Moving on to next steps.
Water Street Fire	No new updates.
Age-Friendly Efforts	Next meeting Tuedday 1/23/2024 @ 2pm
Personnel Changes	Public Works, Caribou Police Department, Caribou Fire, City Clerk and Caribou Code Enforcement all hiring.
DOT Village Partnership	Contracts have been signed. The state has given the City the Win number for the project.
Aroostook Waste Solutions	Next meeting Friday January 26, 2024 @ 8am
Cary Medical Center	The 100th anniversary of Jefferson Cary's vision for a Caribou community hospital will be celebrated in 2024.
Other Updates	There will be an eclipse on April 8, 2024. Caribou is in the path of totality.
Administrative Approvals	No new updates.