

Council Agenda Item #1: Roll Call

The Caribou City Council held a City Council meeting on Monday, September 25, 2023, with the following members present; Deputy Mayor Boma, Councilors Bagley, Morrill, Theriault and Willey. Mayor Smith and Councilor Goughan were absent and excused.

Manager Thompson was present for the meeting.

Department managers Carl Grant (Finance Director) and Gary Marquis (Superintendent of Parks and Recreation) were present for the meeting.

Melissa Lizotte 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

Jane McCall , Caribou Resident and interim Superintendent of RSU # 39

Ms. McCall came in and explained to the Council that she would like to work to bridge the gap between the school board and Council and provided a list of school board meetings to the Council.

Council Agenda Item #5: Minutes

a. Regular City Council meeting – July 10, 2023

Motion made by Councilor Morrill, seconded by Councilor Willey to accept the minutes from July 10th as presented.

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

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

a. Recognition of Caribou City Clerk Danielle Brissette for obtaining Certified Clerk of Maine status

Manager Thompson read a memo from Kim McLaughlin, Chairperson of the Maine Town and City Clerk's Association Certification Committee.



Maine Town & City Clerks' Association

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September 8, 2023

Penny Thompson, City Manager
City of Caribou
25 High St
Caribou, ME 04736-2710

Dear Ms. Thompson:

Congratulations are in order for the City of Caribou and for Danielle Brissette, City Clerk. The Maine Town & City Clerks' Association has awarded Danielle Certification, which carries the distinction of Certified Clerk of Maine (CCM) status. This certification process has required many hours of dedication to achieve. The certification process requires that applicants receive training in a number of courses that relate to their field of expertise and continue with this education in an effort to retain their certification status.

Danielle will be recognized for receiving this certification at the MTCCA's Annual Meeting & Networking Day on September 12, 2023 at the Augusta Civic Center in Augusta.

The MTCCA understands the investment of time and resources it takes to achieve this status. Benefits of certification include an expanded network of peers, an enhanced knowledge of applicable state and federal laws, exposure to broadened processes in municipalities across the State, and instills a deeper sense of confidence. In addition, municipalities may further benefit with reduced fees for insurance and bonds for this individual.

Again, congratulations. Danielle Brissette joins a prestigious group of municipal clerks who approach their career with the utmost professionalism!

Sincerely,

Kim McLaughlin, Certification Committee Chairperson
Maine Town & City Clerks' Association

cc: Danielle Brissette

Representing Over 400 Municipalities

b. Recognition of Roland Anderson who will be 100 years old on 10-06-2023

Deputy Mayor Boma and the Council send best wishes to Mr. Anderson wishing him a happy birthday. They signed a card to be mailed to him.

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. Nordic Lakers Snowmobile Trail system – Superintendent of Parks & Recreation

Gary Marquis explained that the Nordic Lakers have disbanded their club and have reached out to him to see if he could absorb the 13 miles of trails that they currently groom. Mr. Marquis stated that the trails are not too far out of the way and desperately need to be continued. The club would release the funds and groomer to Caribou to help with the transition. The groomer would be kept by Caribou and be able to be stored in Axel siding to continue use for the section of trail.

Motion made by Councilor Willey, seconded by Councilor Morrill to accept the 13 miles of trails groomer and funding from the Nordic Lakers Snowmobile Trail Club.

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

b. August 2023 Financials – Finance Director

Carl Grant (Finance Director) reviewed the August 2023 Finance report.

Motion made by Councilor Morrill, seconded by Councilor Theriault to accept the August 2023 Finance report as presented.

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

c. Manager’s Report

Manager Thompson reviewed the City Managers report dated September 25, 2023.

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

a. Introduction of Ordinance 4 – 2023 Series “An Ordinance Amending Chapter 17 General Assistance”

Councilor Morrill introduced Ordinance No. 4, 2023 Series, An Ordinance Amending Chapter 17 General Assistance.

b. Discussion and possible action to cancel the October 10, 2023 regularly scheduled City Council meeting

Council had a brief discussion regarding the possibility of cancelling or continuing with the regularly scheduled meeting for October 10th.

Motion made by Councilor Theriault, seconded by Councilor Willey to cancel the October 10, 2023 City Council meeting.

Roll Call Vote: D. Bagley – No, Morrill – No, J. Theriault – Yes, L. Willey – Yes, C. Boma – Yes, (Motion fails for lack of quorum)

c. Designation of MMA Voting Delegate Credentials for the MMA Annual Business Meeting 10/6/2023

Motion made by Councilor Willey, seconded by Councilor Theriault to authorize City Manager Penny Thompson to appoint a voting delegate and an alternate who will attend the MMA Convention.

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

Council Agenda Item #10: Old Business

a. RSU #39 Request for \$164,500 in funding for the Caribou High School Track Facility

Jane McCall, interim Superintendent for RSU #39 came in to talk to the council about the need for funding for the track facility project that would benefit the community. She explained that Evan Graves had come to share the vision in the spring of the year and since then the groundwork has been started and the surface of the track has been removed. The department is working to use funds that were previously acquired and additional funds that they are working to get to complete the project. Ms. McCall stated that in November they will have a referendum on the ballot regarding a bond for \$660,000 to help with resurfacing the tennis courts, replacing scoring and timing building and much more at the facility.

Council had a brief discussion regarding the proposal and thought it would be best to wait for the results of the bond issue and to have the full council present to make decisions on the matter.

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

Councilor Bagley stated that he attended the Development Committee meeting and they had lots of wonderful ideas and that he is excited for the next meeting and more discussion. He is also wondering about land banking because it was discussed at the Planning Board meeting and not at a Council meeting.

Councilor Theriault reminded everyone to go to the dust bowl, she also stated that they had a Nylander meeting and that it looks beautiful inside, it's clean and well proportioned.

Councilor Willey stated that the Library Board is beginning to work on getting basket donations for their upcoming fundraiser and discussing items to be addressed such as paint and steps. She also expressed concern about nuisance properties.

Deputy Mayor Boma stated that they are working to schedule a meeting for the Police Department, and that she has heard from residents regarding the rat problems and encourages code to continue to send notices of violation.

Councilor Morrill congratulated the Caribou Fire department on their win at the Muster and thanked Public Works for assisting with a paving job, he extended his gratitude to Caribou Police department for continuing to keep the city safe.

Council Agenda Item #12: Next Regular Meetings: October 10 & October 23

Council Agenda Item #13: Executive Session(s) (May be called to discuss matters identified under MRSA, Title 1, §405.6)

Council did not enter executive session.

Council Agenda Item #14: Adjournment

Motion made by Councilor Willey, seconded by Councilor Theriault to adjourn the meeting at 6:56p.m.

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

Danielle Brissette, Secretary