

Councilor Bagley introduced the following ordinance:

Ordinance No. 3, 2024 Series
City of Caribou
County of Aroostook
State of Maine

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING CHAPTER 23 – CARIBOU HORIZONS YOUTH COUNCIL

Short Title: An ordinance establishing the Caribou Horizons Youth Council (CHYC)

The City Council of the City of Caribou, County of Aroostook, State of Maine, pursuant to the requirements of the City of Caribou Charter, Section 2.11 does ordain the following:

Chapter 23 is hereby created to establish the Caribou Horizons Youth Council.

This ordinance, being introduced on February 26, 2024 and a public hearing being held on April 22, 2024 was duly passed by the City Council of the City of Caribou, this ___ day of _____, 2024.

Daniel Bagley, Councilor

Courtney Boma, Mayor

Jennifer Kelley, Councilor

Tamara Lovewell, Councilor

John Morrill, Councilor

Jody Smith, Councilor

Joan Theriault, Councilor

Attest:

Danielle Brissette, City Clerk

Chapter 23 Caribou Horizons Youth Council
ARTICLE I Caribou Horizons Youth Council

Section	
23-101	Purpose
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Sec. 23-101 Purpose

The Caribou Horizons Youth Council (hereinafter, “CHYC”) is an official standing committee of the City, established as a joint initiative between the City of Caribou and the Regional School Unit 39 (RSU 39), to provide input and recommendations to the Caribou City Council and its affiliated advisory and regulatory boards and to plan and implement youth-identified community events and initiatives.

Sec. 23-102 Goals

The CHYC is established to provide City of Caribou leadership a better understanding of youth perspectives, priorities and issues. In addition, the CHYC increases youth appreciation for the value of public service, promotes regular and active civic engagement among Caribou youth, and gives Caribou youth a formal role in local decision-making, ensuring their voices are heard. Finally, the CHYC provides a “hands-on” educational environment for Caribou youth to learn about how local government works, including the operation of councils, boards and commissions, which complements in-class civic education.

Sec. 23-103 Appointment and Tenure

The CHYC is composed of seven (7) members, nominated from the junior and senior classes at the beginning of the school year by the staff of Caribou High School, and approved by majority vote of the Caribou City Council. All members serve 1-year terms, aligned to the school year (i.e. 1 August through 31 July).

Vacancies, due to death, resignation, or any other reason, shall be filled by nomination by the staff of Caribou High School and approval by majority vote of the Caribou City Council.

The CHYC is supported by a Caribou City Council Liaison, a Caribou High School Staff Advisor, and the Caribou City Staff.

Sec. 23-104 Responsibilities

The CHYC will:

- Provide input/recommendations to the City Council on general topics of interest and specific items before that body
- Conduct outreach among its peer groups, plan and execute youth-oriented activities, events, and initiatives
- Attend Caribou City Council meetings, give presentations and participate in discussions
- Establish bylaws, elect officers, and hold monthly meetings to review and discuss City business, formulate input and recommendations
- Formulate an annual report to City Council on past activities, plans and priorities for the coming year

The Caribou City Council will:

- Appoint a Council Liaison to guide and advise the CHYC

The Caribou High School Staff will:

- Assign an advisor, who will follow activities of the CHYC, attend meetings, provide advice and guidance
- Manage the student application and adjudication process and nominate student members to the Caribou City Council no later than 1 July of each year.
- Provide materials (e.g. office supplies, computer equipment, etc.) as necessary to support CHYC operations and activities

The Caribou City Staff will:

- Schedule meeting space, maintain official records, and respond to inquiries and information requests

Sec. 23-105 Bylaws

The CHYC shall adopt bylaws providing for the officers, organization, and activities of the council. The bylaws shall be approved initially, and may be amended subsequently, by a majority vote of the CHYC. The initial bylaws, and any subsequent amendment to the bylaws, shall be forwarded to the City Council for review and approval, before those bylaws or amendments take effect.

Sec. 23-106 Compensation and Benefits

No member of the CHYC shall receive any compensation for council activities, nor shall any person serving on the CHYC be deemed an agent or employee of the City, being entitled to any customary employment benefits, specifically including, but not limited to workers' compensation benefits.

Sec. 23-107 Funding

All operating funds shall be held in a dedicated City of Caribou account and managed by the City of Caribou Finance Director.

All grant applications seeking funds more than \$2,500.00 shall be approved by the City Council, and all funds related to CHYC activities shall be administered through the City Manager's office.

Sec. 23-108 Reporting Requirements

The CHYC shall file an annual report with the City Council on or before July 31st each year, covering goals, activities, and accomplishments during the preceding school year.