

**Council Agenda Item #1:** The Caribou City Council held a Special City Council Meeting on Monday, March 2, 2026, in the Council Chambers with the following members present: Mayor Boma, Deputy Mayor Smith, Councilors Bagley, Knight Phair, Lovewell, and Watson. Councilor Kelley was present via Zoom.

Department manager Peter Baldwin (Library Director) was present for the meeting.

City Manager Penny Thompson was present for the meeting.

The meeting was broadcast via Spectrum and YouTube.

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

Deputy Mayor Smith read the invocation.

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

Mayor Boma led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Council Agenda Item #4:** Declaration of any Conflict of Interest

There were no declarations made.

**Council Agenda Item #5:** Public Forum

There were no comments made by the public.

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

a. Consideration of bids received for the Caribou Public Library construction project

Motion made by Councilor Lovewell, seconded by Councilor Watson to accept an adjusted bid from A.M. Construction for a base bid of \$1,446,600 with a duration of 200 days, and authorize the City Manager to sign a Notice to Proceed with A.M. Construction.

Councilor Bagley explained that there was some concerns discussed in a previous meeting regarding removing the sound absorbing wall panels in the telehealth room for a value of \$15,000.

Peter Baldwin (Library Director) explained that the rooms will still be soundproof, the panels are mainly to help to reduce noise in the room and prevent echo. They are looking at options to add the panels at a later date with other funds.

Roll Call Vote: D. Bagley – Yes, J. Kelley – Yes, L. Knight Phair – Yes, T. Lovewell – Yes, J. Smith – Yes, P. Watson – Yes, 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 #9:** New Business, Ordinances and Resolutions

There were no items scheduled for discussion.

**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 Watson read an email received by City Manager Penny Thompson regarding the Fort Street Bridge:

*“Good afternoon Ms. Thompson,*

*MaineDOT has some good news. Our design consultant has completed a finite element structural analysis of the bridge and determined that it will be possible to construct the new bridge deck in stages while maintaining one 12-foot-wide lane of alternating traffic on the bridge. The detour around using other roads down to Fort Fairfield to cross the river will not be necessary. We expect there may still be a need to do some short closures of 10 to 15 minutes at certain points during construction. We also will be looking into ways to mitigate traffic queues that are expected to occur. This may include restriping lanes on Route 1 and modifying traffic signal timing at the intersections. As we proceed into final design we will continue to coordinate with EMS and town officials. If you have any questions please feel free to reach out.*

*Respectfully,*

*Mark Parlin*

*MaineDOT Bridge Program*

*Project Manager”*

Councilor Watson also stated that he was able to present Senator Susan Collins with one of the Caribou pins and that she was noticeably touched by the gesture.

**Council Agenda Item #12:** Next Regular Meetings: March 9- Budget Workshop, March 16- Regular Meeting

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

Council did not enter into executive session.

**Council Agenda Item #14:** Adjournment

March 2, 2026

26-06 Pg. 3

Motion made by Councilor Watson, seconded by Councilor Knight Phair to adjourn the meeting at 5:08 PM.

Roll Call Vote: D. Bagley – Yes, J. Kelley – Yes, L. Knight Phair – Yes, T. Lovewell – Yes, J. Smith – Yes, P. Watson – Yes, C. Boma– Yes (So voted)

Danielle Brissette, Secretary