

March 9, 2009

09-06

A regular meeting of the Caribou City Council was held at 7:00 p.m. on Monday March 9, 2009, in Council Chambers with the following members present: Mayor Kenneth G. Murchison, Jr., Christopher A.R. Bell, R. Mark Goughan, Karla M. Bell, David Martin, and Mary Kate Barbosa.

Council Agenda item #1: Public Input. There was no input.

Council Agenda item #2: Consider acting upon a Council Resignation, pursuant to Charter Section 2.06.

Mayor Murchison regretfully announced that Councilor Albert had submitted his resignation from the Council for health reasons.

Motion made by K. Bell, seconded by C. Bell, to accept, with deep regret, appreciation and sincere respect for the work done by Councilor Albert as a private citizen on the Planning Board and as a City Councilor, his personal request to resign as a City Councilor.

(5 yes, 1 no, M. Goughan) So voted.

Mayor Murchison noted that in the years of working with him Councilor Albert had proven to be a “fierce champion and friend to the City, his adopted community.” On behalf of the Council he conveyed “well wishes, good luck and Godspeed” to Councilor Albert.

Council Agenda item #3: Sesquicentennial Update

John Swanberg reported on the recently held Irish Celebration dinner/entertainment evening and the first annual ski event, approximately \$3,000 was raised from the three events. He thanked all of those who had worked to make those projects so successful. A Proclamation Day is set for April 5th at 2:00 p.m. at the Unitarian Universalist Church and is to be attended by the Council and several invited dignitaries. 200 tickets will be available at the CCC&I office, the Rec Center and the Library for anyone interested in attending. The book project is still ongoing, as recipes are being compiled. Some 100 people will be honored in the book, which will be sold for \$20.00 a copy sometime in the near future. The deadline for the tree project is the end of March. Wendy Bossie’s stories about Caribou are being featured, 1 a day for 150 days, on Channel X radio. The prints that were on display at the Irish Celebration and currently in the store window across from the post office are going to be distributed throughout the community in business establishments. Anyone interested in learning more about the festivities may refer to www.celebratecaribou.com.

Council Agenda item #4: Consider approval of the following Minutes:

- a. February 23, 2009 Workshop with the Assessor
- b. February 23, 2009 Regular Council Workshop
- c. February 23, 2009 Workshop Session
- d. February 9, 2009 Amended Workshop Session
- e. March 5, 2009 Special Meeting

Motion made by C. Bell, seconded by D. Martin, to accept the minutes of the February 23, 2009 Workshop with the Assessor. (6 yes) So voted.

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Motion made by C. Bell, seconded by K. Bell, to accept the minutes of the February 23, 2009 Regular Council Workshop. (6 yes) So voted.

Motion made by K. Bell, seconded by D. Martin, to accept the minutes of the February 23, 2009 Workshop Session. (6 yes) So voted.

Motion made by D. Martin, seconded by C. Bell, to accept the minutes of the February 9, 2009 Amended Workshop Session. (6 yes) So voted.

Motion made by K. Bell, seconded by MK Barbosa, to accept the minutes of the March 5, 2009 Special Meeting. (4 yes, 2 abstentions M. Goughan, D. Martin) So voted.

Council Agenda item #5: Consider issuing a Letter of Recognition to the Caribou 150th Celebration Committee for the Aroostook Celtic Celebration.

Motion made by C. Bell, seconded by D. Martin, to authorize a letter of recognition to the Caribou 150th Celebration Committee for the Aroostook Celtic Celebration. (6 yes) So voted.

Council Agenda item #6: Consider issuing a Letter of Recognition to the Maine Invitational Ski Sprint Committee for the First Annual Maine Invitational Ski Sprint Races.

Motion made by D. Martin, seconded by MK Barbosa, to authorize a letter of recognition to the Maine Invitational Ski Sprint Committee for the First Annual Maine Invitational Ski Sprint Races. (6 yes) So voted.

Council Agenda item #7: Public Hearing to receive written and verbal comments on the 2009 Capital Improvements Program, pursuant to Charter Section 5.09.

7:13 p.m. Public Hearing opened.

The City Manager gave a power point presentation of the proposed CIP for 2009. The CIP Committee increased the initial department request of \$759,804 with a recommendation of \$762,200. A final review by the Council resulted in a figure of \$664,856, which includes the gymnasium debt service and represents a decrease of \$15,114 under the 2008 CIP. The various adjustments were detailed. There were no public comments. See Exhibit "A"

7:26 p.m. Public Hearing closed.

Council Agenda item #8: Consider acting upon the 2009 Capital Improvements Program, pursuant to Charter Section 5.09.

Motion made by C. Bell, seconded by MK Barbosa, to adopt the 2009 Capital Improvements Program, pursuant to Charter Section 5.09. (5 yes, 1 no, M. Goughan) So voted.

Council Agenda item #9: Public Hearing to receive written and verbal comments on the 2009 Municipal Budget, pursuant to Charter Section 5.08.

7:28 p.m. Public Hearing opened.

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The City Manager gave an in depth power point presentation of the proposed 2009 Budget, which totals \$8,540,626.36, a decrease, before adjusting for Revenue, of \$91,883.74 under the 2008 Budget. He summarized the major factors contributing to the impacts to expenses and revenues. The mil rate projections were given only as estimates as there are yet no known numbers for the school budget or the estimated taxable property values. There were no public comments. See Exhibit "B"

8:12 p.m. Public Hearing closed.

Council Agenda item #10: Consider acting upon the 2009 Municipal Budget, pursuant to Charter Section 5.08.

Motion made by C. Bell, seconded by D. Martin, to adopt the 2009 Municipal Budget, pursuant to Charter Section 5.08 as presented. (5 yes, 1 no, M. Goughan) So voted.

Council Agenda item #11: Consider re-appointments of Public Members to CADET and one new Exofficio, pursuant to Code Section 16-102:

- f. AMHC Peter McCorison
- g. Parks & Recreation Kathy Mazzuchelli
- h. Media Representative Michael Bosse
- i. City Councilor as Exofficio – Mary Kate Barbosa

Motion made by, seconded by, to re-appoint Peter McCorison, Kathy Mazzuchelli, and Michael Bosse as public members to CADET and to re-affirm Mary Kate Barbosa as an Exofficio Council member. (6 yes) So voted.

Council Agenda item #12: Consider the recommendation of the Nominating Committee from Cary Medical Center for Jim Mockler to the Cary Board of Directors.

Motion made by C. Bell, seconded by K. Bell, to appoint Jim Mockler to the Cary Board of Directors for three years. (6 yes) So voted.

Council Agenda item #13: Consider a one time application for a Texas Hold'em Game of Chance for the American Legion Post #15, Sweden Street.

Motion made by D. Martin, seconded by C. Bell, to approve the one time application for a Texas Hold'em Game of Chance for the American Legion Post #15, Sweden Street. (6 yes) So voted.

Council Agenda item #14: Consider the renewal of a Special Entertainment Permit for the Caribou Country Club, 728 Sweden Street.

Motion made by K. Bell, seconded by D. Martin, to approve the renewal of a Special Entertainment Permit for the Caribou Country Club, 728 Sweden Street. (6 yes) So voted.

Council Agenda item #15: Consider the renewal of a Golf Club Liquor License for the Caribou Country Club, 728 Sweden Street.

Motion made by D. Martin, seconded by K. Bell, to approve the renewal of a Golf Club Liquor License for the Caribou Country Club, 728 Sweden Street. (6 yes) So voted.

Council Agenda item #16: Updates

The City Manager offered the following information on several topics:

- Legislation Agenda – The Secretary of State has approved sufficient signatures for 4 ballot initiatives for November – Voter approval of all tax increases – Repeal of the School Consolidation Law – Reduction in auto excise tax – Citizen Initiative to legalize medical marijuana
- North/South Highway – Aroostook Delegation held the first (previous Wednesday) of a series of weekly phone conference calls with anyone interested – Delegation to gather in Augusta with calls made to Houlton, Caribou, Presque Isle and Fort Kent – Aroostook is only county to establish this method of communication - The Governor and the MDOT Commissioner were included in Wednesday’s call to focus on N/S Hgy – Governor working with MDOT to segregate Segment 4 from Segment 7 to expedite construction of Caribou’s segment at a cost of \$20-23 million – Governor mandated an MOU between MDOT, PI and Caribou to segregate, do a separate EIS for each with construction of Caribou’s segment to be in 2010 – Presque Isle’s segment anticipated for 2011 – Complete outline of time line for each step, public input, etc. being sought
- NMDC – Steve to attend Corridor Management meeting Tuesday to learn of work since last meeting between Caribou and Presque Isle
- Community Development Director – Completion of second round of interviews – Candidate to be in Caribou March 16th – Interview team to conduct onsite interview – Anticipate filling position by end of March
- Library Audio Books – Notification from Diane Dubois that Library now offers audio books on line at no cost

Council Agenda item #15B: Consider posting certain municipal roads to vehicles over 23,000 lbs. Pursuant to 29-A MRSA 2390 (4).

Motion made by D. Martin, seconded by C. Bell, to post the following roads to vehicles over 23,000 lbs., pursuant to 29-A MRSA 2390 (4) and as recommended by the Public Works Director: Plante Road, Albair Road, George Watson Memorial Drive, Ogren Road, Maysville Siding Road, West Gate Road, Caribou Lake Road, Old Washburn Road, Vance Road, Richards Road, and Railroad Street.
(6 yes) So voted.

Council Agenda item #17: Other Business

j. First Read Street Lights and Siting Policy

The City Manager is working to develop a policy to address streetlights and siting. A mapping of all lights in the compact zone was provided by Maine Public Service at no cost. Chief Gahagan is reviewing the lights for possible wattage change or light reductions. Code Enforcement is working with the Planning Board to look into areas of deficiency in the Code Book as far as general site design review standards. The Council will have the opportunity to review some of this information at the March 23rd Workshop.

k. First Read of RSU Penalty Adjustments or Redistribution

The State is looking at possibly redistributing penalty fees collected from municipalities rejecting the vote on School Consolidation to those municipalities that are in compliance. Councilors received information on two possible methods to accomplish this but no final decisions have been reached. One proposed formula would gain for Caribou \$227,663.15 above the EPS amount and another would create a gain of \$57,819.83.

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1. Notice of Howes Corner PRP Group Meeting and Consent Decree on March 11, 2009

The City Manager will be attending a meeting Wednesday March 11th in Bangor of the Executive Committee of the PRP group to receive an update on the final consent decree settlement negotiations with the EPA and Maine DEP. Information will be forthcoming.

Upcoming meetings: March 23, 2009 Regular Council Workshop – Topics - Lighting policy and Executive Session for discussion of appointing someone to fill Councilor Albert's vacant seat within thirty days.

8:51 p.m. Motion made by C. Bell, seconded by D. Martin, to adjourn. (6 yes) So voted.

Judy-Ann Corrow, Secretary