

**Council Agenda Item #1:** Roll Call

The Caribou City Council held a regular City Council Meeting on Monday, December 11, 2023 in the Council Chambers with the following members present; Mayor Smith, Deputy Mayor Boma, Councilors Bagley, Morrill, Theriault, and Willey. Councilor Goughan was absent and excused.

Manager Thompson was present for the meeting.

Department manager Gary Marquis (Superintendent of Parks & Recreation) was 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

Mayor Smith read an invocation.

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

Mayor Smith led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Council Agenda Item #4:** Public Forum

There were no comments made by the public.

**Council Agenda Item #5:** Minutes

a. Minutes for the Regular City Council meeting on November 13, 2023

Motion made by Councilor Morrill, seconded by Councilor Willey to accept the minutes from the November 13, 2023, meeting as presented.

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

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

a. In appreciation for the City Council service of City Councilors R. Mark Goughan and Louella Willey

Mayor Smith explained that tonight is the final City Council meeting for 2023 and that he wanted to thank our outgoing councilors for their terms on the Council. He presented Councilor Willey with a clock and her name plate thanking her for her 3-year term on the Council.

Mayor Smith stated that Councilor Goughan was on Council 12 years of service on the City Council including several years as the Mayor, and extended his gratitude to him.

b. Cleanup bids and update, Account #3093, Map 31 Lot 9 (15 Prospect Street)

Manager Thompson explained that the property was determined to be a nuisance in the fall of 2022. A life safety inspection in December 2022 started a dangerous building action in the Spring of 2023. A fire occurred at the property in September 2023.

Mr. Barretto has limited means to clean up the property. He has been trying to take some loads to the landfill and salvaging what he can. However, staff continue to receive complaints about this property on a weekly basis. At the November 13, 2023, City Council meeting, it was voted to have staff solicit bids from contractors. Bids were solicited with a due date of December 7 in time for this Caribou City Council meeting.

Updates: The City had a court date on Friday December 1 @ 8:30 am. The Judge has said that he will provide us with a decision in a few weeks.

DHHS has contacted staff about doing a walk-thru to determine if they can help him get into a better living situation. This is scheduled for Thursday December 14. Staff will keep the four bids received prior to the due date. We do not have a decision from the Judge to know if we can proceed with the removal of the dangerous building. We will attempt to contact those who have made bids to let them know of the delay.

**Council Agenda Item #7:** Public Hearings and Possible Action Items

a. Public Hearing for Caribou Riverfront Redevelopment Committee requested ordinance change

Mayor Smith explained that at a recent meeting of the Riverfront committee, staff brought up inconsistencies in Chapter 20 which established the Caribou Riverfront Redevelopment Committee. The committee voted that the official name would be Caribou Riverfront Redevelopment Committee as both Caribou Riverfront Redevelopment Committee and Caribou Riverfront Renaissance Committee are mentioned in the Chapter. Since the change would need to be approved by the Caribou City Council they are going to be having a public hearing.

Open Public Hearing: 6:02 PM

There were no comments made by the public.

Councilor Willey explained that it was basically just a name change and a clean up of the language.

Closed public hearing: 6:22 PM

Motion made by Councilor Willey, seconded by Deputy Mayor Boma to adopt the proposed changes to Chapter 20 Riverfront Redevelopment Committee as presented.

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

**Council Agenda Item #8:** City Manager's Report

a. Manager's Report

Manager Thompson reviewed the City Manager's Report dated December 11, 2023.

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

a. Approval of Beano and Game of Chance Licenses

Motion made by Councilor Morrill, seconded by Deputy Mayor Boma to approve the games of chance as presented.

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

**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 Bagley stated that it has been a pleasure to serve on the Council, that it is very interesting and challenging and thanked everyone for their patience as he learned the ropes.

Councilor Morrill stated that this is his 2<sup>nd</sup> year serving on the Council and it is a huge learning curve.

Deputy Mayor Boma wished everyone Happy Holidays and stated that she is excited to be re-elected and extended a warm welcome to the new councilors.

Councilor Theriault stated that it is her 11<sup>th</sup> year on Council, and she complimented the new decorations and stated that the downtown area is beautiful.

Councilor Willey stated that the library participated at the craft fair and next week children will be able to go to the library to shop for their family for Christmas gifts.

Mayor Smith stated that 2023 brought some hurdles and that it was a pleasure working with everyone, he welcomed the new councilors and stated that downtown is looking good.

**Council Agenda Item #12:** Next Meeting: January 2, 2024 Organizational Meeting

**Council Agenda Item #13:** Adjournment

Motion made by Councilor Willey, seconded by Deputy Mayor Boma to adjourn the meeting at 6:43 PM

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

Danielle Brissette, Secretary