

CALAIS CITY COUNCIL
APRIL 13, 2017

The first regular monthly meeting of the Calais City Council was held this date in the Council Chambers of the Calais City Building at 6:00 p.m.

Present was Mayor Howard presiding over Councilors Sherrard, Rogers, Mingo, Moreside, and Nixon.

On a motion by Councilor Moreside and a second by Councilor Nixon, it was unanimously voted to approve the following consent agenda as published:

- A. Previous Minutes
- B. Monthly Departmental Reports
- C. Chase Fund for April - \$150.00
- D. Treasurer's Warrants City through April 12, 2017
\$ 395,276.44
- E. Treasurer's Warrants School through April 12, 2017
\$ 395,735.86
- F. Treasurer's Warrants Water through April 12, 2017
\$ 32,905.65

The City Manager then gave his report. He informed the Council that a draft budget will be available for them next week. The first budget session will be on April 25th at 6:00 p.m.

The following Council Committee reports were submitted:

1. **Finance Committee** – No report
2. **Property Committee** – No report
3. **Public Safety Committee** – No report
4. **Public Works Committee** – the public works committee chair met with the Public Works Director to look at roads that need to be paved and also, they went to look at the buildings being donated to the City by Customs.
5. **School Liaison Committee** – No report
6. **Economic/Community Development Committee** – met to discuss the bill on Nursing Home Care.

There was no Public Input on Agenda Items.

Council Geel entered the meeting at 6:14 p.m.

Attendance

Consent Agenda

City Manager's Report

Council Committee Reports

The next agenda item was dealing with the following previously deferred Tax Acquired Property Bids:

8 Cherry Lane Map 6, Block 2, Lot 27

Sheri Wakefield \$3221.00
Calais, ME

23 Chapel Street Map 3, Block 3, Lot 18-1

Hardy J Preston \$2500.00
Edmunds, ME

Jason Pratt \$2750.00
Cathedral City, CA

The Bidder on the 8 Cherry Lane withdrew their bid. It was then moved by Councilor Sherrard, seconded by Councilor Moreside, and unanimously voted to tear down the house on this property.

The former owner of the property located at 23 Chapel Street sent a letter requesting that he be able to redeem this property by paying everything owed. Following a lengthy discussion, it was moved by Councilor Moreside and seconded by Councilor Rogers to again refer matter to the City Solicitor so that he could confer with the owner's lawyer, with a recommendation being brought back to the next meeting. Voting in favor of this motion were Councilors Moreside, Nixon, Geel, Sherrard and Rogers. Mayor Howard and Councilor Mingo were opposed. Motion carried.

The City Clerk then presented the Council with the bid results/proposals for the property located at 28 Lincoln Street:

28 Lincoln St Map 10, Block 5, Lot 4 Bid Amount

John Chambers, Jr 100.00
Calais, ME

Rick Carpenter 5210.00
Calais, ME

On a motion by Councilor Sherrard and a second by Councilor Geel, it was unanimously voted to award this bid to Rick Carpenter in the amount of \$5210.00, with the stipulation that the property must be brought up to the Code Enforcement Officer's Habitable Standard within 1 year or it will revert back to the City with no refund.

Tax Acquired Property

It was moved by Councilor Moreside and seconded by Councilor Nixon, to authorize the City Manager to purchase a Downtown Security Camera System from Eagle Security for an amount not to exceed \$8,000 to be charged to the undesignated fund balance. Voting in favor of this motion were Councilors Geel, Rogers, Mingo, Moreside, Nixon, and Mayor Howard. Councilor Sherrard was opposed. Motion carried.

Downtown Security Cameras

On a motion by Councilor Moreside and a second by Councilor Geel, it was unanimously voted to approve the following sewer abatement requests:

Sewer abatement

1. Acct #1553 Stanley McKeown \$259.50
2. Acct #1904 United Methodist Church \$176.46

On a motion by Councilor Mingo and a second by Councilor Geel, it was unanimously voted to authorize the Finance Department to contract with InforME to provide online payment of Current Taxes, Water and Sewer Bills, as well as Boat Registrations for the citizens of Calais.

InforME

The next agenda item was a consideration of issuing a release deed for the property located at 9 Chase Street, as the Council deems that the obligations of the deed recorded in Book 2284, page 167 having been met. It was moved by Councilor Moreside and seconded by Councilor Mingo to authorize this release deed. Voting in favor of this motion were Councilors Geel, Sherrard, Rogers, Mingo, Moreside, and Nixon. Mayor Howard abstained.

Release Deed

Following a brief description of the proposed Downtown Lighting Project, it was moved by Councilor Nixon and seconded by Councilor Rogers, to authorize the City Manager to prepare specifications and solicit bids for the proposed project. Voting in favor of this motion were Councilors Sherrard, Rogers, Mingo, Moreside, Nixon, and Mayor Howard. Councilor Geel abstained.

Downtown Lighting Project

On a motion by Councilor Sherrard and a second by Councilor Mingo, it was unanimously voted to authorize the Police Department to purchase a Bullet Proof Vest and charge to CIP.

Bullet Proof Vest Purchase

On a motion by Councilor Mingo and a second by Councilor Nixon, it was unanimously voted to authorize the City Manager to advertise the intent to fill the vacant Paramedic position of the Ambulance Dept.

Paramedic Position

It was moved by Councilor Moreside, seconded by Councilor Nixon, and unanimously voted to re-fund the Downeast Economic Development Council with our share of \$35,000 to be charged to the Economic Development Loan Fund.

On a motion by Councilor Rogers and a second by Councilor Geel, it was unanimously voted to approve the Sewer Commitment for the Quarter Ending March 31, 2017 in the amount of \$212,758.86.

On a motion by Councilor Moreside and a second by Councilor Rogers, it was unanimously voted to have an appraisal of the house located at 57 Baring Street done, and to solicit bids on the demolition of the building.

Other items addressed with no Council action being taken at this time included:

- Condition of some abandoned properties
- Possible Nursing Home Beds available
- need for workshop on Tax Acquired Property
- need for more lighting at Triangle park
- Cost of Environmental Monitoring at Land Fill

On a motion by Councilor Nixon and a second by Councilor Mingo, it was unanimously voted to retire into Executive Session at 7: 14 pm for the following:

- A. Contract Negotiation Pursuant to MRSA Title 1 Sec. 405 6 (d)
- B. Personnel Issue Pursuant to MRSA Title 1 Section 405 6 (a)
- C. Union Negotiation Pursuant to MRSA Title 1 Section 405 6 (d)

Open session resumed at 7:34 pm

It was moved by Councilor Moreside, seconded by Councilor Nixon, and unanimously voted to approve the proposed Union Contract for the Police Department.

There being no further business to come before the City Council at this time, it was moved by Councilor Moreside, seconded by Councilor Geel, and unanimously voted to adjourn this meeting at 7:35 p.m.

ATTEST: 
Theresa M Porter, City Clerk

Downeast Economic
Development Council
Funding

Sewer Commitment

57 Baring Street

Other Items

Executive Session

Open Session

Police Union contract

Adjourn