

CALAIS CITY COUNCIL
March 23, 2023

The second 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 Mingo presiding over Councilors, Niles, Sherrard, Rogers, Beale, Carr, and Macdonald.

On a motion by Councilor Rogers and a second by Councilor Carr, it was unanimously voted to approve the following consent agenda:

- A. Previous Minutes*
- B. Treasurer's Warrants City through March 22, 2023*
\$ 159,379.59
- C. Treasurer's Warrants School through March 22, 2023*
\$ 318,117.71
- D. Treasurer's Warrants Water through March 22, 2023*
\$ 16,430.02
- E. Dunkin Easter Egg Hunt-Special Event Application*

The mayor then called for a public hearing regarding the proposed updated General Assistance Ordinance. After there was no comment from the public, a motion was made by Councilor Niles to adopt the updated ordinance. Councilor Beale seconded. The motion passed with all in favor.

A public hearing was then held to consider renewal of a special amusement permit for Karen's Main St. Diner. After no comments from the public, a motion to approve was made by Councilor Macdonald and seconded by Councilor Sherrard. The motion passed with all in favor.

A third public hearing was then held to consider an application for extension of liquor license by Mama Lola's Mexican Food & Murphy's Blue Star Saloon. After no public comment, a motion to approve was made by Councilor Niles and seconded by Councilor Beale. The motion carried with all in favor.

The City Manager then gave his report. He congratulated our local cheer teams on their many successes this season. The teams included the Rising Stars, Shooting Stars, Shining Stars and

Attendance

Consent Agenda

Public Hearing-GA Ordinance

Public Hearing-Karen's Diner
Special Amusement Permit

Public Hearing-Mama Lola's
Liquor License Extension

City Manager's Report

Northern Stars Mix. He also gave an update on the warming center being operated by AMHC at their recovery support center on Main Street. The center is open on Friday and Saturday nights, now through 4/30/2023. The city manager also wanted to make the public aware of the Maine Homeowner Assistance Fund as well as the Maine Water Assistance Program. These are two programs available through the state to assist with past due taxes as well as water and sewer bills. Lastly, he then requested the council suspend the rules and add Union Negotiations to the Executive Session portion of the agenda. A motion to do so was made by Councilor Rogers and seconded by Councilor Carr. The motion carried with all in favor.

Follow Up Items

Maine DOT has set aside \$50k for a study etc. into expanding the Sunrise Trail from Ayers Junction into Calais.

Sunrise Opportunities still working on funding for project in former St. Croix Apartments.

Best ways to get the word out about the Maine Water Assistance Program and Maine Homeowner Assistance Fund.

Committee Meetings

The Property Committee met at 5:30 pm prior to this meeting and discussed setting a start date for RFP purposes of the city revaluation. They recommended a date of April 1, 2024. A motion was made by Councilor Beale to move forward using the April 1, 2024 start date for the RFP. The motion was seconded by Councilor Rogers. The motion carried with only Councilor Sherrard opposed.

The Public Works Committee met at 5:00 pm prior to this meeting. They discussed the need for a replacement plow truck for the Public Works Department. Public Works Director Seelye is going to look for a used truck but also talk to the dealer about new models on the lot to potentially hold. A motion was made by Councilor Carr to secure financing for the purchase now in order to lock in the current interest rate. The motion was seconded by Councilor Macdonald. The motion carried with all in favor

ATV Trail Update

Former St. Croix Apartments

State Assistance Programs

Property Committee

Public Works Committee

The School Liaison Committee met on 3/22/23 and discussed the status for the school expansion as well as the search for a new superintendent.

Old Business

The last item of old business was the discussion of bids received on tax acquired properties. The city clerk presented the council with a list of the bids received for the three properties advertised.

Regarding the property at Map 024, Lot 008 and Map 024, Lot 008-001, the following bids were received:

Stephen McGouldrick-Calais, ME	\$1,010.00
Kim Mcclintick-Calais,ME	\$5,100.00
Laurent Guillette-Calais, ME	\$4,252.00
Russell D. Johnson-Olympia, WA	\$3,001.00
David Lee Seavey-Crawford, ME	\$6,001.00
David Ross-Calais, ME	\$3,100.00
Carl, Bailey-Calais, ME	\$10,001.01
Cecil E. Moreside-Calais, ME	\$3,001.00
Christopher G. Poirier-Waterville, ME	\$5,750.00
Noelle & Christopher Jorgensen-Cutler, ME	\$5,001.00
Stephen Smith-Calais, ME	\$21,006.00
Allen Clark-Calais, ME	\$5,000.00

A motion was made by Councilor Carr and seconded by Councilor Niles to accept the bid from Stephen Smith in the amount of \$21,006. The motion carried with all in favor.

Regarding the property at Map 032, Lot 144 the following bids were received:

Lee Chabre-Baileyville, ME	\$7,600.00
Noelle & Christopher Jorgensen-Cutler, ME	\$2,100.00
Matthew Labeau-Robbinston, ME	\$2,572.00

A motion was made by Councilor Carr and seconded by Councilor Niles to accept the bid from Lee Chabre in the amount of \$7,600. The motion carried with all in favor.

School Liaison Committee

Tax Acquired Properties

Map/Lot 024-008 & 024-008-001

Map/Lot 032-144

Regarding the property at Map 002 Block 003 Lot 003, the following bids were received:

Noelle & Christopher Jorgensen-Cutler, ME \$2,551.00

A motion was made by Councilor Carr and seconded by Councilor Niles to accept the bid from Noelle & Christopher Jorgensen in the amount of \$2,551. The motion carried with all in favor.

New Business

The council then moved on to new business. A discussion was held regarding a public notification system called TextMyGov. After consideration, a motion was made by Councilor Carr and seconded by Councilor Niles to not move forward with the program. The motion carried with only Councilor Beale opposed.

The next item of business was the City's annual spring dump day. After discussion a motion was made by Councilor Sherrard to hold the free dump days on May 13th and 14th with the exception of tires whose fees will remain in effect. The motion was seconded by Councilor Niles and passed with all in favor.

The last item of new business was a discussion of mowing and maintenance contracts for the city's parks and playgrounds for the upcoming season. A motion was made Councilor Macdonald to solicit bids for these services. The motion was seconded by Councilor Carr and passed with all in favor.

Other Items Discussed

Other topics discussed with no action taken included:

- Congratulation again to our cheer teams
- Job well done by the Rec Director on maintaining the skating rink this winter
- Job well done by Public Works on snowplowing etc.
- Update on downtown street lighting
- Thank you to city staff
- Downtown flowers this summer
- Response to email
- Update on funds raised by cheer comp.

Map/Lot 002-003-003

Public Notification System

Free Spring Dump Day

Mowing Bids for City Parks

Roundtable

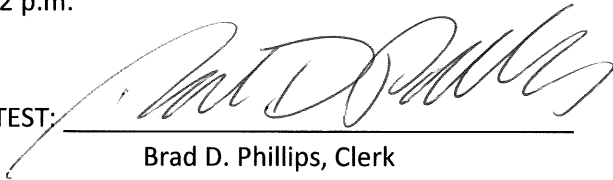
Executive Session

At this time, pursuant to MRSA Title 1, §405 (6)(c), a motion was made to enter executive session for the consideration of a personnel matter and also to discuss union negotiations pursuant to MRSA Title 1, §405 (6) (d) The motion was made by Councilor Carr and seconded by Councilor Niles. The motion carried with all in favor. The council entered executive session at 6:50 pm.

The council returned from executive session at 7:01 pm. A motion was made to ratify the fire contract as presented. The motion was made by Councilor Rogers and Seconded by Councilor MacDonald. The motion carried with all in favor.

There being no further business to come before the City Council at this time, it was moved by Councilor Macdonald, seconded by Councilor Carr, and unanimously voted to adjourn this meeting at 7:02 p.m.

ATTEST:



Brad D. Phillips, Clerk

Executive Session

Fire Contract

Adjournment