



Presque Isle City Council Meeting

January 4, 2023

5:30 PM

Sargant Family Community Center

Call to Order - Roll Call

Present: Chairman K. Freeman, Deputy Chairman J. Shaw, Councilors C. Green, D. Cyr, M. Chasse, G. Nelson and J. Willette.

City Manager Martin Puckett and City Clerk Kimberly Finnemore were also present.

Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman K. Freeman called the meeting to order at 5:36 PM and led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. City Clerk Kimberly Finnemore Administered Oath of Office to newly elected City councilors. Douglas Cyr and Jeffrey Willette.

2. Council appointments.

Chairman

Councilor M. Chasse nominated Councilor Jacob Shaw to be Chairman for the 2023 year, seconded by Councilor J. Willette.

Councilor C. Green nominated Chairman K. Freeman to be Chairman for the 2023 year, seconded by Councilor G. Nelson.

City Clerk K. Finnemore handed out paper ballots for council to vote.

Votes 3 for K. Freeman and 4 for J. Shaw.

Deputy Chairman

Councilor D. Cyr nominated Councilor K. Freeman for Deputy Chairman for the 2023 year, seconded by Councilor J. Willette

Vote: 7-0

Aroostook Waste Solutions-Deputy Chairman K. Freeman

Audit Committee (2)-Deputy Chairman K. Freeman and Chairman J. Shaw

Finance Committee (2) (Available to sign weekly warrants)- Councilor C. Green and Deputy Chairman K. Freeman.

Presque Isle Development Fund Board of Trustees (2)- Deputy Chairman K. Freeman and Councilor J. Willette

Presque Isle Downtown Revitalization Committee (May Appoint up to 2) - Chairman J. Shaw and Councilor M. Chasse.

Presque Isle Downtown TIF Advisory Committee (2)- Chairman J. Shaw and Councilor C. Green

BE IT RESOLVED by Deputy Chairman K. Freeman seconded by Councilor G. Nelson to accept the slate of Nominees with exception of Councilor C. Green to take Councilor M. Chasse's place on the Presque Isle Downtown Revitalization Committee.

Vote 7-0

3. 2023 APPOINTMENTS Council appoints volunteers/staff 1 year term

CITY ATTORNEY:

Richard Currier per Article 4.10 of the City Charter.

CITY CLERK:

Kimberley Finnemore per Article 4.10 of the City Charter.

CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER

TIM ST. PETER as the Code Enforcement Officer, Building Inspector, Housing Inspector, Electrical Inspector Local Health Inspector, and Plumbing Inspector.

AIRPORT ADVISORY BOARD -4-year appointment

Granville Lamb Jr.- 12/31/26

Earl Twiggs -12/31/26

AROOSTOOK WASTE SOLUTIONS - 1 year

Dana Fowler - 12/31/23

Martin Puckett - alternate -12/31/23

AUDIT COMMITTEE -4 year

One member needed

BOARD OF ASSESSMENT REVIEW -3 year

Gregory Roderick 12/31/25

LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES -3 year

Allison Ladner, Martha LaPointe, Lois Brewer, Nicole Cote, 12/31/25 Alternates Ed Escobar and Sharon Brown 12/31/23

PLANNING BOARD -4 year
Stacy Walton 12/31/26

PRESQUE ISLE DEVELOPMENT FUND BOARD OF TRUSTEES 3 year
Floyd Rockholt 12/31/25

PRESQUE ISLE DOWNTOWN REVITALIZATION COMMITTEE 4 year
No vacancies

PRESQUE ISLE DOWNTOWN TIF ADVISORY COMMITTEE 1 year
Sean Nordenhold and Floyd Rockholt-12/31/2023

RECREATION & PARKS ADVISORY COMMITTEE 3 year
Renee Fournier -12/31/25

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS 3 years
Earl Twiggs -12/31/25

AD HOC- AIRPORT TERMINAL

Core Committee

Scott Wardwell, Airport Director

Marty Kelly, Operations Director

Kellie Heu, United- Station Manager

Larry Clark, Airport Advisory Board

Extended Committee Members

City Council Member

Car Rental Representative-Shelly Proulx

TSA Representative

United Airlines- Corporate Real Estate Representative

Central Aroostook Chamber of Commerce- LaNiece Sirois

Presque Isle Air Museum Representative

Ex-Officio Appointments to Boards and Committees

Airport Advisory Board-Three Ex-Officio Seats- One Year Term-City Manger M. Puckett, Tom Powers and Scott Wardwell-12/31/2023

Library Board of Trustees-Two Ex-Officio Seats- One-year Term- Sonja Eycler and Bradley Turner-12/31/23

Presque Isle Development Fun Board of Trustees-Three Ex-Officio Seats-One Year Term- Tom powers, Martin Puckett and Galen Weibley-12/31/23

Presque Isle Downtown TIF Advisory Committee-Three Ex-Officio Seats-One Year Term-Martin Puckett, Brad Turner and Galen Weibley-12/31/223

BE IT RESOLVED by Councilor M. Chasse, seconded by Chairman K. Freeman to approve the appointments and reappointments as presented in attached sheet for the City Charter, Board & Committee, and Ex-Officio appointments. Amend the Zoning Board of Appeals Earl Twiggs to 12/31/2025 instead of the typed 12/25/31.

Vote 6-0
Councilor J. Willette absent

4. Set City Council meeting times and places for 2023

Please find the following schedule for the 2023 regularly scheduled City Council meetings, which are based on past practices. The practice has been to meet the first Wednesday, once a month at 6:00 PM. If the Wednesday is a holiday, then the meeting would be postponed until the following Wednesday.

DATE	DAY	TIME
February 1, 2023	Wednesday	6:00 PM
March 1, 2023	Wednesday	6:00 PM
April 5, 2023	Wednesday	6:00 PM
May 3, 2023	Wednesday	6:00 PM
June 7, 2023	Wednesday	6:00 PM
July 5, 2023	Wednesday	6:00 PM
August 2, 2023	Wednesday	6:00 PM
September 6, 2023	Wednesday	6:00 PM
October 11, 2023	Wednesday	6:00 PM
November 1, 2023	Wednesday	6:00 PM
December 6, 2023	Wednesday	6:00 PM

BE IT RESOLVED by Chairman K. Freeman, seconded by Councilor M. Chasse that the regular City Council meetings be held on the first Wednesday of each month at 6:00 PM either in the Council Chambers, City Hall, 12 Second Street, Presque Isle, Maine or the multi-purpose room at the Sargent Family Community Center.

In instances when the first Wednesday is a recognized holiday, or in cases of severe weather when offices are closed, the regular meeting shall be held on the following Wednesday of the month at 6:00 PM. At regular meeting, the City Council shall decide if it wants to call a special meeting at a date and time determined by the City Council.

Vote: 6-0
Councilor J. Willette Absent

Recess

Deputy Chairman K. Freeman called for a recess of the City Council Meeting at 5:50 PM in order to hold the Presque Isle Industrial Council Annual Membership Meeting. Seconded by Councilor D. Cyr.

Vote: 7-0

The meeting was called back to order at 6:02 PM

Public Hearing

5. Request to re-pass Ordinances due to "Sunset Provision"
Chapter 53 Disbursement Warrant
Chapter 54 All-Terrain Vehicle
Chapter 60 Property Assessed

Chairman J. Shaw opened the public hearing at 6:04 PM;

City Manager M. Puckett spoke on the changes to Chapter 54. **Deleted** ATV operators shall not exceed the posted 10 MPH speed limit when traveling the section of ATV trail that runs parallel to Parsons Street from Harris Street to the Connector Road intersection.

There were no Citizens Comments

Chairman J. Shaw closed the Public Hearing at 6:06 PM

BE IT RESOLVED by Councilor C. Green seconded by Deputy Chairman K. Freeman to repass ordinances listed, with the changes to Chapter 54.

Vote: 7-0

6. Approval to Adopt Chapter 63 Lodging Establishment License Ordinance

Chairman J. Shaw opened the public hearing at 6:07 PM

City Manager M. Puckett spoke on Chapter 63 Lodging Establishment License Ordinance: Presented draft at December 7th Council meeting. Galen Weibley will discuss the past three month's work on the language with the Planning Board and stakeholders. Staff recommends approval.

Galen Weibley spoke on the changes in the language. and the Timeline for applications.

There were no Citizens Comments

BE IT RESOLVED by Councilor J. Willette, seconded by Councilor D. Cyr to adopt Chapter 63 Lodging Establishment License Ordinance.

Vote: 7-0

Citizen Comments

There were no citizens Comments

Consent Agenda

7. Approve Minutes from December 7, and December 12, 2022 meetings.
8. Approve 2022 Warrants #45-48 totaling \$1,649,142.11
9. Approve Reappointments of Carol MacPherson, Greg Roderick and Noel Currier to Presque Isle Utilities District Board of Trustees-12/31/2026
10. Approve Policy on Treasurer's Disbursement Warrants for Employee Wage and Benefits.
11. Approve Municipal Officers' Policy on Disbursement of Municipal Education Cost.

BE IT RESOLVED by Councilor C. Green, seconded by Deputy Chairman K. Freeman to approve Consent Agenda #7-#11 as presented.

Vote: 7-0

Old Business

No Old Business was discussed

New Business

12. Schedule Public Hearing to Amend Chapter 9 License and Public Hearing Fees

City Manager M. Puckett spoke about the Chapter 9 and said it hasn't been updated since 2016.

BE IT RESOLVED by Deputy Chairman K. Freeman, seconded by Councilor M. Chasse to schedule a Public Hearing for February 1, 2023 to consider adopting changes to Chapter 9 License and Public Hearing Fees.

Vote: 7-0

13. Schedule Public Hearing to Approve Amended Chapter 48 General Assistance Ordinance.

City Manager M. Puckett spoke on the changes to Chapter 48 General Assistance Ordinance that the state updated the Maximums.

BE IT RESOLVED by Councilor J. Willette, seconded by Councilor M. Chasse to Schedule a Public Hearing for February 1, 2023 to consider adopting changes to Chapter 48 General Assistance Ordinance.

Vote: 7-0

14. Tax Acquired Properties.

On Friday, December 16, 2022 at the close of business the automatic foreclosure took place on properties with 2020 unpaid taxes. A listing of the new tax acquired properties is now provided to the City Council. After receipt of this listing, the City Council has 21 days to determine if any of the tax acquired properties are to be retained for municipal use or if they are to be disposed of in accordance with Section 5 (Disposition of Tax Acquired Property) of the City's Policy for Tax Acquired Properties. Under the provisions of this Policy, the City Council may direct the Treasurer to offer the property for resale back to the prior owner(s) if they make arrangements to pay all past taxes due, accrued interest, costs associated with the lien and foreclosure process, and a \$150 administrative fee. Because we cannot make any arrangements either to prepare the property for sale or for accepting payments until this decision is made. My recommendation is as follows:

Property #1 - Retain by City

Property #2 thru #4 - List for sale with Realtor

Property #5 - Set up payment arrangement

1. 1967-RE Gogan, Walter 73 Chapman Rd. .44-acre lot w/ garage structure
Assessed value \$15,000
Liened Amount \$14,116.37
Liened Amount (2021) \$547.09
2022 taxes billed \$418.00
Comments-2020 tax bill includes supplemental billing for dangerous building removal and lot cleanup by PI Code Enforcement.
2. 128-RE Gogan, Walter 74 Exchange St. .10-acre lot
Assessed value \$14,000
Liened Amount \$261.58
Liened Amount (2021) \$3,386.19
2022 taxes billed \$332.50

Comments-2021 tax bill includes supplemental billing for dangerous building removal and lot cleanup by PI Code Enforcement

3. 700-RE Martin, Fernand 10 Delmont St. .18-acre lot

Assessed value \$15,700

Liened Amount \$4,501.16

Liened Amount (2021) \$490.59

2022 taxes billed \$372.88

Comments-2020 tax bill includes supplemental billing for dangerous building removal by PI Code Enforcement.

4. 471-RE Martin, Fernand 25 Turner St. .24-acre lot

Assessed value \$17,800

Liened Amount \$1,268.49

Liened Amount (2021) \$4,256.47

2022 taxes billed \$422.75

Comments-2021 tax bill includes supplemental billing for dangerous building removal by PI Code Enforcement.

5. 388-RE Theriault, Gerald 51 State ST. .27-acre lot with building

Assessed value \$64,400

Liened Amount \$261.23

Liened Amount (2021) \$1,715.55

2022 taxes billed \$1,541.40

Comments-Small balance due on 2020 tax year, tried contacting next of kin to payoff.

BE IT RESOLVED by Councilor C. Green and seconded by Councilor J. Willette that the City Council authorize property #1 to be retained by the City, list property #2 thru #4 for sale with a Realtor and authorize the City Treasurer to arrange a payment plan for Property #5 per the Policy for Tax Acquired Properties:

#1-73 Chapman Road

#2-74 Exchange Street

#3-10 Delmont Street

#4-25 Turner Street

#5-51 State Street

Vote: 7-0

Manager's Report

City Manager M. Puckett spoke on the Public Skate at the Forum. Fun activities at Rec will be Rugby Club, Ski Club, at the Library has family activities.

The Volunteer Fire Dept is going to hold the State Maine Muster in Presque Isle.

Announcements

United Way of Aroostook will hold a Black-Tie Gala on January 21, 2023 at 5:30 at the Sargent Family Community Center.

We have the following vacancies for Boards/Committees; Zoning Board and Planning Board. Please see the City Clerk for an application or apply online.

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Presque Isle City Council will be on Wednesday, February 1, 2023, 6:00 PM at the Sargent Family Community Center

Adjournment

BE IT RESOLVED by Councilor J. Willette seconded by Deputy Chairman K. Freeman to enter into Executive Session at 6:30 PM pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. § 405(6)(D) to discuss Negotiations.

Vote: 7-0

Out of executive session at 6:56 PM.

BE IT RESOLVED by Councilor M. Chasse, seconded by Councilor J. Willette to authorize the City Manager to negotiate with MDOT for the acquisition of 1.03 acres of land.

Vote: 6-0

Deputy Chairman K. Freeman Abstained

BE IT RESOLVED by Deputy Chairman K. Freeman seconded by Councilor J. Willette to enter into Executive Session at 7:01 PM pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. § 405(6)(D) to discuss Negotiations.

Vote:7-0

Out of executive session at 7:20 PM

BE IT RESOLVED by Councilor C. Green seconded by Councilor J. Willette to authorize the City Manager to finalize contract with Charter Communications.

Vote: 7-0

BE IT RESOLVED to adjourn by Chairman J. Shaw, second by Deputy Chairman K. Freeman at 7:22 PM.

Vote 7-0

Attested by: _____
Kimberly A Finnemore, City Clerk