



Presque Isle City Council Meeting

February 3, 2021

6:00 PM

Presque Isle City Council Chambers

Call to Order - Roll Call

Present: Chairman K. Freeman, Deputy Chairman J. Shaw, Councilors M. Chasse, C. Green, R. Smith, and J. Willette.

Absent: Councilors D. Cyr (arrived at 6:03 P.M)

City Manager Martin Puckett and City Clerk Thomas King were also present.

Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman K. Freeman called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM and led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Hearing

1. Approval for a Malt, Spirituous, and Vinous Liquor License and a Special Permit for Music, Dancing, and Entertainment for Presque Isle Country Club, with a location of 35 Parkhurst Siding Road (Single Hearing)

Chairman K. Freeman opened the Public Hearing at 6:01 PM.

There were no citizen comments.

Chairman K. Freeman closed the Public Hearing at 6:02 PM.

BE IT RESOLVED by Councilor M. Chasse, seconded by Councilor R. Smith to approve a Malt, Spirituous, and Vinous Liquor License and a Special Permit for Music, Dancing, and Entertainment for Presque Isle Country Club, with a location of 35 Parkhurst Siding Road.

Vote: 6 - 0

2. Approval for a Malt, Spirituous, and Vinous Liquor License and a Special Permit for Music, Dancing, and Entertainment for Pie Nana, Inc., d/b/a Irish Setter Pub, with a location of 710 Main Street (Single Hearing)

Chairman K. Freeman opened the hearing at 6:02 PM.

There were no comments.

Chairman K. Freeman closed the hearing at 6:03 PM.

BE IT RESOLVED by Deputy Chairman J. Shaw, seconded by Councilor J. Willette to approve a Malt, Spirituous, and Vinous Liquor License and a Special Permit for Music, Dancing, and Entertainment for Pie Nana, Inc., d/b/a Irish Setter Pub, with a location of 710 Main Street.

Vote: 6 - 0

3. Approval of a Malt, Spirituous, and Vinous Liquor License for Mainely Mexican, LLC, d/b/a Mainely Mexican, with a location of 6 State Road.

Chairman K. Freeman opened the hearing at 6:03 PM

There were no public comments.

Chairman K. Freeman closed the hearing at 6:03 PM.

BE IT RESOLVED by Councilor C. Green, seconded by Councilor M. Chase to approve a Malt, Spirituous, and Vinous Liquor License for Mainely Mexican, LLC, d/b/a Mainely Mexican, with a location of 6 State Road.

Vote: 7 - 0

4. Moved from Agenda Item #8 - Old Business - Tabled - Dangerous Building - 9 Allen Street

City Manager Puckett refreshed the Council's memory regarding the discussion of this property at the January 6, 2021 City Council Meeting and quickly brought the Council up to date on the events since that time.

On January 13, 2021 Code Enforcement Officer G. Howe, City Councilor C. Green, and City Clerk T. King met with Mr. Pelkey at the property in question. Also present was Investigator S. Michaud from the Fire Marshal's Office.

CEO G. Howe presented the Council with a timeline of the City's involvement with this property and a slideshow of updated pictures from the property, taken on January 13, 2021. CEO Howe explained each photo to the Council for clarity, stressing the significant deficiencies that needed to be addressed before the property could be deemed habitable.

Councilor C. Green echoed the sentiments of CEO Howe and added his own perspective to deficiencies he saw at the property.

Property owners Roger Pelkey and Robin LeGassie were not present for the hearing. Mr. Pelkey did provide written comments to City Manager Puckett which were provided to the Council.

Based on the evidence presented and the testimony of the Code Enforcement Officer concerning the condition(s) of the premise(s) owned by Roger Pelkey and Robin LeGassie located at 9 Allen Street:

BE IT RESOLVED by Councilor M. Chasse, seconded by Deputy Chairman J. Shaw:

- That the Council adjudge these properties to be a nuisance and dangerous to life or property;
- That the Council make and record an Order stating that the owner(s) shall, within (30) days of service of this Order, abate all conditions creating a nuisance or dangerous conditions to the satisfaction of the Code Enforcement Officer;
- That should the owner fail to comply with the specified time, the owner shall be assessed a civil penalty of \$100.00 per day and the City Council further directs the City Manager to cause the structure(s) to be demolished and removed. The cost for such demolition and removal shall be charged against the real estate upon which the structure sets and shall constitute a lien on such real estate.

Vote: 7 - 0

Citizen Comments

Greg LaFrancois, CEO of Northern Light Health, A. R. Gould addressed the Council and audience, highlighting the hospital's efforts regarding Covid-19 vaccination efforts. Mr. LaFrancois explained the hospital has partnered with Northern Maine Community

College and the Aroostook Area Agency on Aging to provide an efficient venue for mass immunizations at NMCC. They have the capability of immunizing around 1,000 people a day and are limited currently by the allotments of vaccine they are receiving. Mr. LaFrancois will return to the Council at future meetings to provide ongoing updates.

Consent Agenda

5. 2020 Minutes

- January 6, 2021 Minutes

6. 2020 Warrants #51 - #52, 2021 Warrants #1 - #3, totaling \$1,836,600.35

- Warrant # 51 - \$786,148.08
- Warrant # 52 - \$173,488.07
- Warrant # 1 - \$131,676.88
- Warrant # 2 - \$570,631.92
- Warrant #3 - \$174,655.40

7. Approve List of Election Workers

8. Approve Appointment

- Kim Finnemore as City Clerk

BE IT RESOLVED by Councilor M. Chasse, seconded by Councilor C. Green to approve Consent Agenda as presented.

Vote: 7 - 0

New Business

9. Goal Setting

City Manager Puckett would like to schedule a Goal Setting retreat or round table discussion to review present goals and discuss any new goals the Council may want to adopt. These sessions could be held on pre-determined dates at 3:00 PM to afford Staff and Councilors an opportunity to discuss these matters. Dates and venues will be decided upon in the coming weeks.

10. Davis Street Extension Discontinuance

Discussion only. City Manager Puckett reports the City has been approached by Chris Allen, the owner of 75 Davis Street regarding discontinuing the east end of Davis (between Carmichael Street and the railroad tracks) and that he would be willing to cover any costs associated with this discontinuance. Dana Fowler, Director of Public Services stated that the section of Davis in question does have minimal upkeep costs to Public Works, but does not see any adverse effects of discontinuance. It is unknown at this time if the abutting property owner or the railroad would have any objection to this action.

Councilors asked for input from the abutting property owners prior to making any determination on this matter.

11. Approve Budget Actuals 2020

City Manager Puckett and Finance Director Brad Turner presented the Council with 2020 financials and discussed some departments that had overspent.

BE IT RESOLVED by Councilor R. Smith, seconded by Councilor M. Chasse that the City authorize the following Departmental over-spending for 2020:

- Fire Department - \$29,616
- Public Safety Building - \$14,461
- Utilities - \$3,455
- Debt Service - \$3,653
- Information Technology - \$4,800

Vote: 7 - 0

12. Tax Acquired Properties for Bid

City Manager Puckett advised the Council there were two properties that had been Tax Acquired by the City. He wanted the Council's input whether to put the properties out to bid, list with a realtor, or offer to abutting neighbors before taking other action. After a brief discussion Councilors verbally agreed to have the City list the properties with a realtor and see what transpires.

13. Forum HVAC Upgrade RFQ

The Parks and Recreation Department recently advertised an RFQ seeking qualified entities for Forum HVAC upgrades. One RFQ was submitted prior to the deadline - Mechanical Services, Inc. Another RFQ was submitted, but received after the deadline

and RFQ opening.

BE IT RESOLVED by Chairman K. Freeman, seconded by Councilor R. Smith to approve to select Mechanical Services, Inc. for the Forum Heating System project.

Vote: 7 - 0

14. Item 14 was removed from the Agenda after meeting packets were assembled and agenda notifications were distributed.

Manager's Report

City Manager Puckett informed the Council of a letter of appreciation that he received on behalf of the City from Mr. Gene Curtis. Mr. Curtis expressed his sincere appreciation for the upgrades to the Mantle Lake Park trails thanks to efforts by the Park and Recreation Department.

Announcements

The next meeting of the Presque Isle City Council will be held in Council Chambers on March 3, 2021 at 6:00 PM.

Executive Session

BE IT RESOLVED by Councilor R. Smith, seconded by Councilor M. Chasse to enter into Executive Session at 7:24PM pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. § 405(6)(D) to discuss Negotiations.

Vote: 7 - 0

Council exited Executive Session at 7:46PM

BE IT RESOLVED by Councilor K. Freeman, seconded by Councilor R. Smith to enter into Executive Session at 7:46 PM pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. § 405(6)(D) to discuss Negotiations.

Council exited Executive Session at 8:58PM

Vote: 5 - 0

BE IT RESOLVED by Chairman K. Freeman, seconded by Councilor J. Willette to enter into Executive Session at 8:58PM pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. § 405(6)(D) to discuss Negotiations.

Adjournment

BE IT RESOLVED by Chairman K. Freeman, seconded by Councilor J. Willette to adjourn the meeting at 9:32 PM.

Vote 5 -0

Attested by: _____
Kimberly A Finnemore, City Clerk