



**SPECIAL TOWN MEETING MINUTES
JUNE 12, 2017
TOPIC: CONTINUATION OF PELLETIER ROAD PROJECT**

Attendance: 86 voters

Town Clerk, Danna M. Ayotte, welcomed everyone and went over a few House Rules:

- ONLY TOPIC TO BE DISCUSSED IS THE SUBJECT ON THE WARRANT WHICH WHETHER TO CONTINUE SPENDING FUNDS ON THE PELLETIER ROAD. NO OTHER SUBJECTS ARE ALLOWED.
- ANYONE WANTING TO VOTE THROUGHOUT THE MEETING MAY CHOOSE TO DO SO.
- ALL REGISTERED VOTERS HAVE BEEN GIVEN A PINK CARD AND SHOULD RAISE IT WHEN THEY WANT TO SPEAK. PLEASE DO NOT SPEAK UNTIL THE MODERATOR HAS INDICATED YOU HAVE THE FLOOR.
- PLEASE UNDERSTAND THAT THE PURPOSE OF THIS MEETING IS NOT TO GET EVERYONE TO AGREE ON THE SAME RESULT (ALTHOUGH THAT WOULD BE NICE) IT'S NOT REALISTIC. PLEASE BE RESPECTFUL AND GIVE THE SPEAKERS WHO HAVE THE FLOOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO EXPRESS THEMSELVES.
- LETS TRY TO STICK TO THE FACTS.
- IF WE CAN NOT CONDUCT THIS MEETING IN A CALM MATTER, THE MODERATOR WILL BE ASKED TO SEIZE DISCUSSION.
- WE WILL COUNT THE BALLOTS AT THE END OF THE MEETING AND RESULTS WILL BE ANNOUNCED.

First item for the evening is to nominate a Moderator. May I have a motion? Motion to nominate Gerard Castonguay made by Daniel Collins; seconded by Yvon Dube. All in favor. Motion carries.

Gerard Castonguay conducted rest of the meeting.

Item to be discussed is Article 1 on the Warrant:

Do you want to use Town of Frenchville tax payer dollars and town funds to continue the paving, improvement, maintenance and repair of that portion of Pelletier Avenue running from Starbarn Avenue to the Madawaska town line of Pelletier Avenue (a/k/a/ Pelletier Road)?

Motion to discuss made by John Ezzy; seconded by Paul Bernier. All in favor. Motion Carries.

Discussion highlights as follows:

John Ezzy: This article is based on a petition and I would like to know from the petitioners what is the point of closing the road.

No one answered.

John Ezzy: Is this going to be good for everyone involved? Is this going to be good for the town? I feel like I am being picked on. Nobody is willing to answer my question. I want to bring up a point of order which is that voting started before the article was read.

Bruce Ouellette asked to be allowed to speak.

Moderator: Do you want Bruce Ouellette to speak? Majority in favor. Motion carries.

Bruce Ouellette: John Ezzy asked what was the point of the petition. There will be a civic issue hearing next week on June 22 . This petition was brought up by my legal counsel. If Article 25 at the March 2016 meeting would have been split in four roads it never would of passed. I was told we could sign an easement but I was never given the opportunity. Towns people mentioned that the issue is going to court next week so why are we doing this meeting? I am willing to sign a limited easement to have towns people to use the road but I will not give up rights to my land. You will play by my rules or you will not play at all and that's all I have to say.

Bernadette Pelletier: If there's a court ruling next week then why are we here?

Craig Lawrence: Next week is a hearing so it's not a court ruling and it could still be awhile before we get to the bottom of this issue.

Bernadette Pelletier: So why are we here? If it's going to court then.....If the road is closed if it's a private road, it's a road for the ones living on that road and no one else.

Betsy Raymond: When we had a potato house on the road behind Rosette's, the landowners, Alvin Tardif, Gerard Raymond, Dumais Farms, who the owned property let the public use the road yet we paid the town to maintain the road. Yes, it's a smaller road but it's the same concept. Why should the town pay for your road?

Paul Bernier: Nobody wants to use tax payer dollars to maintain of the road. Or leave it alone. We've got think skin and thin pockets.

Yvon Dube: Former selectmen pushed problems down the road and we wouldn't be in this position

Paul Bernier: There are former selectman pushing this train. He showed up tonight but he hasn't made it to the other meetings. He is misleading people.

Anne Ezzy: We've been living there for 20 years and do you know how it feels to get kicked out of your home? Don't think we're gonna continue to pay taxes. We are three families living on that road. Do you think we would of built there if we would not of had an open road. It's our American right to come after damages and if I'm gonna be sued. You will be sued.

Carl Sousa: I've been living here for 9 years and own property. The thing that has me baffled is that someone decided that they want this road fixed. Majority of the people don't want the road fixed with tax dollars. We wouldn't be here this many times if this person should have the interest of the town. He is not looking for the best interest of the town.

John Ezzy: Since I'm the one who Carl Sousa is referring to then he should check the records for the March 2016 minutes when the article was brought up because all the roads were being voted on. It didn't specify the lower section of Pelletier road. The only reason why we are, is certain people who have a political vengeance against me. Why Pelletier Road is being open in the winter was decided in 1999 or 2000. Two houses wanted to build on that road and the town wanted to collect taxes. Someone else wants to build on Pelletier road but they are waiting to find out what happens tonight. No one will want build in Frenchville.

Carl Sousa: The thing that bugs me is if someone else said lets not do Starbarn Road do you think he would be doing this because I don't want my taxes to go up. He wouldn't be arguing right now.

John Ezzy: I certainly would. That article was reviewed by the Board of Selectmen and was to fix 4 roads. Not just Pelletier Road. It was voted by a large majority of people at the meeting and was the most attended town meeting in history.

Jason Thibeault: Is it a town road or not? Not going to waste my time here.

Craig Lawrence: MMA said if you do not have proper documentation we are not suppose to put money in the road. If you don't have proper easements, you can not spend town money on the road. We were told that we would get the easements and we never received the proper easements.

Dan Collins: You are not correct.

Bruce Ouellette: What did the town lawyer say? What did the towns people tell you?

Dan Collins: He said he would like to see easements.

Bruce Ouellette: Exactly. Then why were easements not done? Pelletier and Ezzy first opened the road.

John Ezzy: I never paid five cents to pave that road. There are no documents on most of the roads. On the recall petition, they stated that I said "if Pelletier Road does not get paved no roads should be paved". That's untrue. 90% of the roads don't have proper documentation. What I said was "If Pelletier Road does not get paved because of lack of documentation then no roads should be paved". Nobody else is arguing about the other roads.

Camille Bernier: I'd like to say a few things about Pelletier road. It used to start on US Route 1 and went to connect into Gagnon Road. Now according to the postal service, they connected it to what's known as Pelletier Road. But it connects to different roads. But we should give a name to the road. Once we know what the name is and once we know what the people want. We have to do it the right way. If someone is gonna say they will take someone's land through ediment domain that cranks me up to hell.

Daniel Collins: All kinds of money put it into the road and there was never a complaint. We've ditched it, fixed it, plowed it, and put all kinds of money on the road. As soon as we want to repair it and pave it there is an issue. I will don't understand it and probably never will.

Craig Lawrence: My very first meeting three years ago there was discussion about not paving and not plowing private roads which had been happening for years.

Bruce Ouellette answer to Daniel: What was the difference? The difference is that people came to see my father to ask for permission. The arrangement with the Town of Frenchville was to remove snow and nothing else. Craig Lawrence was correct about everything he said except for one road which is still being opened and do you know why?

Bernard Michaud motion to seize discussion. Camille Bernier seconded the motion. Majority in favor. Motion carries.

Voting Results: Yes - 26 No - 60 Total Votes: 86

John Ezzy: Did voting started before the meeting? Is that correct?

Moderator: I guess so.

John Ezzy: I challenge the votes because of the voting procedures. People were allowed to vote before the article was read. Procedure says you read the article then people can vote.

Danna Ayotte: So are you saying to want a motion to revote?

John Ezzy: You missed my point. I'm just challenging the votes. What happens now will be up to the courts.

Bernard Michaud made a motion to adjourn. John Ezzy seconded. All in favor. Motion carries. Meeting adjourned at 7:23 pm.