

BOARD OF SELECTMENT MEETING
February 5, 2015 MINUTES
FRENCHVILLE TOWN OFFICE AT 6:30PM

Present: Percy Thibeault, Craig Lawrence, Clarence Roy, Camille Bernier.

Other: John Davis

Excused: Andrew McQuarrie

1. **Call meeting to order:** The meeting was called to order by Percy Thibeault at 6:35pm.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance:** The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
3. **Minutes of January 20, 2015:** A motion was made by Camille Bernier, seconded by Clarence Roy to accept the minutes of January 20, 2015. All in favor. APPROVED.
4. **Items to be Signed:**
 - A. **Warrants, expenses, and payroll:** The Board approved and signed the warrants and payrolls number 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, and 10.
5. **Warrant Summary:** The Town Manager went over the warrant summary. The Board had no concerns.
6. **Articles taken out of Order:** There were no articles taken out of order.
7. **Reports and/or Correspondence:**
 - A. **Letter from Michael Thibodeau-** The Town received a letter from Michael Thibodeau, President of the Maine State Senate, asking municipalities to identify state mandates that are considered unnecessary. The Town Manager will try to get a list of all the unfunded mandates from Senator Thibodeau's office and the Board will proceed from there.
 - B. **Letter from Jim McGinnis, Maine DOT Northern Regional Traffic Director-** Jim informed us that the traffic signs on Church Avenue belong to the Town. This letter was in response to a request that the Town of Frenchville had made to the MDOT for some guidance in setting the speed limit on Church Avenue. The MDOT set the parameters for the location of the signs and the Public Works Department will take care of this in the spring.

- C. **Letter from Department of Labor-**In August of 2014, the MDOL did an inspection of the various departments within the Town of Frenchville. This review resulted in \$4,200 of penalties to the Town. The DOL allowed the Town an opportunity to correct its violations, and on January 28, 2015, the Town of Frenchville received notice from the DOL that all violations have been corrected and the Town will receive the minimum penalty of \$250 to cover the administrative fee. The Board wants to thank the Fire Chief, Department Heads, and the employees who played a part in correcting these citations.
- D. **Letter from Mael Solen Picard, Deputy Director of the International Relations Office, Quebec City-** Mr. Picard wants to inform the Board that Quebec City is presently working on the implementation of a web site which will give an opportunity to any interested Town to write about its heritage and other attractions in an attempt to promote tourism. The website should be functional sometime this spring and the Board will give this some consideration.
- E. **Maine Local Roads Center-** This correspondence was to inform the Town that the Radar Speed Trailer will be available within the boundaries of Maine DOT's Region 4 and Region 5. The Town Manager will fill out the application and see if Town of Frenchville is selected.

8. **Public Participation:**

Time Opened 6:55PM Time Closed 6:50PM

9. **New Business:** There was no new business to discuss.

10. **Unfinished Business:**

- A. **Sewer Fee Abatement-** The executive session to discuss sewer fee abatement dismissed. The State Statute only deals with property tax abatements and there is nothing in the sewer ordinance that forces the Town to act on this issue.
- B. **Sewer Report-** The issue dealing with elevated flows during the months of April, May, and June of 2014 was discussed. There is a consensus among the Board that St. Agatha does not have a viable plan to correct its I & I problems and there is a good chance the flow will be increased again in the spring of 2015. A motion was made by Craig Lawrence, seconded by Camille Bernier, to give St. Agatha until March 1, 2015 to pay the April, May, and June bill in full or be charged 7 % interest retroactive to April of 2014. All in favor. APPROVED.
- C. **Buy-In Funds-** Steve St. Pierre, Vice Present of Business Banking, of Key Bank, informed the Town Manager that the \$200,000 of sewer buy-in funds could be put in a separate account from the rest of the Town's General Funds and continue to collect the .35% earnings credit rate. The Board wanted to check with Acadia and Norstate to see what they are offering.

D. Disbursement Warrant-

- A motion was made by Camille Bernier, seconded by Clarence Roy, to accept the written policy concerning disbursement of Education Cost. All in favor. APPROVED.
- A motion was made by Clarence Roy, seconded by Craig Lawrence, to accept the written policy concerning disbursement of State fees. All in favor. APPROVED.
- A MOTION WAS MADE BY Craig Lawrence, seconded by Camille Bernier, to accept the written policy for the disbursement of Employee Wages and Benefits. All in favor. APPROVED.

E. Ambulance Service update- Percy Thibeault went over the details of the meeting that the Town of Frenchville, St. Agatha, and Sinclair had with ASI officials on Friday January 30, 2015 at the Frenchville Town Office. This meeting was prompted by a petition circulated by a resident of Frenchville in the towns of Frenchville, St. Agatha, and Sinclair in reference to supplying an ambulance service for these three communities. The Board determined that Town of Frenchville is not financially positioned to afford an ambulance service. A motion was made by Camille Bernier, seconded by Clarence Roy, to take no further action on the petition. All in favor. APPROVED.

- A further motion was made by Camille Bernier, seconded by Clarence Roy, for the Town of Frenchville to retain the status and continue to receive ambulance service from ASI of Fort Kent. All in favor. APPROVED.

11. Other Business:

- A. Senior Lunch Program-** A motion was made by Craig Lawrence, seconded by Camille Bernier, authorizing Rachel Raymond to assume the duties as the new Chef and Chairperson of Frenchville Senior Program, replacing Marcel Chartier. All in favor. APPROVED.
- B. Public Works Monthly Report-** The Board reviewed the monthly report provided by Public Works director, Eric Blanchette.
- C. Cultural Park Grant-** John Davis explained the work that John Raymond has been doing on this and that Mr. Raymond will be sending the grant in the immediate future. A sub-committee will be formed and someone will have to follow up with the Maine Department of Transportation for approval, to location this project on the side of US Route 1.
- D. Budget-** The Board discussed a few remaining items on the 2015 budget proposal. An article will be added to the warrant asking to tap into the excise surplus to fund a couple of Capital Projects.

12. Future Meeting Dates:

February 12, 2015- Budget Committee meeting at the Town of Frenchville Office
6:00pm

February 17, 2015- Next regular Board meeting at the Frenchville Town Office at
6:30pm

- 13. Adjourn:** A motion was made by Clarence Roy, seconded by Camille Bernier, to adjourn at 8:20pm. All in favor. APPROVED.

Board Tabled Items

1. Historical Society
2. Gagnon Bridge
3. Sewer Ordinance
4. Bob Dionne-Junk Yard
5. Ed Latham-Turn Around
6. Susan Hebert- abatement

Agenda Items for Special Meeting

1. Gagnon Bridge