

BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING
February 17, 2015 MINUTES
FRENCHVILLE TOWN OFFICE AT 6:30PM

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

Other: John Davis

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 February 5, 2015:** A motion was made by Clarence Roy, seconded by Camille Bernier to accept the February 5, 2015 minutes. All in favor. APPROVED.
4. **Items to be Signed:**
 - A. **Warrants, expenses, and payroll:** The Board approved and signed the warrants and payrolls **number 11 and 12.**
5. **Warrant Summary:** The Board had no issues with the warrant summary.
6. **Articles taken out of Order:** There were no articles taken out of order.
7. **Reports and/or Correspondence:**
 - A. **Letter from Department of Agriculture, Conservatory, and Forestry-** (For Selectmen information) Letter talked about people submitting complaints related to cats, and states that if a Town refuses to report any animal complaint they are in violation of the law. A packet of information was sent with correspondence and John will see that Dean Lavoie, Animal Control Officer for the Town of Frenchville gets it.
 - B. **Memo from MMA's Risk Management Division-** (For Selectmen information) The Risk Management Division sent pictures of some roofs that had caved in on some municipally owned properties. The suggested that the Town remove snow from the roof to avoid this.
 - C. **Jonathan Asen, Senior Advisor to the State of ME, House speaker Mark Eves-** (For Selectmen information) Mark Eves is coming to the St. John Valley Technology Center of February 19, 2015 to hold a discussion with local businesses and educators as part of his state-wide tour. Everyone is encouraged to attend.
 - D. **Darren Woods of the Aroostook County Emergency Management-** (For Selectmen information) Darren Woods send an email encouraging anyone that has an available snow blower that could be used in Knox and Washington counties to assist those areas in cleaning up snow to do so.

- E. MDOT Meeting- the MDOT will be hosting a series of Public Input meetings throughout the state from February 23 through April 2nd. They will be in Frenchville at the Community Center on February 23 and hold meetings from 2:00 to 4:00pm and from 6:00pm to 8:00pm.

8. Public Participation:

Time Opened 6:45pm Time Closed 6:46pm

9. New Business: James Picard has a lot next to the Community Center that he wants to sell. He has given the Town of Frenchville first refusal but the Board is not interested at this time.

10. Unfinished Business:

- A. Sewer Project- The Board directed the Manager to set up an escrow account for the money owed Frenchville by St. Agatha in reference to the elevated flows during the months of April, May, and June of 2014. Part of the bill will be paid up front and the remainder will go in escrow and be returned to St. Agatha by a certain date if they fix their I & I problem.
- B. Buy in Funds- A motion was made by Camille Bernier, seconded by Clarence Roy to invest \$200,000 in Norstate. \$50,00 will go into a CD for 1 year, \$50,00 into a 2 year CD, and \$100,00 for a 5 year CD. The vote was 3 to 1. Craig Lawrence was opposed.
- C. Disbursement Warrant- The Town Manager will set-up a plan and John, Percy and Linda will work to get it implemented.
- D. Lien- The Board discussed a tax lien owed the Town and how to go about recouping the lost funds.

11. Other Business:

- A. Selectmen Stipends- A motion was made by Clarence Roy, seconded by Craig Lawrence, for the Selectmen to receive their stipend on a quarterly basis- June, September, December, March. All in favor. APPROVED.
- B. Manager Search- Percy Thibeault informed the Board that the ad has been put into the St. John Valley Times, Bangor Daily, Aroostook Republic, and on the MMA website.
- C. Dr. Levesque Gravel Pit- The School Department is considering closing this and wanted to know if the town was interested in splitting the costs to keep it opened. At this time the Board is not interested but John and Percy will meet with the Superintendent of school, Fern Desjardin to get more details.
- D. Municipal Paving- John passed out some information on a municipal paving training that will take place in Caribou on April 1, 2015. The Public Works Crew and Clarence Roy plan to attend.

- E. Homestead Exemption- Percy went over the Homestead exemption letter that Jim Bennett, City Manager of Presque Isle sent to his residents in anticipation of a change in the policy stating who will receive it and who will not. The Board wants John to have Linda send this letter to Frenchville residents.
- F. Resignation- A motion was made by Craig Lawrence, seconded by Clarence Roy, to accept (with regret) the resignation of Frank Martin from the Budget Committee due to health reasons. All in favor. APPROVED.
- G. Unappropriated Surplus- A motion was made by Craig Lawrence, seconded by Clarence Roy, to apply any amount of the unappropriated surplus over \$300,00 to the mill rate. All in favor. APPROVED.
- H. Fire Hydrant & Bridge Project - A motion was made by Camille Bernier, seconded by Craig Lawrence, to use \$18,000 of the excise tax unappropriated fund to do the Hillside Fire Hydrant Project and the Gagnon Bridge Project. All in favor. APPROVED.
- I. Road Upgrading- A motion was made by Clarence Roy, seconded by Camille Bernier, to appropriate \$50,000 to be used for road upgrading. All in favor. APPROVED.

12. **Future Meeting Dates:** The next regular meeting will be on-

Tuesday, March 3, 2015, at 6:30pm at the Frenchville Town Office

13. **Adjourn:** A motion was made by Clarence Roy, seconded by Camille Bernier, to adjourn at 8:50pm. 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. **Ambulance Service**
2. **Gagnon Bridge**