



Frenchville Board of Selectman Meeting Minutes
Frenchville Town Office
Monday, December 19, 2016 6:30 P.M.

Present: John Ezzy, Jamie Voisine, Yvon Dube, Ryan E. Pelletier
Others: Ivan Blanchette, John Babin, Dean Lavoie, Roger Dube, Gary Paradis, Mike Michaud,
Eric Blanchette, Danna Ayotte.

1. **Call meeting to order:** The meeting was called to order by John Ezzy at 6:39 PM.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance:** The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
3. **Public Comment Period:**

Time Opened 6:39 pm Time Closed 6:41 pm

John Ezzy requested to speak as a citizen. He has an issue with the motion made at the last meeting regarding being excluded from the executive session. There was no attorney present or on the telephone. Statutes state that the BOS may go into executive session with their attorney. Mr. Ezzy and his attorney do not believe that the BOS can call an executive session to discuss their legal case among each other and exclude him. It is their belief that the motion should not of taken place.

4. **Minutes of December 6, 2016:** Motion to approve minutes by Yvon Dube; seconded by Jamie Voisine. All in favor. Motion carries.
5. **Warrants, expenses, and payroll:** Warrants were signed and reviewed.

Warrant Batch Date	A/P	Payroll
12/8/16		90
12/9/16	91	

12/15/16		92
12/16/16	93	

6. New Business:

A. Fire Chief: Fire Chief Mike Michaud is retiring as of 12/31/2016. Letters were sent to the firemen on November 21, giving them the opportunity to show interest in the Fire Chief position. No responses were received. When the result was discussed at the last meeting, the BOS requested to meet with Mike and the captains to discuss the future of the fire department.

The following concerns were discussed:

- Responsibilities and time needed of Fire Chief.
- If stipend gets increased, what will the BOS expect of the acting Chief? A job description should be created so anyone who shows interest would know what they will be responsible for and time they will need to accomplish the requirements of the BOS.
- Decline in fire dept. Mike stated he had 27 men when he started as Chief and now has 19 men. This is common in all small communities throughout the state.
- Extra demands from state requirements and the lack of time for volunteer departments to satisfy the required trainings.
- Demands for mutual aid from local towns and the cost to the town. Fees to be researched and consideration will be made to begin charging for mutual aid. St Agatha will be an exception to this rule.
- Merging with other towns could cause this department to decrease to the training requirements. Mike stated that the existing 19 firemen on our department are very faithful and if there is a fire in town they will like all respond. If they are pushed to attend more trainings, we could lose many of these men which the department can not afford to lose.

After much discussion, it was decided that the Town Clerk will send another letter to the existing firemen along with other past firemen in town to give them the opportunity to show interest if the BOS offers a \$10,000 annual stipend versus the past annual stipend of \$2,000.

Until a decision is made, Assistant Chief, Gary Paradis, will be acting chief. Eric Blanchette will do what he can to assist Gary.

B. LED Light Proposal: Presentation by John Babin. John estimated usage in town office, town garage, community center and recreation building and provided quotes for each building if converted to LED. Quote includes labor but John indicated that upfront costs could be cut by bypassing with

existing ballasts which would cut labor costs. BOS asked for John to combine information into a spreadsheet to better understand cost and savings.

- C. **LED Street Light:** Town Manager was contacted with a request which includes 14 municipalities. These municipalities have a combined total of 3281 street lights which all run with Emera. There will be a conference call with Emera on Wednesday at 9am. Current cost for Frenchville's street lights is almost \$2000 per month. Town Manager will bring more information to BOS.

7. **Unfinished Business:**

- A. **Executive Session Legal Road Proposal:** Delayed until next meeting.
- B. **Revaluation:** Town Manager received an email from Tony Pinette, Maine Revenue Service regarding more information on Town Revaluations. The state can't force town to do a revaluation but town could lose subsidies. BOS wants Town Manager to find out more on advantages of revaluation and what the pros and cons will be so they can decide if paying for a revaluation will be cost effective.
- C. **Property Foreclosure.** Bids due on 1/3/2017 by 4:00 pm. Will be in newspaper for two weeks beginning in this Wednesdays paper.
- D. **Junkyard Permits:** Junkyard permits were signed for CL Roy & Sons, Inc. and Calvin Ouellette.

8. **Other Business:**

- A. **2017 Budget:** The 2017 Town Budget will begin to be discussed at the 1/3/2017 meeting. Eric is working on Public Work Department's budget so it will be one of two departments discussed at that meeting. John suggested that budget committee be invited at each meeting that will have budget discussed.
- B. **BOS 2017 Schedule of Meetings:** The new schedule was passed out. Town Clerk, Danna Ayotte, mentioned that July 4th is on a Tuesday so it has been scheduled for Wednesday, July 5.
- C. **MMA Elected Officials Training:** John Ezzy and Daniel Collin attended this training which was very interesting and is highly recommended.
- D. **Open House Skating Rink:** Jamie Voisine would like to have an open house for the skating rink. He would like to advertise and send flyers to the school. Town Manager, Ryan will contact the Madawaska characters if they can come to the open house. Email Fort Kent and Madawaska school to invite kids.
- E. **Email from Rick Currier:** Frenchville's attorney, Rick Currier received an email from John Ezzy's attorney regarding the motion made at the last meeting regarding excluding Mr. Ezzy from any legal discussions regarding Pelletier Road. Discussion continued regarding the road project and concerns regarding the "Concerned Citizens" having issues with Mr. Ezzy. Jamie Voisine stated that citizens voted at the town meeting to pave the roads which is has been the BOS' goal.

9. **Future Meeting Date:**

Tuesday, January 3, 2017 at 6:30 pm at the Frenchville Town Office.

10. Adjourn: A motion was made by Yvon Dube to adjourn, seconded by Jamie Voisine
at 8:26 pm. All in favor. Motion Carried.

Tabled Items:

1. Farmer's Market Agreement
2. Denver Avenue Easement- until spring 2017.
3. Revaluation for 2017
4. Budget Adjustments for Sewer Pipe Break & Dumb Waiter.