



Frenchville Board of Selectman Meeting Minutes
Frenchville Town Office Conference Room
Tuesday, May 17, 2016 6:30 P.M.

Present: John Ezzy, Danny Collin, Jamie Voisine, Craig Lawrence, Yvon Dube, Ryan Pelletier

Others: Gary Paradis, Dean Lavoie, Camille Bernier, Rachel Raymond, Mike Rossignol,
 Ben Dionne, Fern Caron, Steve Young, Elizabeth Theriault (WOWL), Danna Ayotte.

Others Present who did not sign in: Mike Michaud (Fire Chief) and Roger Dube

1. **Call meeting to order:** The meeting was called to order by Chairperson, John Ezzy at 6:30PM.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance:** The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
3. **Public Comment Period:**

Time Opened 6:31pm Time Closed 6:34pm

- Camille Bernier presented a letter to the town manager from “A Concerned Group of Frenchville Citizens” (**Attachment A**) regarding issues they have with actions of certain members of the board and requesting a public meeting to discuss Article 25.
4. **Minutes of May 3, 2016 and May 12, 2016:** Correction requested for May 12 minutes, Item 4A. 10th item in regards to number of cars traveling Pelletier gravel road -change 4000 to 1000 per week. Motion to approve minutes with revision made by Yvon Dube; seconded by Jamie Voisine. All in favor. Motion carried.
 5. **Warrants, expenses, and payroll:** Warrants were signed and reviewed.

Warrant Batch Date	A/P	Payroll
4/21/2016		26

5/4/2016	31	
5/5/2016		32
5/12/2016		33
5/13/2016	34	

6. New Business:

A. Fire Chief: Board of Selectmen, Town Manager, Fire Chief and Fire Department Captains went into Executive Session from 6:40 to 7:18.

B. MSAD#33 Proposed Budget: Town Manager discussed proposed school budget per discussion with superintendent, Fern Desjardins and disbursed copies of spreadsheets received during their meeting. Increase this year over \$38,000. Every dollar cut in funding will result in the school district losing \$1.92 from the state. Budget meeting will be on May 31st at Wisdom High School. Town Manager suggests selectmen attend.

C. Update on Tax Assessor's Visit: Tabled until next meeting since his visit is not complete and was extended for an extra day.

D. Review Sewer Report- Steve Young presented BOS with "Executive Summary of the Frenchville/St. Agatha wastewater project" (**Attachment B**). Concerns were discussed regarding I&I overflow use on the system and the extra use on the pumps. Steve stated that even with the I&I out of the picture St Agatha's average will be 28,000 and not 22,000 as indicated during the agreement negotiations. There are positives to the extra flow since the agreement with St. Agatha which is the lack of freezing in the winter and less duckweed. On the negative side, in addition to the extra use on the pumps is the extra cost of electricity. John Ezzy asked Steve to approach St. Agatha to find out their intentions regarding the I&I. Steve expressed that he's been through four town managers and some stated he had no say in these matters but others have stated that he is the "expert". Board of Selectmen requested that Ryan ask attorney if having discussion with St. Agatha will interfere with mediation.

A motion was made by Craig Lawrence indicating that Ryan or Steve should contact DEP to follow up on the Non-Compliance Discharge Incident Report (**Attachment C**) and proceed as directed by DEP; seconded by Jamie Voisine. All in favor. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Yvon Dube indicating that the Board of Selectmen is authorizing John Ezzy as the Chairman of the Board to sign as the Responsible Official Signature on the DEP Subscriber Agreement.

E. Letter Discussion: The BOS wanted it stated that the letter was received during open session from the Concerned Citizens and they decided to table it and see what happens. The Budget Committee and BOS voted during last week's meeting to carry on with the project and they are aware of concerns of the people.

F. Audit Review: The BOS discussed the 2015 Audit report. The Surplus account increased from \$386,506 in 2014 to \$435,385 in 2015. Ryan Pelletier,

reminded the BOS that there was a \$43,000 over commitment made prior to his taking over as Town Manager. BETE program was increased and the Town Manager's goal is to continue increasing it up to \$2.5 million.

G. VRF, Inc.: Town Manager mentioned that the VRF Board was meeting the next morning to discuss the bids for administration and bookkeeping. Options that were discussed at last meeting when the bids were opened was to have Chuck Pelletier as Administrator and Lee Theriault as Bookkeeper. Or, to have the Town of Madawaska take over both.

H. Tardif Family: The Town Clerk, Danna Ayotte, asked the BOS if they could assist Jason Tardif's family of five, who lost their home in a fire recently. Jamie Voisine made a motion to waive all town revenue for five birth certificates and the building permit; Craig Lawrence seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

I. BOS Goals: John Ezzy, Chairman of the BOS, asked the BOS to consider what they would like to have as goals for 2016. Items discussed were:

- Changing the fiscal year to match the school. Concerns were mentioned about budgeting 18 months to make the change. Will need to be discussed further and brought to town meeting for voting.
- Lack of housing in Frenchville.
- Tiff Program- Lack of time to get done on time. Cost to town. Need to research before deciding to continue.
- Budget should be presented by November and approved by year end. Town Meeting should remain in March.
- Option to include Flyer with tax bills could be used for Opinion Polls to get town people's opinion on different items like changing fiscal year or advertise that they now have online services available online including paying tax bills.

J. Grants: BOS feels that there are grants available that Frenchville could qualify for. Ryan spoke to Suzie and she is now hired by Town of Madawaska so Frenchville would need to go through them to hire Suzie. BOS requested that Suzie provide us with something in writing before the town hires someone else. Daniel Collin made a motion to have the Town Manager request a letter from Suzie to cancel her contract with the Town of Frenchville; Yvon Dube seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

- David Wylie is also available and has spoken to the Town Manager. He would like to know the BOS' and department manager's goals so he could follow their lists and see what's available in grants. BOS would like to request Mr. Wylie's presence at the next BOS meeting.
- Craig Lawrence mentioned he would like to see grants for the community center and recreation department. Maybe a grant would be available to help with the dumb waiter expenses. Rachel Raymond asked if the dumb waiter was on hold until funds would be applied for. BOS assured her that the project would continue and the Town would get reimbursed if any grants would be received.
- Jamie Voisine mentioned that the Recreation Department needs 42 sheets of plywood for the skating rink.

- Signs at town entrances are fading which was done by the Historical Society many years ago. Suggestion made to ask Mr. Wylie if funds would be available for such a project.

K. Community Center Fees: Concerns were brought up by the Town Manager that calls come in regarding renting the community center but the cost is high. A meeting should be set up with the Community Center Committee to discuss rental fees.

L. Security Cameras: Town Manager discussed recent events in the park which lead the Maine State Police to investigate. The need for security cameras is increasing every day. Rachel Raymond asked if one could be installed at the Water Tower because of an incident which happened last fall. The BOS stated that several cameras were being installed but they weren't sure how many they would be able to afford. They will get as many cameras as they can installed as soon as possible.

7. Future Meeting Dates:

- **Tuesday, June 7, 2016 at 6:30 pm at the Frenchville Town Office**

8. Adjourn: A motion was made by Jamie Voisine, seconded by Yvon Dube to adjourn at 8:34 pm. All in favor. Motion Carried.