



Frenchville Board of Selectman Meeting Minutes
Frenchville Town Office Conference Room
Tuesday, May 3, 2016 6:30 P.M.

Present: John Ezzy, Jamie Voisine, Craig Lawrence, Yvon Dube, Ryan Pelletier
Others: Anne Ezzy, Rachel Raymond, Beurmond Banville, Michelle Sirois, Carl Sirois,
 Owen Sirois, Robert Ouellet, Eric Blanchette, Danna Ayotte.

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 7:20pm

- Charles Berthiaume requested to have his 2014 real estate taxes abated on his property at 50 Church Avenue. He has limited social security income and has allowed the town to use his property as a bus turnaround and construction equipment parking. This summer's road project will also need his land to park the equipment. Mr. Berthiaume indicated he would take care of paying the amount due for 2015. Jamie Voisine made a motion that the BOS approve his request and abate \$906.08; Craig Lawrence seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.
- Beurmond Banville addressed the BOS as an individual and not as the chairperson of the Town of St. Agatha. His concerns were that the two communities should agree to disagree and get along as neighboring towns. We share schools, garbage and sewer systems and should not be talking negatively about each other at coffee shops. We are not enemies. Let's go through the mediation process and still be neighborly and wave to each other. No negotiations were made with John Ezzy as indicated by rumors.
- Anne Ezzy indicated that people are saying there are two town meetings in town. One at the town office and the other at Pauls' Gas and the information

being shared is very different. Yvon Dube responded that you can't stop people from talking and it's the same situation in other towns. She also asked why the Pelletier gravel road could not be graded. Per Craig, direction of MMA is not to spend town money on a road that is not owned by the town. Anne also asked in spirit of community, if we could discuss road issue neighborly.

- Rachel Raymond spoke to the BOS about setting up a meeting at the community center to make decisions regarding the “dumb waiter”. She spoke to the seniors and they indicated that many would attend the senior meals more if they didn't need to go downstairs. This was proven last August when the senior meal was held upstairs and attendance was doubled. The BOS indicated Ryan should meet with Rachel and get estimates. She also requested a freezer for the senior meals so she can stock up when items come on sale.
 - Carl Sirois wants to know what will have to happen to get Pelletier gravel road fixed to be safe. Yvon Dube responded “How can we justify putting town money on a road we don't own. It's a private road. Everyone needs to sign easements then the road will be fixed.”
 - John Ezzy stepped down as chairman and spoke as a citizen. “Pelletier Avenue Facts” passed out. (See attached). Craig Lawrence responded “Per MMA , no statute states that if town maintained road for number of years that they must continue to maintain it.” When sworn in as BOS we agreed to stand by the constitution and order of the law.
 - Michelle Sirois expressed concerns regarding the school bus traveling on the Pelletier gravel road. A mother received a text from her daughter stating that the bus was riding in ruts and she was scared. Concerns were expressed to the principal who stated that the school bus has no choice but to go on the roads to get the kids.
 - Town Manager, Ryan E. Pelletier explained that the closing of the Pelletier gravel road was to preserve the road. And, all roads need to be deeded properly.
 - Public Works Director, Eric Blanchette, explained that contractors have already ordered supplies/material for the project so the legal issues must be taken care of because we will lose contractors along with the financing and costs/ bids in the future will be much higher if we back out of project.
4. **Minutes of April 19, 2016:** Jamie Voisine made a motion to accept the minutes from April 19, 2016; Yvon Dube seconded the motion. 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

4/23/2016	27	
4/27/2016	28	
4/28/2016		29
5/2/2016	30	

6. Unfinished Business:

A. Pelletier Avenue:

- **Financing:** Town Manager, Ryan E. Pelletier stated that the banks are getting nervous about approving interim financing for this project until October because of the legal issues being talked about. The project needs to be approved by the BOS tonight and must be continued. Amount needed for interim financing is \$1 million. Eric and Ryan will prepare a drawdown schedule. Ryan is concerned that if we borrow \$1.5 million that the annual payment will be more than the \$100,000 projected before getting the project approved. He promised the town people at the annual town meeting that there would be no increase to taxes due to this project. Town people were very clear that they didn't want to borrow longer than 15 years.
- **Easements:** John concerned that the town people voted to repair the roads so BOS cannot cancel the project. Craig Lawrence indicated that the town people did not have all the information at the town meeting. Ownership of the road was not discussed and town people were under the impression that the town owned the road. Yvon Dube stated that the town needs to acquire easements and that John is working for himself. It was decided at the last meeting that easements needed to be acquired. Ryan stated that he wants the road made safe. Public works will pass grader to fix ruts and make road safer but they will not do any other maintenance on the road until easements are signed.

7. New Business:

A. Cleaning Bids: Only one bid was received which was by Melissa Jandreau. Public Works Director, Eric Blanchette, asked if the BOS would have any issues with having the garage office and breakroom cleaned. Motion made by Craig Lawrence to accept bid for a six month trial period; seconded by Yvon Dube. All in favor. Motion carried.

B. 2015 Audit: Audit report was received and copies provided to BOS. John will have discussion with auditor regarding municipal terms vs. business terms and discussion will be continued at the next meeting.

C. Baseball Field Sand: Field sand must be improved before hosting games and to get people to use the field. Sand mix available in Ellsworth for \$800 per load. Recreation Department has the funds to purchase but would like to get BOS' blessing. BOS are all in favor for Jamie to continue with the purchase of sand.

D. Dolly's Restaurant Liquor License Renewal: BOS signed new liquor license.

E. Closing of purchased land from James Chamberland: Town Manager informed BOS that the purchase for extra land for the sewer facility is complete.

F. Chain of Command Issues: Town Manager was told by MMA that they have a concern of being in the middle of legal issues. They usually get contacted by one person per municipal and not several people. John requested that Ryan finds out what other towns do. Craig Lawrence indicated that he was told by MMA on past issue that they represent the town and not the citizens. John Ezzy is willing to give his questions to the town manager as long as he gets answers to his questions. The town manager indicated that this is the third time he addresses Chain of Command issues and is getting very frustrated. Yvon Dube indicated that the town finally has a town manager to lives in town and cares about the town and he should be respected.

G. EMT Service: Craig Lawrence was approached by John Labrie regarding EMT Service training on May 9 at school. There are 9 people on the list. EMS is willing to pay \$450 which is half cost of course and would be willing to put an ambulance in Frenchville. Craig Lawrence made a motion for the town to pay \$450 per person with a total of \$3600 from the \$15,000 emergency allowance/surplus account with a condition that each person completes the course and does two years of service for EMS ambulance service; Jamie Voisine seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

8. Other Business:

A. Abatements:

- Andrew Nolan - Application for Hardship on 2014 taxes. Craig Lawrence abstained from the discussion due to family relations. Payment plans are not allowed. Motion made by Yvon Dube to NOT grant abatement; seconded by Jamie Voisine. 3 in favor. 1 abstained. Motion denied.
- Charles Berthiaume- Bus Turnaround- already discussed during Public Comment Period. Motion was carried.

B. Cameras: There were issues reported to the police last weekend at the park. BOS discussed ordering and installing cameras previously approved asap to protect the town properties.

C. Town Manager Cell Phone: Due to contract increase a request was made to increase the Town Manager's cell phone reimbursement from \$75 to \$106. Craig Lawrence made a motion that the town reimburse the full \$106 per month since the phone is used a lot for town business; seconded by Jamie Voisine. All in favor. Motion carried.

9. Future Meeting Dates:

- Tuesday, May 17, 2016 at 6:30 pm at the Frenchville Town Office

10. Adjourn: A motion was made by Jamie Voisine, seconded by Yvon Dube to adjourn at 8:35 pm. All in favor. Motion Carried.