

**Town of St. Agatha  
2011 Annual Town Meeting Minutes**

Town Manager, Christy Sirois began the Town Meeting on June 14, 2011 at the St Agatha Town Office at 10am by reading the warrant to start the secret ballot voting process of the two part town meeting. In attendance were the 2 election clerks, warden, voter of registrar, town manager and 3 residents.

Article 1 To choose a moderator to preside at the meeting.

Nominated: Mary Michaud

Nominated by: Marie Mae Chamberland Seconded by: Judy Chamberland

*All were in favor and nomination carried and article one completed*

Article 2 To elect all necessary Town Officers as is required to be elected by secret ballot (MRSA Title 30-A, § 2528). (1 School Board Member for a 3 year term -currently held by Nikolas Berce, 1 School Board Member for a 1 year term – currently held by Jean Martin and 1 Board of Selectmen Member for a 3 year term – currently held by Danny Bechard)

Danny Bechard – 83 received votes ELECTED

Niklas Berce (3 year term) – 85 received votes ELECTED

Jean Martin (1 year term) - 82 received votes ELECTED

Motioned by: Judy Chamberland Seconded by: Marie Mae Chamberland

**Copies of the Town Officer oaths were filed with the Town Clerk.**

Second part of Town Meeting continued on June 21, 2011 @ 7pm at the KC Hall in St Agatha. Mary Michaud opened the meeting with an announcement of the votes received. In attendance were the 3 selectmen, town manager, deputy clerk and 5 residents.

Article 3 To see if the Town will authorize the Board of Selectmen to appoint all necessary town officials not elected by secret ballot for the ensuing year.

Motioned by: Jean Guy Tardif Seconded by: Roland Pardis

*Article Passed.*

Article 4 To elect in open meeting those officials not required to be elected by secret ballot. Budget Committee - to choose four (4) members of the budget committee each for a term of three years. (Currently held by the following individuals: Alan Michaud, Gerard Castonguay, Luke Derosier Jr. and Roger Bosse).

\*\* Motion was made to re-elect the same members

Motioned by: Roland Paradis

Seconded by: Theresa Ouellette

*Article Passed.*

Article 5 Shall the Town adopt the proposed ordinance entitled "Property Assessed Clean Energy Ordinance"?

Motioned by: Jean Guy Tardif

Seconded by: Roland Paradis

*Article Passed.*

Article 6 If article 5 passes shall the St Agatha Board of Selectmen enter into a "Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) Program Agreement" with the Efficiency Maine Trust and authorize the Town Manager to sign the same?

Motioned by: Jean Guy Tardif

Seconded by: Theresa Ouellette

*Article Passed.*

Article 7 To see what sum of money if any the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the **General Government Department.**

|  | <u>2011</u>      | <u>2012</u>      |
|--|------------------|------------------|
| <b>RECOMMENDED BY BUDGET COMMITTEE</b>   | <b>\$161,960</b> | <b>\$166,928</b> |
| <b>RECOMMENDED BY BOARD OF SELECTMEN</b> | <b>\$161,960</b> | <b>\$166,928</b> |

Motioned by: Theresa Ouellette

Seconded by: Jacqueline Ayotte

*Article Passed.*

Article 8 To see what sum of money if any the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the **Community Development Department.**

|  | <u>2011</u>     | <u>2012</u>     |
|--|-----------------|-----------------|
| <b>RECOMMENDED BY BUDGET COMMITTEE</b>   | <b>\$15,000</b> | <b>\$13,725</b> |
| <b>RECOMMENDED BY BOARD OF SELECTMEN</b> | <b>\$15,000</b> | <b>\$13,725</b> |

Motioned by: Theresa Ouellette

Seconded by: Joan Ayotte

*Article Passed.*

Article 9 To see what sum of money if any the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the **Public Works Department.**

|  | <u>2011</u>      | <u>2012</u>      |
|--|------------------|------------------|
| <b>RECOMMENDED BY BUDGET COMMITTEE</b>   | <b>\$198,855</b> | <b>\$212,468</b> |
| <b>RECOMMENDED BY BOARD OF SELECTMEN</b> | <b>\$198,855</b> | <b>\$212,468</b> |

Motioned by: Theresa Ouellette

Seconded by: Jacqueline Ayotte

Article Passed.

Article 10 To see what sum of money if any the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the **Recreation & Parks Department.**                    2011                    2012

|  |                 |                 |
|--|-----------------|-----------------|
| <b>RECOMMENDED BY BUDGET COMMITTEE</b>   | <b>\$34,657</b> | <b>\$26,312</b> |
| <b>RECOMMENDED BY BOARD OF SELECTMEN</b> | <b>\$34,657</b> | <b>\$26,312</b> |

Motioned by: Jacqueline Ayotte

Seconded by: Theresa Ouellette

Article Passed.

Article 11 To see what sum of money if any the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the **Fitness Center Department.**                    2011                    2012

|  |                 |                 |
|--|-----------------|-----------------|
| <b>RECOMMENDED BY BUDGET COMMITTEE</b>   | <b>\$26,554</b> | <b>\$25,390</b> |
| <b>RECOMMENDED BY BOARD OF SELECTMEN</b> | <b>\$26,554</b> | <b>\$25,390</b> |

Motioned by: Roland Paradis

Seconded by: Theresa Ouellette

Article Passed.

Article 12 To see what sum of money if any the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the **Public Protection Department.**                    2011                    2012

|  |                 |                 |
|--|-----------------|-----------------|
| <b>RECOMMENDED BY BUDGET COMMITTEE</b>   | <b>\$15,827</b> | <b>\$16,221</b> |
| <b>RECOMMENDED BY BOARD OF SELECTMEN</b> | <b>\$15,827</b> | <b>\$16,221</b> |

Motioned by: Roland Paradis

Seconded by: Theresa Ouellette

Article Passed.

Article 13 To see what sum of money if any the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the **Volunteer Fire Department.**                    2011                    2012

|  |                 |                 |
|--|-----------------|-----------------|
| <b>RECOMMENDED BY BUDGET COMMITTEE</b>   | <b>\$25,380</b> | <b>\$28,400</b> |
| <b>RECOMMENDED BY BOARD OF SELECTMEN</b> | <b>\$25,380</b> | <b>\$28,400</b> |

Motioned by: Jacqueline Ayotte

Seconded by: Roland Paradis

Article Passed.

Article 14 To see what sum of money if any the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the **Intergovernmental Department.**

|  | <u>2011</u>     | <u>2012</u>     |
|--|-----------------|-----------------|
| <b>RECOMMENDED BY BUDGET COMMITTEE</b>   | <b>\$83,572</b> | <b>\$81,523</b> |
| <b>RECOMMENDED BY BOARD OF SELECTMEN</b> | <b>\$83,572</b> | <b>\$81,523</b> |

Motioned by: Roland Paradis

Seconded by: Theresa Ouellette

Article Passed.

Article 15 To see what sum of money if any the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the following agencies in the **Human Services Department.**

|  |                 |
|--|-----------------|
| Aroostook Agency on Aging                          | \$270           |
| Ste. Agathe Historical Society                     | \$2,000         |
| Maine Acadian Heritage                             | \$100           |
| World Acadian Congress                             | \$820           |
| ACAP   | \$161           |
| American Red Cross                                 | \$300           |
| St. John Valley Associates                         | \$3,000         |
| St. John Valley Soil & Water Conservation District | \$250           |
| Northern Maine Vet's Cemetary (Caribou)            | \$100           |
| Memorial Day – Legion Decoration at Cemeteries     | \$150           |
| St. John Aroostook RC & D                          | \$88            |
| Chambers of Commerce (Madawaska & Fort Kent)       | \$300           |
| St. Agatha Food Pantry                             | \$500           |
| Long Lake Public Library                           | \$2,000         |
| Senior Citizen Lunch Program                       | \$4,000         |
| Veteran's Memorial at Town Office                  | <u>\$300</u>    |
| <b>Total</b>                                       | <b>\$14,339</b> |

|  | <u>2011</u>     | <u>2012</u>     |
|--|-----------------|-----------------|
| <b>RECOMMENDED BY BUDGET COMMITTEE</b>   | <b>\$14,313</b> | <b>\$14,339</b> |
| <b>RECOMMENDED BY BOARD OF SELECTMEN</b> | <b>\$14,313</b> | <b>\$14,339</b> |

Motioned by: Theresa Ouellette

Seconded by: Jacqueline Ayotte

Article Passed.

Article 16 To see what sum of money if any the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the **Capital Project & Reserves Account.**

|  | <u>2011</u>      | <u>2012</u>      |
|--|------------------|------------------|
| <b>RECOMMENDED BY BUDGET COMMITTEE</b>   | <b>\$133,500</b> | <b>\$123,200</b> |
| <b>RECOMMENDED BY BOARD OF SELECTMEN</b> | <b>\$133,500</b> | <b>\$123,200</b> |

Motioned by: Roland Paradis

Seconded by: Jean Guy Tardif

Article Passed.

Article 17 To see what sum of money if any the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the **Debt Service Account.**

|  | <u>2011</u>     | <u>2012</u>     |
|--|-----------------|-----------------|
| <b>RECOMMENDED BY BUDGET COMMITTEE</b>   | <b>\$25,500</b> | <b>\$27,626</b> |
| <b>RECOMMENDED BY BOARD OF SELECTMEN</b> | <b>\$25,500</b> | <b>\$27,626</b> |

Motioned by: Theresa Ouellette

Seconded by: Jean Guy Tardif

Article Passed.

Article 18 To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the following General Fund revenue sources to be used toward the 2011-2012 budget appropriations thereby decreasing the amount required to be raised by taxes.

|  |                  |
|--|------------------|
| State Revenue Sharing                                | \$57,000         |
| Vehicle Excise Taxes                                 | \$210,600        |
| Watercraft Excise Taxes                              | \$1,500          |
| Fitness Center Revenues                              | \$13,350         |
| Recreation Revenues                                  | \$11,000         |
| Vital Statistics & Clerk Fees                        | \$8,000          |
| Building, Plumbing & Sewer Permits                   | \$1,250          |
| Election Fees (Sinclair)                             | \$2,000          |
| Ambulance Lease                                      | \$750            |
| Sewer Administration                                 | \$2,500          |
| Plowing (Daigle Cross Road Contract & Wisdom School) | \$14,000         |
| Veteran's Exemptions                                 | \$300            |
| Tree Growth Reimbursement                            | \$450            |
| Animal Waste   | \$1,000          |
| Dog Licensing Fee                                    | \$100            |
| Coping & Faxes                                       | <u>\$200</u>     |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>\$324,000</b> |

**RECOMMENDED BY BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

Motioned by: Theresa Ouellette

Seconded by: Roland Paradis

Article Passed.

Article 19 To see if the Town will vote to allow the Board of Selectmen to transfer from the Reserve Accounts the following amounts for the noted reason:.

| <u>Account</u> | <u>Reason</u>                | <u>Amount</u>   |
|----------------|------------------------------|-----------------|
| Local Roads    | debt payment '03 paving      | \$12,450        |
| Local Roads    | debt payment '06 paving      | \$10,560        |
| PW Truck       | 2009 plow truck loan payment | \$18,328        |
| Economic Dev.  | business brochure            | \$1,500         |
| Economic Dev.  | Welcome to Our Town ad       | <u>\$500</u>    |
|                | <b>Total</b>                 | <b>\$43,338</b> |

**RECOMMENDED BY BUDGET COMMITTEE**  
**RECOMMENDED BY BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

Motioned by: Theresa Ouellette

Seconded by: Roland Paradis

Article Passed.

Article 20 To see if the Town will vote to appropriate fitness center funds in excess of the \$13,350 budgeted to the Fitness Center Reserve Account for future equipment purchase and/or repair.

**RECOMMENDED BY BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

Motioned by: Jacqueline Ayotte

Seconded by: Theresa Ouellette

Article Passed.

Article 21 To see if the Town will vote to appropriate all revenue from sewer fees to operation and debt service of the **Sewer Department**.

**Estimated revenues for FY 2012: \$170,084**

**RECOMMENDED BY BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

Motioned by: Theresa Ouellette

Seconded by: Joan Ayotte

Article Passed.

Article 22 To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen, at their discretion, to accept gift donations of money or other valuables, not including real property or land, from individuals, other governmental bodies, or other organizations, provided the gifts do not obligate the Town in any way, and that such donations do not exceed a maximum gift of \$10,000 during any fiscal year.

**RECOMMENDED BY BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

Motioned by: Theresa Ouellette

Seconded by: Jean Guy Tardif

Article Passed.

Article 23 To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to transfer the snowmobile registration refund from the Department of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife to the Red Arrow Snowmobile Club for the purpose of maintaining the local snowmobile trails.

**RECOMMENDED BY BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

Motioned by: Theresa Ouellette

Seconded by: Jean Guy Tardif

Article Passed.

Article 24 To see if the Town, in accordance with 36 M.R.S.A. Section 506 will authorize the Tax Collector and Treasurer to accept prepayment of taxes not yet committed and to pay no interest thereon.

**RECOMMENDED BY BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

Motioned by: Theresa Ouellette

Seconded by: Jacqueline Ayotte

Article Passed.

Article 25 To see if the Town will vote taxes that the first half of taxes shall be due and payable on or before October 31, 2011 and that the second half of taxes be due and payable on or before April 30, 2012.

**RECOMMENDED BY BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

Motioned by: Roland Paradis

Seconded by: Theresa Ouellette

Article Passed.

Article 26 To see if the Town will vote to set the interest at 7% per annum on any unpaid taxes for the first half on November 1, 2011 and on any unpaid taxes for the second half on May 1, 2012 to the date of payment.

**RECOMMENDED BY BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

Motioned by: Roland Paradis

Seconded by: Jean Guy Tardif

Article Passed.

Article 27 To see if the Town will authorize the Treasurer, under the direction of the Board of Selectmen, to sell and dispose of any real estate acquired by the Town for non-payment of taxes on such terms as they deem advisable and in the best interest of the Town and to sign and execute municipal quit claim deeds on such property.

**RECOMMENDED BY BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

Motioned by: Theresa Ouellette

Seconded by: Roland Paradis

Article Passed.

Article 28 To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to sell and dispose of surplus town owned personal property on such terms and conditions as they deem advisable.

**RECOMMENDED BY BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

Motioned by: Jacqueline Ayotte

Seconded by: Theresa Ouellette

Article Passed.

Article 29 To see if the Town will vote to increase the property tax levy limit of **\$411,794** established for the Town of St. Agatha by State Law in the event that the FY 2012 municipal budget approved by the preceding articles will result in a tax commitment that is greater than the property tax levy limit.

**(It is required that this article be voted by the written balloting process).**

**RECOMMENDED BY BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

Motioned by: Roland Paradis Yes: 9

Seconded by: Theresa Ouellette No: 1

Article Passed.

Article 30 To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen, on behalf of the Town, to apply for Federal, State, and private foundation grant funds for various projects to benefit the Town, such as for housing, roads or general economic and community development purposes; and to further authorize the Selectmen to accept and expend such grant funds for their intended purpose only, provided that the grants do not oblige the Town to provide matching funds or other contributions that have not been previously approved by the voters.

**RECOMMENDED BY BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

Motioned by: Theresa Ouellette

Seconded by: Jean Guy Tardif

Article Passed.

Article 31 To see if the voters of the Town of St. Agatha will authorize the Treasurer and the Board of Selectmen, in the name of and on behalf of the Town, to accept a grant in an amount not to exceed \$552,700 from the Rural Utilities Service, an agency of the United States Department of Agriculture - Rural Development, the proceeds of such grant to be appropriated to finance a portion of the costs (including soft costs and legal and other professional fees) to design, construct and install a new effluent pump station, channel monster, aerated grit chamber and headworks, electrical upgrades, and to shutdown and clean the wastewater treatment plant on behalf of the Town, to take any and all other action as may be necessary or convenient to accomplish such grant and to accomplish the purposes for which such grant is intended.

**RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

Motioned by: Theresa Ouellette

Seconded by: Jacqueline Ayotte

Article Passed.

Article 32 To see if the voters of the Town of St Agatha will authorize the Treasurer and the Board of Selectmen, in the name of and on behalf of the Town, to borrow an amount not to exceed \$550,000 from the Rural Utilities Service, an agency of the United States Department of Agriculture - Rural Development, the proceeds of such borrowing to be appropriated and used to finance a portion of the costs (including soft costs and legal and other professional fees) to design, construct and install a new effluent pump station, channel monster, aerated grit chamber and headworks, electrical upgrades, and to shutdown and clean the wastewater treatment plant, install new pipe to connect to the Frenchville system and upgrade and/or replace existing forcemains and pump stations, and to issue the Town's general obligation bonds (and notes in anticipation thereof) therefore, which bonds and notes shall have a term not to exceed the maximum term permitted by law, with such other terms and conditions, including the rate of interest to be borne by such bonds or notes and provisions for early redemption or prepayment, as may be approved by the Treasurer, and to further authorize the Treasurer and a majority of the Board of Selectmen, in the name of and on behalf of the Town, to take any and all other action, including designating such debt as bank qualified under Internal Revenue Code Section 265(b) and to sign such other documents and certificates as may be necessary or convenient to accomplish such borrowing.

**RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

Motioned by: Jean Guy Tardif

Seconded by: Theresa Ouellette

Article Passed.

Article 33 To see if the voters of the Town of St. Agatha will authorize the Treasurer and Board of Selectmen, on behalf of the Town, to accept a grant of \$500,000 from the State of Maine's Community Development Block Grant Program, to be used to finance a portion of the costs (including soft costs and legal and other professional fees) to design, construct and install a new effluent pump station, channel monster, aerated grit chamber and headworks, electrical upgrades, and to shutdown and clean the wastewater treatment plant on behalf of the Town, to take any and all other action as may be necessary or convenient to accomplish such grant and to accomplish the purposes for which such grant is intended.

**RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

Motioned by: Theresa Ouellette

Seconded by: Jean Guy Tardif

Article Passed.

Article 34 To see if the voters of the Town of St. Agatha will authorize the Treasurer and the Board of Selectmen, in the name of and on behalf of the Town, to accept a grant in an amount not to exceed \$600,000 from the State of Maine Department of Environmental Protection, the proceeds of such grant to be appropriated to finance a portion of the costs (including soft costs and legal and other professional fees) to design, construct and install a new effluent pump station, channel monster, aerated grit chamber and headworks, electrical upgrades, and to shutdown and clean the wastewater treatment plant on behalf of the Town, to take any and all other action as may be necessary or convenient to accomplish such grant and to accomplish the purposes for which such grant is intended.

**RECOMMENDED BY BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

Motioned by: Jean Guy Tardif

Seconded by: Roland Paradis

Article Passed.

Article 35 To see if the voters of the Town of St Agatha will authorize the Treasurer and the Board of Selectmen, in the name of and on behalf of the Town, to borrow an amount not to exceed \$1,000,000 through the State of Maine Clean Water State Revolving Fund, the proceeds of such borrowing to be appropriated and used to finance a portion of the costs (including soft costs and legal and other professional fees) to design, construct and install a new effluent pump station, channel monster, aerated grit chamber and headworks, electrical upgrades, and to shutdown and clean the wastewater treatment plant, install new pipe to connect to the Frenchville system and upgrade and/or replace existing forcemains and pump stations, and to issue the Town's general obligation bonds (and notes in anticipation thereof) therefore, which bonds and notes shall have a term not to exceed the maximum term permitted by law, with such other terms and conditions, including the rate of interest to be borne by such bonds or notes and provisions for early redemption or prepayment, as may be approved by the Treasurer, and to further authorize the Treasurer and a majority of the Board of Selectmen, in the name of and on behalf of the Town, to take any and all other action, including designating such debt as bank qualified under Internal Revenue Code Section 265(b) and to sign such other documents and certificates as may be necessary or convenient to accomplish such borrowing.

**RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

Motioned by: Theresa Ouellette

Seconded by: Jean Guy Tardif

Article Passed.

Motion to adjourn meeting by: Jean Guy Tardif

Seconded by: Theresa Ouellette

MEETING ADJORNED AT 7:50 PM.

A True Copy \_\_\_\_\_

Attest: Amy Ouellette, Town Clerk

A True Copy \_\_\_\_\_

Attest: Susette Zetterman