

Regular Meeting

The Regular Meeting of the Ephratah Town Board was held 6 PM
February 12, 2014 at the Ephratah Town Hall.
Roll Call found the following people present:

Supervisor	Todd Bradt
Councilman	Ivan Duesler
Councilman	George Cosselman
Councilman	Thomas Miles
Councilman	Andrew Chorlton
Clerk	Eleanor Smith
Hwy Superintendent	James Berry
Code Enforcement Officer	David Rackmyre, Jr.--Absent
Attorney	Michael Albanese -- Absent

The meeting was opened with Salute to the Flag led by Supervisor Todd Bradt.

George Cosselman made a motion to accept the minutes from 2014 Organizational Meeting and January 8, 2014 Regular meeting. 2nd by Ivan Duesler. 5 Ayes. Carried.

Ivan Duesler made a motion to pay General bills, Abstract 2, Claim # 18 thru 48 for the amount of \$10,984.17. 2nd by Thomas Miles. 5 Ayes. Carried.

Ivan Duesler made a motion to pay Highway bills, Abstract 2, Claim # 17 thru 42 for the amount of \$21,749.40. 2nd by Andy Chorlton. 5 Ayes. Carried.

Communication:

- The Transfer Station will be closed Monday, Feb 17, 2014 and open on Tuesday, Feb 18th from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
- Supervisor Bradt received a “Thank You” card from the Girl Scouts
- Also received was the Annual Reports from Judge Keppler, Historian June Frasier and Clerk Eleanor Smith

Public Input: None

Reports:

Code Enforcer:

- Certificate of Occupancy Issued -- “Top of the Hill Grill”
- Owner of property 339 State Hwy 67 appeared in Court, fined \$2500, payable over 6 equal monthly payments. Payments can stop if property is cleaned up, if not after 6 months another ticket will be issued
- 105 Schoolhouse Rd is in violation of conditional discharge. Criminal summons was issued for him to reappear in court. Court date will be changed to a later date.

Planning Board:

- Eleanor Smith swore-in the members of the Planning Board
- Assessor Lyn Yuenger provided the Board with information on Ephratah Veterans. This info will be used for direct mailings for a workshop on Vets benefits
- All members that were present had completed their 2013 training and filled out verification forms
- The volunteers for the Zoning Committee have been given to Jim Mraz, F.C. Planning Board Director and request the Town Board to approve them.
- There is a vacancy on the Planning Board for an Alternate
- Officers for the Planning Board for 2014 are as follows:

Chairperson: Judy Townsend
Vice-Chairman: Chris Pedro
Secretary: Dan Richardson

The Planning Board also request the approval from the Town Board.

- March meeting will include plans for “Clean-Up Day” scheduled for May
- Veterans Benefits workshop scheduled for early summer
- Entrance and Trail signs for the Nature Trail are scheduled for Spring

Resolution 37

Thomas Miles offered Resolution 37 to approve the Officers of the Planning Board:

Chairperson: Judy Townsend
Vice-Chairman: Chris Pedro
Secretary: Dan Richardson

2nd by Ivan Duesler. 5 Ayes. Carried.

Highway Superintendent:

- Jim is asking for permission to go out for bids for BlackTop
- Jim is asking for permission to go out for bids for 2015 pick-up truck

Resolution 38

Ivan Duesler offered Resolution 38 giving permission to Jim Berry to go out for 2014 bid for 2015 pick-up truck, since there is no state bids. The sealed bids will be opened March 12, 2014 at 6:15 P.M. All bids must be presented to the Town Clerk no later than 6 P.M. on March 11, 2014, with “Pick-up Truck” on the outside of the sealed envelope. 2nd by Thomas Miles. 5 Ayes. Carried.

Resolution 39

Ivan Duesler offered Resolution 39 giving permission to Jim Berry to go out for Black Top Bids. The Specs will be given to the Clerk to place in the paper. All bids must be presented to the Clerk no later than March 11, 2014 by 6 P.M. with the sealed envelope marked “black top bid”. All bids will be opened March 12, 2014 at 6:30 P.M. 2nd by Andrew Chorlton. 5 Ayes. Carried.

Youth: Nothing going on.

Assessors:

- Still receiving exemption renewal applications for enhanced, senior, and agricultural exemptions.
- Deadline for the exemption renewals is March 1, 2014
- 23 residents have not returned their applications
- Data collection on new construction, demolitions and additions will start on Saturday, February 22, 2014
- Assessors expect to hear from the state regarding the Star B recertification after March 1, 2014

Supervisor: No report due to sickness in Lita’s family

Historian:

- Have not heard from the state regarding the grant applied for
- June & Abbey have been cataloguing, filing, and organizing material

Resolution 40

Thomas Miles offered Resolution 40 to accept and approve all the following 11 Resolutions presented by AOTSNY:

1. Rural Broadband Deployment
2. Incentives for Volunteer Firefighters and Volunteer EMTS

3. Provide STAR Administration Funding
 4. Publication of Legal Notices
 5. Preserve and Strengthen Home Rule
 6. Reform the Real Property Tax System
 7. Highway, Bridge and Transportation Funding
 8. Mandate Relief
 9. Waive Asbestos Notification Fees
 10. Funding Local Costs Associated with Gas Extraction
 11. Assessing and Taxing Fiber Optic Cable on Private Property
- 2nd by Ivan Duesler. 5 Ayes. Carried.

Resolution 41

Thomas Miles offered Resolution 41 authorizing Supervisor Bradt to pay the two bills, with Lita's approval, to Harris Company for computer work and software. One bill for the amount of \$1,060.84 and the other bill for \$2,487.50. 2nd by George Cosselman. 5 Ayes. Carried.

Unfinished Business:

Streetlights: Todd talked to Philip Richards who strictly handles the National Grid lines. Todd is trying to get Jackie and/or Tom to come to the meeting and explain capping, taking out, leaving lights on, etc.

Zoning: The agreement has been done, Jim Mraz will set up a time to conduct the first meeting.

Resolution 42

Thomas Miles offered Resolution 42 to accept the members following people as members for the Zoning Committee:

1. Town Board: Ivan Duesler
2. Planning Board: William Simpson
3. Planning Board: Judy Townsend
4. Planning Board: Rosalyn Wood
5. From Public: Bruce Frasier
6. From Public: Ronald Loyche
7. From Public: Jack Wood

2nd by Andrew Chorlton. 4 Ayes and 1 Abstention (Ivan Duesler). Carried.

Clerk's 2013 books were audited.

Resolution 43

Thomas Miles offered Resolution 43 accepting the Clerk's books with a "job well done". 2nd by Ivan Duesler. 5 Ayes. Carried.

The Judges 2013 books are to be audited next month, March 12, 2014.

Thomas Miles made a motion to adjourn. 2nd by George Cosselman. 5 Ayes. Carried.

Time: 6:42 P.M.

Respectfully submitted.

Eleanor Smith, Clerk