

Regular Meeting

The Regular Meeting of the Ephratah Town Board was held 6 PM
February 11, 2015 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 Charlton -- Absent
Clerk	Eleanor Smith
Hwy Superintendent	James Berry
Code Enforcement Officer	David Rackmyre, Jr.--Absent
Attorney	Michael Albanese

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

Ivan Duesler made a motion to accept the minutes from January 1, Organizational Meeting and January 14, 2015 Regular Meeting. 2nd by George Cosselman. 4 Ayes. Carried.

Ivan Duesler made a motion to pay General bills, Abstract 2, Claim # 25 thru 44 for the amount of \$ 8,135.48. 2nd by George Cosselman. 4 Ayes. Carried.

Thomas Miles made a motion to pay Highway bills, Abstract 2, Claim # 5 thru 23 for the amount of \$ 10,761.26. 2nd by Ivan Duesler. 4 Ayes. Carried.

Communication:

- Transfer Station Closed 2/16/2015 for Presidents Day and open on Tuesday 2/17/2015 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- Kevin Sweet checked into phone bills and found the Johnstown School District has placed a surcharge tax on all phone bills for Johnstown School District residents. This tax was passed into law a few years ago.

Public Input: None

Reports:

Code Enforcement Officer:

- 3 New Permits Issued
- 1 Certificate of Compliance Issued
- 1 Request for Variance - submitted to the Planning Board
- New Permit Applications have been completed and copies available at Clerk's Office

Planning Board: No meeting held, rescheduled for the 16th of February.
Kevin Sweet may be interested in the Alternate position on the board.

Hwy Superintendent:

- New Janitor doing well
- Jim made an offer for the dirt roller to Sparks Construction, Rte 20, with counter offer for \$19,800. Checked with Tracey Construction and a new one goes for \$30,000 - \$32,000.

Resolution 38

Ivan Duesler offered Resolution 38 granting Jim to pursue getting the dirt roller for

\$19,800 from Sparks Construction. 2nd by Thomas Miles. 4 Ayes. Carried.

Resolution 39

Ivan Duesler offered Resolution 39 for the Board to sign the Agreement to Spend Town Highway Funds, total sum of \$222,688.00. 2nd by Thomas Miles. 4 Ayes. Carried.

Jim asked permission to go for blacktop bidding. He is to bring the specs to the next board meeting.

Youth:

- Alan Cretser is lining up coaches for softball in the spring
- Calendar of Events are given out and is available at Clerk's Office
- Alan would like a simple agreement contract written up for when someone wants to use the recreation building. Mike Albanese will draw it up.
- March 28, 2015 is the Easter Party held at 2 p.m. at the Recreation Building

Assessor:

- Lyn attended the Valuation of Problem Properties Course in Albany, Jan 23, 2015
- Any Senior (over 65 or who will be turning 65 in 2015) who has not filed for the Enhanced Star and/or Senior Exemption, contact the Assessment Office before March 1 to fill out an application
- Taxable Status Day is March 1st and property will be assessed as it stands on that date

Supervisor: Report will be distributed next month

Historian: Nothing new

New Business

Resolution 40

Thomas Miles offered Resolution 40 authorizing the delegate for NYC Conference to vote "yes" on all 9 proposed Resolutions:

1. Property TaxCap
2. Tax Freeze Look-Back Period
3. Reform the Real Property Tax System
4. Assessing & Taxing Fiber Optic Cable on Private Property
5. Strengthen NYS's Partnership with Local Governments
6. Preserve & Strengthen Home Rule
7. Highway, Bridge & Transportation Funding
8. Enact a Multiyear Federal Transportation Program
9. Clean Water Act - Waters of the US

2nd by Ivan Duesler. 4 Ayes. Carried.

Resolution 41

Thomas Miles offered Resolution 41 to accept the resignation of James Berry, Highway Superintendent, effective January 31, 2015. 2nd by Ivan Duesler. 4 Ayes. Carried.

Resolution 42

Ivan Duesler offered Resolution 42 to Appoint James Berry as Highway Superintendent, effective February 1, 2015, until December 31, 2015 with a wage of \$30,000 for the remainder of the 2015 year. 2nd by Thomas Miles. 3 Ayes, 1

Nay (George Cosselman). Carried.

Ivan Duesler made a motion to take a 5 minute recess. 2nd by George Cosselman. 4 Ayes. Carried.

Ivan Duesler made a motion to return to Regular Session. 2nd by Thomas Miles. 4 Ayes. Carried.

Supervisor Bradt called to audit the 2 Judges' 2014 Books and the Clerk's 2014 Books.

Resolution 43

Ivan Duesler offered Resolution 43 to accept the 2014 Books of Judge Joseph Dickenson with a good job well done and appear to be in fine condition. 2nd by Thomas Miles. 4 Ayes. Carried.

Resolution 44

Thomas Miles offered Resolution 44 to accept the 2014 Books of Judge John Keppler, Jr. which appear to be in fine condition with a good job well done. 2nd by Ivan Duesler. 4 Ayes. Carried.

Resolution 45

Ivan Duesler offered Resolution 45 to accept the 2014 Books of Town Clerk, Eleanor M Smith which appear to be very good condition, with excellent work. 2nd by George Cosselman. 4 Ayes. Carried.

The Year End Reports from Judge Dickenson, Judge Keppler and Clerk Eleanor Smith were submitted to file in the Clerk's Office.

George Cosselman made a motion to adjourn. 2nd by Thomas Miles. 4 Ayes. Carried.

Time: 7:20 P.M.

Respectfully submitted.

Eleanor Smith
Clerk