

## Regular Meeting

The Regular Meeting of the Ephratah Town Board was held 6 PM  
November 11, 2015 at the Ephratah Town Hall.

Roll Call found the following people present:

Supervisor	Todd Bradt
Councilman	Ivan Duesler
Councilman	George Cosselman -- Absent
Councilman	Thomas Miles -- Arrived 6:07 P.M.
Councilman	Andrew Chorlton
Deputy Clerk	Cynthia Wessellmann
Hwy Superintendent	James Berry
Code Enforcement Officer	David Rackmyre, Jr
Attorney	Michael Albanese --Absent

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

Ivan Duesler made a motion to accept the minutes from October 14, 2015 Regular meeting. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Andrew Chorlton. 3 Ayes. Carried.

Andrew Chorlton made a motion to pay General bills, Abstract 11, Claim # 154 thru 170 for the amount of \$ 7,201.53. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ivan Duesler. 3 Ayes. Carried.

Ivan Duesler made a motion to pay Highway bills, Abstract 11, Claim # 153 thru 167 for the amount of \$ 14,616.34. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Andrew Chorlton . 3 Ayes. Carried.

### **Communication:**

- Transfer Station will be closed on Thursday, November 26, 2015 for Thanksgiving Holiday.
- A resignation from The Board of Assessment Review was received from Paula Keppler, effective November 3, 2015.
- Ivan Duesler made a motion to accept the resignation. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Andrew Chorlton. 4 Ayes. Carried.

**Public Input:** None

### **Reports**

#### Code:

- 9 New Permit Issued
- 5 Certificates of Compliance Issued
- 1 Certificate of Occupancy Issued
- Owner of 156 Valley Rd met with Code Officer, has a few things left to do before court 11/19/2015 to complete or fines will be issued.
- 153 Church St rescheduled for court 11/19/2015

#### Planning Board:

- No meeting
- On 11/16/2015 the *Citizen Preparedness Corps Training Program* will meet at 6 P.M. at the Ephratah Town Hall. All participants MUST register in advance at [www.prepare.ny.gov](http://www.prepare.ny.gov)
- OR call 315-793-2716 to register..leave your name, phone number, address and e-mail on the voice mail box

#### Hwy:

- Jim met with Hamilton, Fulton and Montgomery Counties to do the inventory of mileage on roads.

- There is some discrepancies with who owns the road on Irish Settlement, Ephratah or Stratford.

Jim asked the Board if he could get Chris Foss to survey the road, to determine who owns the road, therefore be the one to upkeep and plow the road.

**Resolution 76**

Andrew Chorlton offered Resolution 76 to hire Chris Foss to survey the road to determine which town owns the Irish Settlement Road. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ivan Duesler. 4 Ayes. Carried.

Jim had to open the other end of Tillboro Road because a guy is living there.

- Jim asked the Board to advertise to hire another man to replace Alan Cretser, because Alan won the Superintendent position in the election.

**Resolution 77**

Thomas Miles offered Resolution 77 authorizing Jim Berry to advertise for Highway help to replace Alan Cretser, who won the Superintendent of Hwy election. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Andrew Chorlton. 4 Ayes. Carried.

- Jim also asked the Board if he could start checking on getting a new plow dump truck, before bids went out.

**Resolution 78**

Ivan Duesler offered Resolution 78 authorizing Jim Berry to start checking on getting a new plow dump truck, before bids went out. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Thomas Miles. 4 Ayes. Carried.

Youth:

- Closed for the season
- Calendar of Events is done
- Recreation will be shut down until Easter.

Assessor:

- Now using the 2016 tentative role as the current role, allowing the Assessor to do split mergers, increases and decreases in assessed value, add and delete exemptions, and to change inventory
- Have run the exemption labels and are in the process of preparing them to be mailed. There are 153 parcels with Enhanced Star, 52 parcels with Senior Exemptions, and 42 parcels with Ag Exemptions.
- This is the beginning of the busiest time of year with all of the exemptions, data collection, and new values that need to be processed before March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016.
- Am continuing to compare property record cards with data entered on the computer so that all cards are up to date.

Supervisor: No report due to printer running out of ink.

Historian: Nothing.

Public Hearing was opened at 6:15 P.M. on RGL Fire Contract.

Public Hearing was opened at 6:20 P.M. on EVFD Fire Contract.

Public Hearing was opened at 6:30 P.M. on the Preliminary Budget for 2016.

**New Business**

**Resolution 79**

Ivan Duesler offered Resolution 79 to close the Public Hearing on the RGL fire contract. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Andrew Chorlton. 4 Ayes. Carried.

**Resolution 80**

Andrew Chorlton offered Resolution 80 to close the Public Hearing on the EVFD fire contract. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Thomas Miles. 4 Ayes. Carried.

**Resolution 81**

Thomas Miles offered Resolution 81 authorizing Supervisor Todd Bradt to enter into a Three (3) year contract with the Rockwood-Garoga-Lassellsville (RGL) Fire Department. The payment schedule is to be as follows:

- Year One (2016)                 \$66,000 (Increase of \$1,000)
- Year Two (2017)                \$67,000 (Increase of \$1,000)
- Year Three (2018)              \$68,000 (Increase of \$1,000)

2<sup>nd</sup> by Ivan Duesler. 3 Ayes and 1 Abstention (Todd Bradt). Carried.

**Resolution 82**

Thomas Miles offered Resolution 82 authorizing Supervisor Bradt to enter into a five (5) year contract with the Ephratah Volunteer Fire Department. The payment schedule is to be as follows:

- 2016 Year                 \$54,500 – \$1,000 increase
- 2017 Year                 \$55,500 -- \$1,000 increase
- 2018 Year                 \$56,500 -- \$1,000 increase
- 2019 Year                 \$57,500 -- \$1,000 increase
- 2020 Year                 \$58,500 -- \$1,000 increase

2<sup>nd</sup> by Andrew Chorlton. 3 Ayes, 1 Abstention (Ivan Duesler). Carried.

**Resolution 83**

Andrew Chorlton offered Resolution 83 to close the Public Hearing on the Preliminary Budget for 2016. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ivan Duesler. 4 Ayes. Carried.

**Resolution 84**

Ivan Duesler offered Resolution 84 to adopt the preliminary budget of \$1,380,331.00 the amount to be raised by taxes of \$818,364.00 as the annual budget for the Town of Ephratah for the fiscal year 2016.

Resolved: Whereas, the town board has met at a time and place specified in the Notice of Public Hearing on the preliminary budget, and heard all persons desiring to be heard thereon, Now therefore be it resolved that the town board does hereby adopt such preliminary budget as amended as the Annual Budget as so adopted, be entered in detail in the minutes of the proceedings of the town board and be it further resolved, that the town Clerk or Budget Officer of the town, shall prepare and Certify in duplicate copies of said annual budget as adopted by this board together with estimates if any, adopted pursuant to section 202-A. sub-division 2 of the town law, and deliver a copy thereof to the supervisor of this town, to be presented by him to the board of supervisors of the County. This resolution was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Thomas Miles.

A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Supervisor	Todd Bradt		Aye
Councilman	Ivan Duesler	Aye	
Councilman	George Cosselman		Absent
Councilman	Thomas Miles		Aye
Councilman	Andrew Chorlton		Aye

The budget for 2016 of this town is hereby adopted.

Another Inspection of the Brennan Humane Society was done and did not totally comply. They were given 30 days to comply and the inspectors will inspect the Humane Society again.

**Resolution 85**

Andrew Chorlton offered Resolution 85 to accept and appoint Penelope Smith to the vacant position of Paula Keppler, to the Board of Assessment Review. Term to fill the vacant position will be November 12, 2015 to September 30, 2019. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Thomas Miles. 4 Ayes. Carried.

**Unfinished Business** None

Thomas Miles made a motion to adjourn. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ivan Duesler. 4 Ayes. Carried.

Time: 6:40 P.M.

Respectfully submitted.

Eleanor Smith  
Clerk