

## Regular Meeting

The Regular Meeting of the Ephratah Town Board was held 6 PM on January 13, 2016 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	Cynthia Wesselmann
Hwy Superintendent	Alan Cretser
Code Enforcement Officer	David Rackmyre, Jr.
Attorney	Michael Albanese

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

George Cosselman made a motion to accept the minutes from the December 9, 2015 Regular meeting. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ivan Duesler. 5 Ayes. Carried.

George Cosselman made a motion to accept the minutes from the January 1, 2016 Organizational meeting. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Andy Chorlton. 5 Ayes. Carried.

Ivan Duesler made a motion to pay General bills, Abstract 1, Claim # 1 thru 17 for the amount of \$ 14,626.33. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Thomas Miles. 5 Ayes. Carried.

George Cosselman made a motion to pay Highway bills, Abstract 1, Claim # 1 thru 8 for the amount of \$2769.72. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ivan Duesler. 5 Ayes. Carried.

### **Communication:**

- The Transfer Station will be closed on Monday, January 18, 2016 for Martin Luther King Day.
- The Transfer Station will be open on Tuesday, January 19<sup>th</sup> from 10 am to 6 pm.
- Fulton County Public Health sent in the schedule for the 2016 Rabies Clinics.
- The Town received 30-Day advanced notice from Royal Mountain Inn located at 4993 St Hwy 29, in the Town of Ephratah. The owner and president Theresa Sarantopoulos personally submitted the Standardized Notice Form to the Town Clerk, Cynthia Wesselmann, on January 5, 2016.
- Judith Townsend completed her four hour requirement for 2015 for the Ephratah Planning Board.
- Ephratah Rod & Gun submitted the application to renew the Games of Chance License.
- An application was submitted for Gray's Gravel Pit.
- Nickelin Weaver sent in a letter requesting to be an alternate on the planning board.

### **Resolution 34**

Thomas Miles offered Resolution 34 to appoint Nickelin Weaver of 741 Old State Rd, Johnstown, NY, as an Alternate to the Planning Board. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Andrew Chorlton. 5 Ayes. Carried.

### **Public Input:** None

- Joe Frey with Rise Engineering was intending to speak regarding National Grid, but was unable to attend.

## **Reports:**

### Code Enforcer:

- Report submitted.
- Court For 153 Church St., January 14, 2016.
- 50 Permits Issued in 2015
- 63 Violations issued in 2015
- 13 Tickets issued in 2015
- Several code related calls and various code related inspections.
- Encouraged anyone to call with questions or concerns. 568-5140 David Rackmyre Jr.

### Planning Board:

- Meeting minutes submitted.
- Jim Berry wrote in concerns about the lack of signage regulations in Ephratah. He was told it is being considered under the zoning commission.
- Election of Officers for 2016 with Judith Townsend as Chairman, Bill Simpson as Co-Chairman and Dan Richardson as Secretary.
- Jim Mraz received the APA response and will review and then the Zoning Commission will be reconvened. He expects two or three meetings needed for changes. Then the Planning Board and Town Board will review the proposed codes.
- Three members did not meet the four hour requirement. They are requested an extension, or to waive the requirement. The Board agreed to the extension.
- There is still one position as an Alternate open on the Board.
- Proposed Amendments to the Planning Board By-Laws Art i.
  1. The elections shall be held at the last meeting for the year (generally December). Section 1.1.
  2. The regular meetings will take place the Monday before the Town Board meeting in the last month of the quarter (was Tuesdays). Section 1.2
  3. Of the seven members for the Planning Board a quorum shall consist of 4 members (was five). Section 1.4

### Highway Superintendent:

- Annual MSHA (Miners Safe And Healthy) Training scheduled for April 16, 2016 at the Mecco Fire Department, via TJ Bradt.
- Sign down on 67, wind took down, Bonnie has and will be replaced.
- Alan questioned Michael Albanese regarding the bus turn a rounds in private driveways. Michael Albanese said there needs to be a Municipal Agreement with the School regarding plowing and use of Highway equipment. The Town is not responsible for plowing the turn around. The school should have an agreement with the homeowner and compensate the Town for doing the service; a quid pro quo. The school would also be liable for any damages. Any questions, they should contact him.
- Alan asked Michael Albanese to look into loggers posting a bond for any damages done to the seasonal roads.
- Alan also asked Mr. Albanese if the Town is able to post a weight limit on roads. He replied yes, on town roads, pending a local law with weight limits and exceptions for local deliveries.

### Youth:

- Shut down for now

### Assessor:

- Report submitted.
- The County has made 2016 the current year. The Assessor, Lynn Yuenger, entered split merges at Real Property for the 2016 tentative roll.
- Previous data collection is finished, entering new data collection and pictures

being attached to parcels.

- New building permits will be calculated until March 1, 2016.
- Exemption notices are still coming in. The Assessor and Assistant will remind taxpayers if they haven't received them by the second week in February for the March 1<sup>st</sup> deadline.
- The Code Enforcer will be using pictures from the Assessor.

Supervisor:

- Report submitted

Historian:

- Would like the board to consider markers for the remaining 13 abandoned Cemeteries, commenting that tombstones are the property of the descendants.
- Historian, Evelyn Frasier, will follow up in the spring and put together a list of the cemetery names for plaques, signs or markers.

**New Business:**

**Resolution 35**

Thomas Miles offered Resolution 35 to authorizing a second person to sign an official document on any checks if the original person is unable to sign. The original, person along with the second signee are as follows:

- Supervisor Todd Bradt: 2<sup>nd</sup> signee to be Ivan Duesler
- Clerk Cynthia Wesselmann 2<sup>nd</sup> signee to be Todd Bradt
- Tax Collector Paula C Keppler 2<sup>nd</sup> signee to be Deborah Hofmann

2<sup>nd</sup> by Andrew Chorlton. 5 Ayes. Carried.

**Resolution 36**

Ivan Duesler offered Resolution 36 to pay two bills to the Fulton County Treasurer required to issue a refund to the Canajoharie Water Works, per approved Supreme Court order, on parcel SBL# 145.1-34.1, in the amounts of \$2,743.23 and 236.50, totaling \$2,979.73 for 2015. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Thomas Miles. 5 ayes. Carried.

**Unfinished Business:** None

Supervisor Todd Bradt reopened the public input.

**Pubic Input :**

- Resident and neighbor in Rockwood was concerned about an abandoned and or vacant house.
- Code Enforcer, David Rackmyre Jr, commented the Town doesn't get involved with properties unless it is in violation of code. Residents can call him with concerns.

There was a moment of silence for Michael Albanese and his family. His father, Honorable Mario M. Albanese, passed away on January 2, 2016.

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

Time: 6:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia Wesselmann  
Town Clerk