

Regular Meeting

The Regular Meeting of the Ephratah Town Board was held 6 PM on February 10, 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.- absent
Attorney	Michael Albanese

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

Thomas Miles made a motion to accept the minutes from the January 13, 2016 Regular meeting. 2nd by George Cosselman. 5 Ayes. Carried.

Ivan Duesler made a motion to pay General bills, Abstract 2, Claim # 18 thru 31 for the amount of \$ 4,967.43. 2nd by George Cosselman. 5 Ayes. Carried.

Thomas Miles made a motion to pay Highway bills, Abstract 2, Claim # 9 thru 35 for the amount of \$12,845.33. 2nd by Ivan Duesler. 5 Ayes. Carried.

Communication:

- The transfer station will be closed Monday February 15th for Presidents' Day, and will be open Tuesday February 16th from 10am – 6pm.
- The Ephratah Rec Center submitted the 2016 schedule, see below.
- Hon. John Keppler completed and submitted his Judicial Education Cert.
- Hon. Joseph Dickenson completed and submitted his Judicial Education Cert.
- NYS Dept of State is having training at FMCC on February 25, 2016 for Local Officials.
- DEC announced a Free Fishing Weekend to be held February 13-14th, 2016.
- Evelyn Frasier turned in her 2015 Annual Historian Report.

Public Input:

- The Sheriff, Richard Giardino, visited and spoke of the mission of the Fulton County Sheriff's Office and the Constitutional Rights of all citizens. Sheriff Giardino handed out an overview and shared information on their different programs including the yellow dot program, an indicator of medical information kept in the glove box for when individuals are in an automobile accident, as well as other programs. He also shared stats on calls for 911 and Sheriff's Dispatch, Ambulance Services-EMS and Fire Departments in Fulton County. This information was available and is on file.
- Joe Frey with Rise Engineering spoke on behalf of National Grid and NY Small Business Services Program to invest in small businesses and municipalities. He submitted an Energy Savings Plan contract for replacing the lighting at the Town of Ephratah for \$13,342.32. Mr. Frey explained to the Town Board members that there would be a significant savings with a National Grid Contribution of \$4,413.78 and an additional 15% if it were billed and paid for in a lump sum payment to National Grid. Also that the cost would pay for itself within approximately 36 months of usage.

The board voted to go ahead with the update.

Resolution 37

Andy Chorlton offered Resolution 37 to pay National Grid in a lump sum payment of \$7,589.26 for the new lighting at the Town Hall per the Energy Savings Plan contract with a warranty of two years. 2nd by Ivan Duesler. 5 ayes carried.

Reports:

Code Enforcer:

- Absent

Planning Board:

- Ivan Duesler reported they went over the APA's recommendations. Judith Townsend had reported prior to the board meeting that their next meeting would be on March 7th and Supervisor Bradt said the 14th would be in the paper.

Highway Superintendent:

- Alan Cretser reported they were cutting brush and watching for snow.
- He would like to make New Turnpike Rd wider. Approx 12 years ago it was blacktopped. It is narrow and he would like to go a foot wider totally 19' wide. He will check on pricing for gridding and relaying it for the next meeting to go out to bid.

Youth:

- The Ephratah Rec Center submitted the 2016 schedule as follows:

Easter Party	March 19 th	2pm	Easter Bunny will be there.
Softball & Soccer Signup	May 7 th	9-1pm	
Last Softball + Soccer Signup	May 21 st	10-1pm	
First Day of Softball	July 16 th	9am	
Car Show	Aug 6	11-2pm	
Rain Date	Aug 7 th	11-2pm	
Last Day of Softball	Aug 20 th	9am	
First Day of Soccer	Sept 10 th	10am	
Last Day of Soccer	Oct 15 th	10am	
Soup & Sandwich Dinner	Oct 15 th	4-7pm	
Halloween Party	Oct 30 th	2pm	
Sponsor Dinner @ Rec Center	Nov 5 th	6pm	
Fun Day	July 23 rd	1pm	
- Alan Cretser is lining up coaches and noted this would be his last season at the ERC and will be looking for a replacement to train.

Assessor:

- Report submitted via Lyn Yuenger, Sole Assessor.
Applications due on or before March 1st, renewal reminders, final data
Collections with Deborah Hofmann on Feb 20th and working on photos of the junkyards for the Code Enforcer, Dave Rackmyre Jr.

Supervisor:

- Report submitted via Todd Bradt, via Lita Hillier.

Historian:

- Historian, Evelyn Frasier submitted the annual 2015 Report.
- She would like the board to consider markers for the remaining 13 or 14 abandoned cemeteries,
- Evelyn Frasier will follow up and put together a list of the cemetery names for the signs and speak with the neighboring land owners for any permissions needed to put the signs up.

Resolution 38

Ivan Duesler offered Resolution 38 to purchase the 14 cemetery signs for \$12 each with the historians approval. 2nd by Thomas Miles. 5 ayes carried.

New Business:

- Fulton County Board of Elections wrote a letter to all town and city clerks regarding the disposal of the obsolete lever voting machines. The Ephratah Town Board made a motion to discard the 4 old voting machines.

Resolution 39

George Cosselman offered Resolution 39 to have Alan Cretser take and scrap the 4 old voting machines for metal salvage. 2nd by Thomas Miles. 5 ayes carried.

- Todd spoke with Howard Dutcher regarding becoming a Health Officer. Mr. Dutcher is the Health Officer for Caroga Lake and would be willing to do this for Ephratah as well.

Resolution 40

Ivan Duesler offered Resolution 40 to appoint Howard Dutcher as the Health Officer for the Town of Ephratah for the amount of \$590/year. 2nd By George Cosselman 5 Ayes Carried.

- The Town Clerk Cynthia Wesselmann asked the board to allow her to appoint Susan Groesbeck as her Deputy Town Clerk and Deputy Registrar.

Resolution 41

Thomas Miles offered Resolution 41 to appoint Susan Groesbeck as the Deputy Town Clerk and Deputy Registrar for the Town of Ephratah. 2nd by Andy Chorlton. 5 Ayes carried.

Unfinished Business: none

Ivan Duesler made a motion to adjourn for an Executive Session for Personnel. 2nd by Andy Chorlton. 5 Ayes carried.

George Cosselman made a motion to come out of Executive session. 2nd by Andy Chorlton. 5 Ayes carried.

The Town Board audited the Judges books for the year ending 2015.

The Town Board found the Judges books for the Honorable John F. Keppler Jr. and Honorable Joseph Dickenson Sr. in very good order, and a job well done for both.

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

Time: 7:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia Wesselmann
Town Clerk