

## Regular Meeting

The Regular Meeting of the Ephratah Town Board was held 6 pm on May 11, 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.

George Cosselman made a motion to accept the minutes from April 13, 2016 Regular meeting. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ivan Duesler. 5 Ayes. Carried.

Thomas Miles made a motion to pay General bills, Abstract 5, Claim #67 thru 76 for the amount of \$ 3,612.44. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Andrew Chorlton. 5 Ayes. Carried.

Ivan Duesler made a motion to pay Highway bills, Abstract 5, Claim # 65 thru 78 for the amount of \$ 8,359.93. 2<sup>nd</sup> by George Cosselman. 5 Ayes. Carried.

### **Communications:**

- The Ephratah transfer station will be closed Monday, May 30, 2016 for the Memorial Day holiday and will reopen Tuesday, May 31st from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- Todd Bradt received the flags for the cemeteries for Memorial Day.
- The Town received the report on the annual inspection of the Garoga Dam.
- Jake Tennis obtained quotes on fixing the “Welcome to Ephratah” sign on Rte 67 that fell during the winter. Todd said that maybe signs could be incorporated into the town budget over the next couple years so that there is one at each point of entry to the town.

### **Public Input:**

- OESJ School Superintendent David Halloran and Business Manager Karen Mettler attended the town board meeting. They spoke on the upcoming proposed school budget and propositions for the 2016/17 school year. The proposed tax levy would be 0% for the upcoming year.

Mr. Halloran spoke also on the propositions being voted on: Proposition #1 Capital construction reserve facts and Proposition #2 Capital bus reserve. Information on the propositions and the three school board member vacancies was sent out in the school newsletter. The budget amount to be voted on May 17<sup>th</sup> is \$18,824,930. Voting will be from 12 to 8 pm.

### **Reports:**

#### Code Officer:

- The Code Officer issued three Certificates of compliance.
- The Code Enforcer had several code and various inspection calls.
- 5 New building permits were issued.
- The Code Enforcer felt that the amount of time he would have to address zoning would only add a few hours a month to his duties. He felt that the zoning established districts and cleaned up the language for codes.
- Monthly reports are on file at the Town clerk’s office.

### Planning Board:

- The Planning Board will meet Monday June 6<sup>th</sup> and Monday, September 12<sup>th</sup>. They will meet quarterly; other meetings will be scheduled if needed.
- The Zoning Commission Public Hearing was held on Monday May 9<sup>th</sup>, with approximately 40 residents in attendance. There were concerns about the need for regulations and the zoning for agricultural activities.
- The next meeting of the Zoning commission will be on Monday June 13<sup>th</sup>. Public comments will be reviewed and discussion will be held on clarifications of some regulations and rural wording. The meeting is open to the public and will begin at 6 PM.
- The Annual Town Clean-up Day is Saturday May 14<sup>th</sup>. The project will kick-off at 9am-noon at the Town Hall. Safety vests and other supplies will be furnished.
- In conclusion Judy Townsend offered an alternative to insect repellent for black flies saying that she felt Noxzema works well.

### Hwy Superintendent:

- Finishing grading the seasonal dirt roads.
- A CPR First Aid Class for recertification is set for May 19<sup>th</sup> with other townships.
- Fairchild is all set to mow the cemeteries.
- NYS DOT Shawn Hennessy contacted the town about a Shared Services Agreement that would be to the towns' advantage in the event of any emergency disaster. Attorney Michael Albanese will review the agreement.

### **Resolution 50**

Andrew Chorlton made a motion to allow Cold Brook Wood Forestry, Gary Potter from Dolgeville to stage logs on town property by the old landfill pending the proper insurance certificate. 2<sup>nd</sup> by George Cosselman, with Ivan Duesler to abstain. 4 Ayes, with 1 Abstention

### Youth:

- The last sign up date for softball will be on May 21<sup>st</sup> from 10am-1pm.
- The Ephratah Youth Commission has decided that they will be handling the Car Show on August 6, 2016.

### Assessors:

- Open Book was held on Tuesday, May 3rd, with one person in attendance. The next date is May 10th and then the 17<sup>th</sup> from 6pm to 8pm, and then again on Saturday, May 14<sup>th</sup> from 10 am to 1pm.
- Grievance Day will be on Tuesday May 24<sup>th</sup> from 5pm to 9pm.
- The assessor has noticed a lot of new construction and demolition with no permits on file and feels that there should be fines given out because even though the permits are free, people still don't seem to know what the town law is.
- Lynn has only had one phone call regarding the tentative roll and doesn't anticipate a large grievance this year.
- The Board of Review has a training May 12<sup>th</sup> and both Penny Smith and JoAnn Dickenson are scheduled to attend.

### Supervisor:

No report

Historian:

- Evelyn Frasier is helping a man restoring a property in Ephratah with some history. He is pleased with what she has found out so far.
- She inquired about if the Dempster Cemetery was open for visitors. Attorney Michael Albanese advised about deeds and Right-A-Ways to property.
- The next Historical Meeting is on May 27<sup>th</sup>.

**New Business**

**Resolution 51**

George Cosselman offered Resolution 51 to award the Asphalt bid to Cobleskill Stone Products of Cobleskill, NY. The bid awarded is for \$52.35/ton, with the total bid at \$120,405. The bid is for the New Turnpike Road between State Hwy 10 and the Ephratah Town line. It is for approximately 12,672 feet in length and 19 feet wide and approximately 2,300 tons of #403.17 Type F Top. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Thomas Miles. 5 ayes. Carried.

**Resolution 52**

Ivan Duesler made a motion to accept the yearly Highway Spending Agreement that goes to the County to show where the chips money is being used. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Andrew Chorlton. All signed the agreement, 5 ayes. Carried.

- NYS DOT Shared Services Agreement will be table until next month.
- The Sub Divisions Regulations will also be tabled until next month. Mr. Albanese said it will need to be reviewed because although it does seem to be beneficial to the town, one could argue that it is an alteration on how people can use their land, how they can divide and sub divide their property, verses now you can conduct activities anywhere you want. Therefore, that does have an environmental impact on the town and may need to be reviewed. It may need to have a seeker review with an Environmental Impact study and or assessment.
- Mr. Albanese gave Mr. Mraz a lot of credit for taking the time and the Planning Board a lot of credit for hanging in there on the Draft Zoning. It is not an easy process, and it was a lot of regulations to get through. He reviewed it and felt it looked to be more than adequate and a step in the right direction.
- The next Zoning Board meeting is on June 13<sup>th</sup>.
- Bus Turn A Rounds to be addressed at the next meeting.

Ivan Duesler made a motion for an Executive Session for Personnel to update on the Audit. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Thomas Miles. 5 ayes. Carried.

Ivan Duesler made a motion to come out of the Executive Session. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Thomas Miles. 5 ayes. Carried.

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

Time: 7:06 P.M.

Respectfully submitted.

Cynthia A Wesselmann  
Town Clerk  
Town of Ephratah