

## Regular Meeting

The Regular Meeting of the Ephratah Town Board was held at 6 PM on February 8, 2017 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, followed by a moment of silent in memory of a former retired councilman and volunteer fireman Clarence Orr. He will be missed and his many contributions fondly remembered in the community.

Thomas Miles made a motion to accept the January 11, 2017 regular minutes and amend and accept the January Abstracts to read General Abstract #1 claim 1 thru 17 in the amount of \$14,584.39 and Highway Abstract #1 claim 1 thru 8 in the amount of \$12,169.80. 2<sup>nd</sup> by George Cosselman, 5 Ayes. Carried.

George Cosselman made a motion to pay General bills, Abstract # 2, Claim 18 thru 37 in the amount of \$6,735.12. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ivan Duesler. 5 Ayes. Carried.

Ivan Duesler made a motion to pay Highway bills, Abstract #2, Claim 9 thru 21 in the amount of \$10,353.13. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Thomas Miles. 5 Ayes. Carried.

### **Communications:**

- The Fulton County DSW sent notice that the Ephratah Transfer Station will be closed for Presidents Day, February 20, 2017. The station will be open the following day on Tuesday, February 21<sup>st</sup> from 10am – 6pm.
- Judge Jack Keppler handed in his year-end report for the Justice 2016 year.
- Judge Keppler also handed in a copy of his Certificate of Completion Continuing Judicial Education Program offered by the NYS Unified Court System.
- Evelyn Frasier submitted her 2016 Historian Annual Report.

### **Public Input:**

None

### **Reports:**

#### Code Enforcement Officer:

- David Rackmyre called and didn't have activity to report.
- Any questions or concerns he can be reached at 568-5140.

#### Planning Board:

- The next scheduled Planning Board meeting will be on March 6<sup>th</sup>, 2017.
- Glenn Blanchard let his term expire from the Planning Board in December. The Planning Board has requested that the Town Board approve the appointment of Alternate Lyn Wood to the member position left by Mr. Blanchard.

- Two property owners have inquired about Sub-Division approvals. Chairperson Judy Townsend will be working on putting together an application requested by applicants.

### **Resolution 37**

Thomas Miles offered resolution 37 to appoint Rosalyn Wood as a Planning Board member, filling the vacancy from Glenn Blanchard. The seven year term will expire 12/31/2023. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Andrew Chorlton, 5 Ayes. Carried.

### Highway:

- Town Highway Superintendent, Alan Cretser, has a 9am meeting on Friday at the corner of Turnpike and Ecker Rd with Town of Johnstown Highway Superintendent TJ Bradt regarding Keller Construction as they will be putting the settle/clay in for the Landfill. Mr. Cretser has questions regarding the newly paved town roads and commented it would be closer for them to run Route 10 and down. Councilman Cosselman inquired about weight limits on the town roads, the Johnstown side is not posted. Attorney Albanese advised the Town to have an independent engineer inspect the town roads prior and inquire with Keller about posting a bond.
- Mr. Cretser would like to purchase a HW140 Wheeled Excavator off State contract piggyback bid 01-6497 NYS GML 100 thru 140 & County Law 480-a for the Highway Dept. They would have the blade changed and moved to the front of the machine.
- Mr. Cretser would also like to go out to bid next month to blacktop School St in Ephratah, Murray Hill from the Hart Rd intersection to Rte 10 and Church Hill Road from 140 to Rte 10.
- The Town of Palatine would like to do a part of Suit's Rd and Wagners Hollow Rd and be reimbursed. The Suit's road is a single pass of 280' and Wagners Hollow is a little over 1300' with a total of 290tn. Alan noted that Wagners Hollow Road was last done in 2006.

George Cosselman made a motion for Alan Cretser to prepare the blacktop specs and to go out to bid. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Andrew Chorlton. 5Ayes. Carried

### **Resolution 38**

Councilman Ivan Duesler offered Resolution 38 to reimburse the Town of Palatine for the tonnage price from their bid needed to pave Wagners Hollow Road and a part of Suit's Road. It would take approximately 290 ton. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Thomas Miles. 5Ayes, Carried.

### Assessor:

- Exemptions are still coming back at a fairly good rate. The Assessor's office will notify renewals that haven't signed up for the deadline of March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017.
- New applicants for Star B or Enhanced Star must do so through the State. Lynn has cards available that explain how to do that. Existing Star B Exemptions going to the Enhanced Star and any that qualify for the Senior Exemption (anyone turning 65 or older this year) and new Veteran's Exemption will also be processed in this office. The deadline for all is March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017.
- There are still two new Star exemptions that have not received their Star rebate check from the State. The Assessor Lyn Yuenger may contact our State Representative Marc Butler.
- Next Wednesday morning Lynn will be attending a two hour AG Value Assessment Course sponsored by the FM Assessor's Association at Holland Meadow's.
- The Assessor's Office is open on Tuesday evenings from 6-8pm and by appointment at 762-5688 ext 23.

### **Resolution 39**

George Cosselman offered Resolution 39 to purchase the Hyundai HW140 Wheeled Excavator off State Bid # 01-6497 NYS GML 100 thru 140 & County Law 480-a for \$149,000.00 the Highway Dept. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ivan Duesler, 5Ayes. Carried.

#### Youth:

- They are still working on the schedule of events.
- The next scheduled event is an Easter party on April 8<sup>th</sup> at 2pm.
- They plan to re-appoint Ethan Cretser to the Ephratah Recreation Commission, term to expire 12/31/2021.

#### Supervisor:

- Lita has a new computer and is working on getting things caught up.

#### Historian:

- Evelyn and Abby spent time organizing records from the church.
- Working with Rosalyn Getman on the Getman Family.
- She also met with Robert Landrio and his wife, who own the Town Line Museum out by Trakside. She has been doing genealogy on the Fredericks' that married into the Lassells family and had a successful day on that.
- The Historian Evelyn Frasier, wanted to commend the Town, Town Board and Todd for always doing a good job on keeping up the cemeteries and mowing. There is a cemetery by the Town of Johnstown Water Works that the Town of Johnstown may have missed.

### **New Business**

- Proposals for the Association of Towns.

### **Resolution 40**

Ivan Duesler offered Resolution 40 to accept the proposals from the Association of Towns. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Andrew Chorlton, 5 Ayes. Carried.

- An unmarried town employee inquired about health insurance for his significant other of six months or more and they have a child together. A resolution is needed from the Board. Enrollment is once a year or special cases of having a child, getting married or loss of insurance.

### **Resolution 41**

Thomas Miles offered Resolution 41 to allow the town employee to add his significant other to his health insurance plan. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ivan Duesler, 5 Ayes. Carried.

- The Town Board will audit the Judges and Town Clerk at the end of the next Town Board meeting March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2017.

### **Unfinished Business**

- None

George Cosselman made a motion to adjourn the meeting. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Thomas Miles. 5 Ayes, Carried. Time: 6:36 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia A. Wesselmann  
Town Clerk, Town of Ephratah