

Regular Meeting

The Regular Meeting of the Ephratah Town Board was held at 6 PM on Wednesday, December 13, 2017 at the Ephratah Town Hall.

Roll Call found the following people present:

Supervisor	Todd Bradt
Deputy Supervisor	Ivan Duesler
Councilman	George Cosselman
Councilman	Thomas Miles
Councilman	Andrew Chorlton -absent
Clerk	Cynthia Wesselmann
Hwy Superintendent	Alan Cretser
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 November 8, 2017 regular meeting minutes. 2nd by George Cosselman. 4 Ayes. Carried.

Ivan Duesler made a motion to pay General bills, Abstract # 12, Claim 172 thru 184 in the amount of \$6,941.84. 2nd by Thomas Miles. 4 Ayes, Carried.

Thomas Miles made a motion to pay Highway bills, Abstract #12, Claim 194 thru 216 in the amount of \$13,953.13. 2nd by Ivan Duesler. 4 Ayes, Carried.

Communications:

- The Ephratah Transfer Station will be closed Monday, December 25th for the Christmas Holiday. They will be open Tuesday the 26th from 10am to 6pm. They will also be closed Monday, January 1st, 2018 for the New Year Holiday. They will be open Tuesday, January 2nd from 10am till 6pm.
- The Ephratah Transfer Station will be closed on Monday, January 15th for Martin Luther King Jr. Day. They will be open Tuesday, January 16th from 10am till 6pm.
- The Town received notice that the Hon. John F. Keppler Jr. has a certificate of completion for Continuing the Judicial Education Program.
- The Ephratah Rod & Gun sent in their application for Games of Chance.

Public Input:

- Phillip Lettow spoke on how he had contacted the Code Enforcer regarding a trailer on a property being used as a camp. He said it has been there and being used more than the six month limit. He had concerns with the sewage and vehicles being parked there along with permits for power.
- Mr. Rackmyre said there are no permits needed for power and he would check into the situation further.
- Richard Hayes, owner of the Brookside property, spoke on his concerns of a neighboring trailer being used for storage. Mr. Rackmyre will be taking the next step to address this issue.

Reports:

Code Enforcement Officer:

- The Code Enforcer issued three new permits, two certificates of compliance and there were four violation notices sent out.

- Mr. Rackmyre will be issuing a ticket for a trailer. The owner was told how to go about a variance with the Planning Board, but they did not follow through.
- Mr. Rackmyre addressed the Town Board regarding code for building permits and tickets being issued. The Attorney said the code reads either a violation and or a fine of \$250.00, but people should be given an opportunity to remedy the situation first.
- Any questions or concerns please call (518) 568-5140 and leave a message, or try his cell phone number at (518) 848-2930.

Planning Board:

- The Planning Board still has vacancies for two alternates.
- Lyn Yuenger found that only one variance or lot split was approved or completed. Chairperson, Judy Townsend, said they will be designing a check-off sheet of all the steps required of owners to complete their land transaction.
- Elections for Planning Board Officers for 2018 were held. The following were elected : Chairman – Judy Townsend
Vice Chairman- Bill Simpson
Secretary – Dan Richardson
- The Town Clean-up Day will be held on May 12th, 2018.
- Medicaid and Office of the Ageing provide transportation for seniors.
- They are planning a Fall Workshop in Oct-Nov, Judge Keppler suggested considering issues concerning seniors.
- Lyn Wood said a special thanks goes out to Alan Cretser for putting up the Nature Trail sign.

Highway:

- Highway Superintendent, Mr. Cretser said they need to review the list of stop signs because he would like to see one on the corner of Hill Rd and School St.
- The new highway department employee is working out great.
- A letter went out to Steven Savage regarding holes through a culvert pipe for maple syrup lines in front of 420 New Turnpike Rd in the Town of Ephratah, and that they must be removed.
- Mr. Cretser would like permission to look for a computer and software programs to be able to diagnose our own trucks.
- Mr. Cretser would also like to look into replacing a snow shoot. He has three quotes, with the lowest being \$4, 000.

Resolution 69

George Cosselman offered resolution 69 for Highway Department to purchase a snow shoot, pusher from the quotes for \$4,000.00 with money from the 2017 budget. 2nd by Ivan Duesler. 4 Ayes, Carried.

Youth:

- They are shut down for the season, and the calendar is done for next year.
- The schedule will remain basically the same moved back by one day. The car show is planned for the second week in August
- Sarah and the Girls Club have been successful in collecting and handing out food donations. They are taking suggestions for food baskets for seniors for next year. Mr. Cretser said they were well received and would like to see that continue next year.

Assessor:

- Ms. Yuenger again stated that not charging for permits does not seem to be working well. She addressed the list she had with the Code Enforcer.

- Exemption renewals are coming in, a few were sent back for income verification and they need to be turned in by March 1, 2018.
- A reminder to anyone turning 65 next year to sign up for the senior exemption and enhanced before March 1st, 2018.

Supervisor:

- Report submitted and on file.

Historian:

- The Historian is still out with an injury and will be starting doing physical therapy soon.
- There will be no meetings from January thru March.
- They are selling Historian Calendars for the Historical Society at \$10.00 each, available at the town hall and various other places. They are looking for photos of Rockwood for next year's calendar.
- The Deputy Historian Abby Cretser spoke on ideas to organize the filing cabinets, the upstairs records, and having a cemetery work shop in the spring.
- They are also working on a grant for a sign for the Yanney Mill.

New Business:

Resolution 70

Ivan Duesler offered Resolution 70 to re-appoint Chris Pedro to the Planning Board for another seven-year term, expiring on December 31st, 2024. 2nd by Thomas Miles. 4 Ayes, Carried.

- The Town Board set the Organizational Meeting for January 1st, 2018 at 9am.

Unfinished Business:

- Supervisor Bradt spoke with Surveyor Mr. Ackerbauer regarding Glenn Blanchard's property and the cemetery parking lot. Mr. Ackerbauer will get a hold of Glenn and will be working on the survey soon.

Resolution 71

Ivan Duesler offered Resolution 71 to adopt the Planning Board slate of Officers as follows: Chairman – Judy Townsend
Vice Chairman- Bill Simpson_
Secretary – Dan Richardson

2nd by Thomas Miles. 4 Ayes, carried.

Thomas Miles made a motion to adjourn the meeting. 2nd by Ivan Duesler. 4 Ayes, Carried. Time: 6:45 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia A. Wesselmann
Town Clerk, Town of Ephratah