

Regular Meeting

The Regular Meeting of the Ephratah Town Board was held at 6 PM on Wednesday, November 14, 2018 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 - absent

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

Ivan Duesler made a motion to accept the October 10, 2018 regular meeting minutes. 2nd by George Cosselman. 5 Ayes, Carried.

Ivan Duesler made a motion to pay General bills, Abstract #11, Claim 148 thru 165 in the amount of \$10,442.98. 2nd by Andrew Chorlton. 5 Ayes, Carried.

Thomas Miles made a motion to pay Highway bills, Abstract #11, Claim 217 thru 241 in the amount of \$28,587.30. 2nd by George Cosselman. 5 Ayes, Carried.

Communications:

- The Ephratah Transfer Station permits are available in the clerk's office at Town Hall for \$10/2yr permits, 2019-20⁷. Office hours are Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 6-8pm, and the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of the month from 9am to 1pm.

Public Input:

- None

Reports:

Code Enforcement Officer:

- Mr. Rackmyre Jr. issued 8 new permits and sent out 1 violation of trash and debris. Tickets will be served this month.
- Mr. Rackmyre Jr. has completed all mandated training to remain a Certified Code Enforcement Officer.
- A trailer issue in court was resolved and needs to be removed by 12/6/18.
- Any questions or concerns please call (518) 568-5140 and leave a message, or cell phone number at (518) 848-2930.

Planning Board:

- The next meeting will be held on Monday evening at 6pm on December 10th, 2018.
- The Planning Board spoke on the numbers of complaints about blight in the area. The Town Board discussed raising tickets fines and shortening the length of time to clean up. Code Enforcement Officer Mr. Rackmyre Jr. said when tickets are issued a reasonable amount of time given has been 30days to rectify the issue and the fines have been subjective, it can be the judge's decision.
- Workshop November 19th, with Bill Simpson, has a speaker on Fulton County Services for seniors at 6pm, at Town Hall.
- Officer nominations for 2019:
Chairman – Judith Townsend Vice-Chairman – Bill Simpson
Secretary – Dan Richardson A Quorum was present with 4 Ayes.

Highway:

- The Highway Superintendent reported they have been plowing the roads.
- The October M-Shaw inspection found no violations.
- They had a tank pumped and cleaned out via Eagan.
- Highway Superintendent, Mr. Cretser thanked the Town Board for their support and the pressure washer and the door that was put in.
- They got two new chains and will be adjusting the sander.
- The Landfill is picking up the sander, Highway was pleased with the work done.
- They purchased five new tires for truck 15 and the Supervisor renewed a NBT account for the EZ-Pass.

Youth:

- The sponsor dinner was held on November 3rd. Due to weather conditions and other factors the attendance was down.
- Sara Gray and the Girls Club are collecting canned goods and food for 12 families. They had put bags on mailboxes. Please contact Sara Gray or Abby Cretser if you know of any families in need this season.
- Alan Cretser said the calendar of events is almost done. Also, that Calub Blackwell with the Boy Scouts is raising funds to due repairs at the Ephratah Rec Commission.

Assessor:

- The Assessor, Ms. Yuenger had a good response on the exemption renewals and IVP (Income Verification Program). Her office has been learning and she anticipates the change being very time consuming and a lot of data entry to make this program work more efficiently.
- Anyone over 65 years of age needs to apply before March 1st for the Enhanced Star or Senior Exemption, check with the Assessor's office for details.
- Ms. Yuenger also spoke on the blight and number of unregistered cars allowed in the Town of Ephratah.

Supervisor:

- Supervisor, Todd Bradt handed out the Sexual Harassment Policy adopted by the County for the Town Board to review and discuss at the December meeting.
- Mr. Bradt requested members of the Town Board be in attendance early for the December meeting at 5:30pm to hear a presenter on LED lighting. The Shared Services and State have offered an agreement to purchase the lighting with the Town maintaining them in the future. Pay back for the purchase could be the savings within 4-5 years with the NY State funding program offered.

Historian:

- Ms. Frasier has finished up some requests and helped one couple with information from the census found in Jefferson County.
- Ms. Frasier has been working on filing obits and staying out of trouble this winter. :)

New Business:

Resolution 59

Ivan Duesler offered Resolution 59 to enter into a 5-year Transfer Station agreement with the Fulton County Landfill as they have done in the past. 2nd by Andrew Chorlton. 5 Ayes, Carried.

Resolution 60

George Cosselman offered Resolution 60 to raise the price of the Ephratah Transfer Station permits to \$10.00 for a 2-year transfer station permit. 2nd by Thomas Miles. 5 Ayes, Carried.

Unfinished Business

- Ivan Duesler made a motion to have a moment of silent in remembrance of Ronald L. Smith (husband of the former Town Clerk Eleanor Smith) whom had recently passed. The Town Board wanted to recognize him for his many years of honorable services including the Ephratah Cemetery and even Dog Warden for a brief time, and the many other good deeds in the community; he will be truly missed. 2nd by George Cosselman. 5 Ayes, Carried.

Ivan Duesler made a motion to adjourn the meeting. 2nd by George Cosselman. 4 Ayes, Carried. Time: 6:46 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia A. Wesselmann
Town Clerk, Town of Ephratah