

Regular Meeting

The Regular Meeting of the Ephratah Town Board was held at 6 PM on Wednesday, August 14th, 2019 at the Ephratah Town Hall. Roll Call found the following people present:

Supervisor	Todd Bradt
Councilman	Ivan Duesler
Councilman	George Cosselman
Councilman	Andrew Chorlton
Councilwoman	Eleanor Smith
Clerk	Cynthia Wesselmann
Hwy Superintendent	Alan Cretser
Code Enforcement Officer	Devon Percival
Attorney	Michael Albanese

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

Ivan Duesler made a motion to accept the July 10th, 2019 regular meeting minutes. 2nd by George Cosselman. 5 Ayes Carried.

Eleanor Smith made a motion to pay General bills, Abstract #8, Claim 87 thru 95 in the amount of \$4,374.68. 2nd by Andrew Chorlton. 5 Ayes Carried.

George Cosselman made a motion to pay Highway bills, Abstract #8, Claim 131 thru 156 in the amount of \$154,983.82. 2nd by Eleanor Smith. 5 Ayes, Carried.

Communications:

- Patricia Schultz sent in a letter to the Town Board to be considered for the BAR.
- The Ephratah TS will be closed on Monday, September 2, 2019 for the Labor Day Holiday. They will be open on Tuesday, September 3rd from 10am till 6pm.
- NYS Agriculture and Markets report indicates the Dog Control Inspection for Daniel Robinson at 556 Wemple Rd, Johnstown NY was satisfactory.
- NYS Ag And Markets also sent in the Municipal Shelter Inspection Report for the James A Brennan Memorial Humane Society which was also satisfactory.

Public Input:

- None

Reports:

Code Enforcement Officer:

- There were six new permits issued. There is new construction on Rte 29, repairs for an Ag building on Saltsman Rd, another Ag Building repair for New Turnpike, two roof replacements, and a porch replacement. There are two new buildings going up on New Turnpike Road in the next few weeks.
- The Code Enforcer, Mr. Percival meet with the owner at a business in Rockwood and addressed a couple issues. He will schedule a fire inspection in the next couple weeks.
- Mr. Percival has had no responses on the renewals. Stop work orders were issued for five properties. He did perform an in-process inspection on a garage on Rte 119 and addressed a complaint on a permit project that is being remedied.

Planning Board:

- The next meeting will be held on September 9th, 2019 at 6pm. There has been no activity.

Highway:

- Superintendent Alan Cretser reported that the blacktop is done. The Town of Johnstown helped with a tractor and a boom.
- Larry Brandt is planning to retire January 16th, 2020. Mr. Cretser would like to bring someone in to start training September 23rd as they have planned and budgeted for, and especially before the winter plowing begins.
- Mr. Cretser said he anticipates approximately \$16,000 in the fund for paving and would like to hire someone for the Smith Road.
- Mr. Cretser also spoke on the Boiler inspection and his concerns. He would like to look into replacing it as it is not as efficient as the new ones. The town board offered a few suggestions to look into to, correcting a safety valve and getting quotes.

Youth:

- The Softball season ends this Saturday, August 17th.
- It was reported that the Eagle Scout project for the inside of the ERC building was 396 hours of work and \$1600 in renovations sent in via Sara Gray. Alan Cretser will sign for Kalub Blackwell's Eagle Scout badge with many thanks in order.

Assessor:

- The Assessor, Ms. Yuenger reported that the School Tax bills are being ran and processed by the County. Taxpayers should receive them by the end of August.
- Their office has helped with corrections with ORPS.
- The matter of the Village of St. Johnsville watershed property has been turned over to the Town Attorney, Michael Albanese.
- Ms. Yuenger has listed a local number in anticipation of problems with any Star Exemptions. (518) 457-2036
- They are collecting data for the 2020 tentative roll and will continue to have office hours available on Tuesday evenings from 6-8pm.

Supervisor:

- Nothing else to report.

Historian:

- The Historian, Evelyn Frasier has been working with Matt Swartz. He has ties with the undertaker in the area years ago and shared a photo with a horse drawn hearse.
- The Deputy, Abby Cretser is still working on a cheaper fencing for the cemetery as a quote came in for \$5,000. They have also started putting together a 2020 calendar fundraiser with cheaper pricing through Fulton County Printing.

New Business:

Resolution 62

George Cosselman made a motion to offer Resolution 62 to reappoint Lyn Yuenger as Assessor for the Town of Ephratah for another six-year term to expire September 30, 2025; and she is certified. 2nd by Ivan Duesler. 5 Ayes, Carried.

Eleanor made a motion to advertise in the Leader Herald for the Board of Review vacancy. 2nd by Andrew Chorlton. 5 Ayes, carried.

Resolution 63

Ivan Duesler made a motion to offer Resolution 63 to enter into the Snow Plowing Contract with the Fulton County Highway Department. The acceptance of the proposal by the Town of Ephratah to undertake snow removal and ice control is for the winter of 2019-2020 on 7.52 miles of the County roads designated at \$5,000 per mile. The total contracted price is \$37,600.00 2nd by Eleanor Smith. 5 Ayes, Carried.

Unfinished Business

Ivan Duesler mad a motion to go into Executive session for Legal. 2nd by Eleanor Smith. 5 Ayes, carried.

Andrew Chorlton made a motion to come out of Executive session. 2nd by Eleanor Smith. 5 Ayes, carried.

Eleanor Smith made a motion to adjourn the meeting. 2nd by George Cosselman. 5 Ayes, Carried. Time: 6:40 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia A. Wesselmann
Town Clerk, Town of Ephratah