

Regular Meeting

The Regular Meeting of the Ephratah Town Board was held at 6 PM on Wednesday, February 12, 2020 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 January 8, 2019 regular meeting minutes. 2nd by George Cosselman. 5 Ayes Carried.

George Cosselman made a motion to pay General bills, Abstract #2, Claim 14 thru 25 in the amount of \$5,280.24. 2nd by Eleanor Smith. 5 Ayes Carried.

Eleanor Smith made a motion to pay Highway bills, Abstract #2, Claim 8 thru 33 in the amount of \$18,632.63. 2nd by Ivan Duesler. 5 Ayes, Carried.

Communications:

- The Ephratah Transfer Station will be closed on Monday, February 17th for the Presidents Day holiday. The station will be open Tuesday, February 18th, 2020 from 10am to 6pm.
- NYS Dept of Training will be holding two classes sponsored by the Planning Dept at FMCC for certain Board members to earn credits. The classes will be held on February 26th from 5-9pm. Attendees need to preregister by calling 736-5660 or 853-8334 by February 21, 2020.
- Ms. June Frasier submitted the Local Government Historian's Annual Report for the year 2019 and is on file in the Clerk's office.
- The Ephratah Rod & Gun Club be having an "All you can eat pancake breakfast" on Sunday, February 16, 2020 at the Club on Route 67 in Ephratah from 7am till noon.

Public Input:

- None

Reports:

Code Enforcement Officer:

- Mr. Percival has submitted to the state the Annual Report of Code Enforcement Activities for the Town of Ephratah. He is now working on some Federal Forms.
- Mr. Percival has started training and implementation of 2020 Code.
- He is working with CO issues on Rte 29 and another on Valley, Rte 10 health issues.
- Code Enforcement Officer, Devon Percival can be reached at (518) 928-9360.

Planning Board:

- There has been no activity at this time.
- The next meeting is planned for March 9th, 2020 at 6pm.

Highway:

- Highway Superintendent Alan Cretser reported the new truck is at Henderson's and may be ready by April-May.
- Mr. Cretser would like to go out to bid for blacktop this year for the following: 1 mile on the Mud Rd; the Smith Road from the top down; and the Town Barn parking lot as it hasn't been done in many and needs to be, hoping to correct drainage issues as well.
- Mr. Cretser spoke on ditch materials, spoils, trees and right ways, and how the town would like him to handle removal and requests as they could be a liability. He spoke on recent training and inquired with Mr. Albanese about putting together a standardized form releasing the town and others of any liability issues. They are checking with Errors and Omissions insurance that covers honest mistakes.
- M-Shaw has a training on April 9th at the Meco School they plan to attend.
- Mr. Cretser is working on setting up a First Aid / CPR course needed as well.

Youth:

- Mr. Alan Cretser reported that the youth commission has finished the Calendar of Events and has been submitted and on file.

Assessor:

- The Assessor, Lyn Yuenger said they are still processing exemptions and that if you know of any seniors remind them to return their exemption if they have not already done so. They have to be turned in before March 1st or the exemption will be removed.
- Anyone turning 65 in 2020 can apply for the Enhanced Star and if eligible the Senior Exemption. They need to apply before March 1st, 2020 at the assessor's office.
- The local number for questions regarding the Star Exemption is (518) 457-2036. The Assessor's office will continue to be open on Tuesday evening from 6-8pm and can be reached at (518) 762-1166.
- The Assessor's office is continuing data collections until March 1st. Anyone with questions or concerns should try to come in on a Tuesday evening before March 1st so any adjustments will be reflected on the Tentative Roll.

Supervisor:

- Nothing to report at this time.

Historian:

- The Historian, June Frasier reported the Annual Historian Report has been filed.
- They have been collecting data for the Scotch Bush Free Methodist Church.

New Business:

Resolution 40

Ivan Duesler made a motion to accept Resolution 40 to support The Association of Town's agenda. 2nd by Eleanor Smith. 5 ayes, carried.

Resolution 41

George Cosselman made a motion to accept Resolution 41 to re-appoint Alan Cretser to the Ephratah Recreation Commission for another 5 year term to expire 12/31/2023. 2nd by Ivan Duesler. 5 ayes, carried.

Ivan Duesler made a motion to go into executive session. 2nd by Eleanor Smith. 5 Ayes, carried.

Eleanor Smith made a motion to come out of Executive Session. 2nd by George Cosselman. 5 ayes, carried. (Ivan Duesler was excused after the meeting with prior engagements.)

Resolution 42

Eleanor Smith made a motion to accept Resolution 42 as the Town Board has done a complete audit of the Judges Books and records of the Honorable Dominic Arena and found them to be in very good order and commented with a job well done. 2nd by George Cosselman. 4 Ayes, carried.

Resolution 43

Andrew Chorlton made a motion to accept Resolution 43 as the Town Board has done a complete audit of the Judges Books and records of the Honorable John Keppler Jr. and they were found to be in very good order with a job well done. 2nd by Eleanor Smith. 4 Ayes, carried.

Resolution 44

George Cosselman made a motion to accept Resolution 44 as the Town Board has done a complete audit of the Town Clerk's books and records held by Cynthia Wesselmann. The Town Board found them to be in very good order, commenting with a job well done. 2nd by Eleanor Smith. 4 Ayes, carried.

Unfinished Business

- None

George Cosselman made a motion to adjourn the meeting. 2nd by Eleanor Smith. 4 Ayes, Carried. Time: 7:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia A. Wesselmann
Town Clerk, Town of Ephratah