

Regular Meeting

The Regular Meeting of the Ephratah Town Board was held at 6 PM on Wednesday, December 8th, 2021 at the Ephratah Town Hall. Roll call found the following members present:

Supervisor	Todd Bradt
Councilman	Ivan Duesler
Councilman	George Cosselman
Councilman	Andrew Chorlton
Councilwoman	Eleanor Smith - absent
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 a Camille Gray; a student attending the town board meeting.

Ivan Duesler made a motion to accept the meeting minutes from the regular meeting on November 10th, 2021. 2nd by George Cosselman. 4 ayes, carried.

Ivan Duesler made a motion to pay General bills, Abstract #12, claim 574 thru 583 in the amount of \$5,046.98. 2nd by Andrew Chorlton. 4 ayes, carried.

Ivan Duesler made a motion to pay Highway bills, Abstract #12, claim 557 thru 573 in the amount of \$31,623.71. 2nd by Andrew Chorlton. 4 ayes, carried.

Communications:

- The Ephratah Transfer Station will be closed on Saturday, December 25th for the Christmas Holiday and Saturday, January 1st for the New Year's Holiday.
- The Town received an insurance certificate for Joseph Moore; it's on file.
- Carver sent in information on their blasting operations at the Johnstown Quarry.

Reports:

Code Enforcement Officer:

- Code Enforcement, Devon Percival is working with residents on Co Hwy 119 with foundation damage and repair, and a new septic. Also, a New Turnpike Greenhouse and Rte 10 roof repair. Additionally, there was a trailer removed, and a new building being constructed at 5112.
- CG Roxanne is expected to work on a 10x10 new well house with the Town of Johnstown and Canajoharie in the spring.
- Mr. Percival informed the Town Board of the Cannabis Cabin inspection, owner Mr. John Polenski is on Weaver Road. It appears to be clean and all in order.
- Representative from Carver were in attendance at the Town Board meeting. They sent the Town Board literature on the blasting operations at the Johnstown Carver location. They are seeking support for the modifications they were requesting to make to their permit through the APA. The Code Enforcement, Devon Percival spoke on max decibels and max blasts, recognizing unavoidable weather conditions and a 4pm time frame also referencing the APA schedule. Carver complimented Mr. Percival on his knowledge and research done. The Town Board tabled Carver until further review for next month's meeting.
- Any questions or concerns, please call (518) 928-9360.

Planning Board:

- The Chair William Simpson submitted his report and is on file at the clerk's office. At the Dec 6th meeting they held the yearly elections and voted the following:

Chairman	William Simpson
Vice Chairman	William Claus
Secretary	Rosalyn Wood

The next meeting is scheduled for March 7th, 2022.

Resolution 79

Andrew Chorlton made a motion to accept Resolution 79 and appoint the following to the Planning Board for the 2022 calendar year:

Chair	William Simpson
Vice Chair	William Claus
Secretary	Rosalyn Wood

2nd by Ivan Duesler. 4 Ayes, Carried.

Resolution 80

Andrew Chorlton made a motion to accept Resolution 80 appointing William Claus to the Planning Board, 7 year term to end 12/31/2028. 2nd by Ivan Duesler. 4 Ayes, Carried.

Highway:

- Highway Superintendent Alan Cretser explained about the town employee that had an accident this morning and the town truck went on its side on Murray Hill Rd. Thankfully Wayne appears to be okay but the truck may be totaled. Mr. Cretser will be in contact with the insurance company and be putting the Tandem back in the rotation. It would be 16-18 months to get a new truck.

Youth:

- Alan Cretser said they have been shut down for the winter and they are still waiting on Sara Gray's letter of resignation. They have a couple of candidates to take her spot and they are waiting on a schedule.

Assessor:

- The Assessor Lyn Yuenger said to let anyone turning 65 in the year 2022 needs to go to her office to sign up for any exemptions before the March 1st deadline.
- Ms. Yuenger anticipates it being very hard to control the equalization rates and will be reviewing vacant land values and properties that have recently sold with inventory different that the inventory card on file.
- They continue to find improvements without permits and that blight is still a issue. She suggested looking into grants as the City of Gloversville did to get monies for any clean up.
- Any questions or concerns, please contact their office extension at (518) 762-5688.

Supervisor:

- The Supervisor submitted the revenue/expenditure report and is on file.

Historian:

- The Historian, June Frasier, announced that John Peck had made a donation to the historical society. He has requested permission from the Town to be able to do work on the Watrus-Peck cemetery on Rte 29 (by the Lexington in Lassellsville) as he has family there. Ms. Frasier said that the cemetery is in a bad location in relation to the road.

Resolution 81

George Cosselman made a motion to accept Resolution 81 giving John Peck permission to do repairs and any clean up on the Watrus-Peck cemetery as needed. 2nd by Andrew Chorlton. 4 Ayes, carried.

Unfinished Business:

- The Ambulance Service has been at staying at the RGL Station #1 in the Caroga Rockwood area. The contract has not been signed with the County yet, but they are in negotiations.

New Business

- Emily Yuenger's term is up for the Board of Review.

Resolution 82

Ivan Duesler made a motion to accept Resolution 82 to appoint Emily Yuenger to the Board of Review; 5 year term to end 9/30/2026. 2nd by Andrew Chorlton. 4 ayes, carried.

Ivan Duesler made a motion to adjourn the town board meeting. 2nd by George Cosselman. 4 Ayes, carried. Time 6:32pm

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia A. Wesselmann
Town Clerk, Town of Ephratah