

Regular Meeting

The Regular Meeting of the Ephratah Town Board was held at 6 PM on Wednesday, February 10th, 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
Clerk	Cynthia Wesselmann
Hwy Superintendent	Alan Cretser
Code Enforcement Officer	Devon Percival - absent
Attorney	Michael Albanese – absent

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

George Cosselman made a motion to accept the meeting minutes from the Organizational meeting on January 13th, 2021. 2nd by Ivan Duesler. 5 ayes, carried.

George Cosselman made a motion to accept the meeting minutes from the regular meeting on January 13th, 2021. 2nd by Ivan Duesler. 5 ayes, carried.

Eleanor Smith made a motion to pay General bills, Abstract #2, claim 29 thru 48 in the amount of \$11,293.15. 2nd by Ivan Duesler. 5 ayes, carried.

Ivan Duesler made a motion to pay Highway bills, Abstract #2, claim 49 thru 61 in the amount of \$6,920.24. 2nd by George Cosselman. 5 ayes, carried.

Public Input:

- None.

Communications:

- The Ephratah Transfer Station will be closed on Monday, February 15th for the President's Day Holiday. The Station will be open Tuesday, February 16th from 10am to 6pm.
- Kathy Oughton sent a card in to be considered as a member of the Planning Board.
- The Historian, June Frasier submitted her annual 2020 Historian's Annual Report.
- The Town received notification from the NYS Building Standards and Code that the Code Enforcer Devon Percival has completed the report necessary and is on file.

Reports:

Code Enforcement Officer:

- Mr. Devon Percival turned in 5 permits.
- Any questions or concerns, please call (518) 928-9360.

Planning Board:

- Chairman Bill Simpson is working on filling positions on the planning board,

Resolution 44

Eleanor Smith offered Resolution 44 to appointed Kathy Oughton to the Ephratah Planning Board, term to expire 12/31/21. 2nd by Ivan Duesler. 5 ayes, carried.

Highway:

- Highway Superintendent Alan Cretser said that they had removed a motor in the loader and put in another.

- The Highway Department has been working plowing and sanding the roads.
- There is logging being done on the Mud Rd. The logger will provide the Town with liability insurance.
- Covid has had them with reduced staff.
- Mr. Cretser also spoke of a 2013 freightliner truck for sale with 40,000 miles for \$125,000. The bookkeeper will be doing a 5 year breakdown to see where the highway funds stand for any possible truck purchase. A municipal lease may be something to consider.

Youth:

- The youth commission meeting was cancelled due to covid.

Assessor:

- The Assessor, Lyn Yuenger's reported they have finished data collections with the exception of new buildings that will be evaluated at the end of February as March 1st is taxable status day. They'll be entering data for the 2021 Tentative Tax Roll.
- Open book and grievance day will be held as they were last year because of covid.
- If there is anyone who may be turning 65 please contact the office (518) 762-5688.
- Any questions or concerns she can also be reached at (518) 762-1166.

Supervisor:

- Todd Bradt told the Town Board that he had received a report from the NYS Encon on the Ephratah aka Garoga Dam in Ephratah and it is in need of repairs in the concrete and has had some ongoing issues.

Historian:

- Deputy Historian, Abby Cretser said they are considering a walk this fall to some of the local historical sites in Ephratah.

New Business:

- The Supervisor, Todd Bradt told the Town Board that the Honorable John Keppler Jr. did not intend to pick up a petition to run for reelection in 2022, as his term expires 12/31/21; he plans to retire.

Unfinished Business

- The Town Board will consider a Public Hearing for a Local Law for one Judge position in May pending petitions.
- The Town Board audited the Town Clerk's records that is done yearly.

Resolution 45

George Cosselman made a motion to accept Resolution 45 that the Town Board audited the Town Clerk's records and found that Cynthia Wesselmann had them in good order, with a job very well done. 2nd by Eleanor Smith. 5 ayes, carried.

George Cosselman made a motion to adjourn the town board meeting. 2nd by Eleanor Smith. 5 Ayes, carried. Time 6:41pm

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia A. Wesselmann
Town Clerk, Town of Ephratah