

Regular Meeting

The Regular Meeting of the Ephratah Town Board was held at 6 PM on Wednesday, May 12th, 2021 at the Ephratah Town Hall. Roll call found the following members present:

Supervisor	Todd Bradt
Councilman	Ivan Duesler
Councilman	George Cosselman-absent
Councilman	Andrew Chorlton
Councilwoman	Eleanor Smith
Clerk	Cynthia Wesselmann
Hwy Superintendent	Alan Cretser-absent
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 meeting minutes from the regular meeting on April 14th, 2021. 2nd by Eleanor Smith. 4 ayes, carried.

Eleanor Smith made a motion to pay General bills, Abstract #5, claim 217 thru 226 in the amount of \$3,758.11. 2nd by Andrew Chorlton. 4 ayes, carried.

Ivan Duesler made a motion to pay Highway bills, Abstract #5, claim 197 thru 216 in the amount of \$8,295.74. 2nd by Eleanor Smith. 4 ayes, carried.

Communications:

- The Ephratah Transfer station will be closed Monday, May 31st, 2021 for Memorial Day Holiday. The station will be open Tuesday, June 1st from 10am to 6pm.
- Fulton County Dept of Solid Waste is holding Household Hazardous Waste Drop-off Day on Saturday, August 7th, 2021 from 7am to noon. Fulton County residents can make an appointment to drop off acceptable HHW by phone at (518) 736-5504 or on-line at <https://www.fultoncountyny.gov/departmentsolid-waste> at no cost. No Businesses are allowed at this drop-off.
- The Fulton County Solid Waste has a drop off at the landfill for the Latex Paint Exchange every Saturday June 5th through August 28th. Residents can drop off or take good paint at the exchange on those Saturday mornings.
- The Association of Towns newsletter explained “the Marihuana Regulation and Taxation Act was adopted legalizing adult use cannabis and imposing new requirements on medical marihuana and hemp cannabinoids (CBD). Towns may adopt a local law before December 31, 2021 opting out of allowing adult use retail dispensaries and on-site consumption sites. Additionally, a 4 percent tax is imposed on all sales-1 percent will remain with the county and 3 percent will remain with split among municipalities based on the sales that take place within their jurisdiction (should they choose not to opt-out).
- The Fulton County Board of Elections sent notice the Primary Election will be held June 22nd, 2021 if there is a primary for your party. The Ephratah polling site is at the Town Hall. General Election will be held November 2nd, 2021. Polls are open 6:00am until 9:00pm.

Public Input:

- None.

Reports:Code Enforcement Officer:

- Mr. Percival had an update for Carver permit 2008-0246c.
- He is working with Encon with an issue on the Old State Rd.
- He also issued permits for Arthurs Rd, a new house on Rte 29 and roof on 140.
- Mr. Percival had a search on 424 Fical Rd.
- He had a complaint of wetland modifications and is dealing with an issue with cars and an attorney is handling it for the property owner.
- Any questions or concerns, please call (518) 928-9360

Planning Board:

- The next planning board meeting will be held on June 7th, via zoom. The Code Enforcer will get with them about a couple changes.

Highway:

- Highway Superintendent Alan Cretser was out of town.

Youth:

- There is nothing going on at this time.

Assessor:

- The Assessor's office sent notices on Tuesday May 4th to property owners who had a change in their assessed value or exemption status. Open book was held on Tuesday May 11th and Saturday May 15th from 10am till 1pm.
- Grievance Day will be held as it was last year, by appointment.
- Any questions or concerns, please contact their office extension at (518) 762-5688.

Supervisor:

- The Supervisor, Todd Bradt has the financial reports available and on file.

Historian:

- There will be a bake sale on Saturday, May 22nd from 9-12 noon at the Ephratah Recreation Center.

Unfinished Business:

- The Blacktop bid was extended to do all of the Fical Road with the additional funds from the Severe Winter and Chips monies received from the State.

Resolution 57

Andrew Chorlton made a motion to accept Resolution 57 to award the Asphalt Bid to Cobleskill Stone to pave Fical Rd quoted for 1,205 ton at \$61.00 per ton and the extended amount to pave Fical Rd to Rte 29. 2nd by Eleanor Smith. 4 ayes, carried.

New Business

- The Town spoke on the New York State Budget language that enacted a right-of-way use and occupancy fee for fiber optic cable.

Resolution 58

Eleanor Smith made a motion to accept Resolution 58 requesting the Rescinding of the NYS Fiber Right of Way Fee as the Governor Cuomo championed to make affordable internet available for low-income families and broadband services in unserved and underserved areas also more available. 2nd by Andrew Chorlton. 4 ayes, carried.

Resolution 59

Ivan Duesler made a motion to accept Resolution 59 for the Mowing Contract with the Fulton County Highway Department for 2021. The Town agrees to undertake mowing county right-of-ways once before June 30th and once before September 30th of 2021 on the County Roads designated. 2nd by Eleanor Smith. 4 ayes, carried.

Resolution 60

Andrew Chorlton made a motion to accept Resolution 60 to spend Town Highway Funds in the sum of \$234,358.00 on general repairs upon 42.85 miles of town highways; sent to Fulton County Highway Dept. 2nd by Ivan Duesler. 4 ayes, carried.

Resolution 61

Ivan Duesler made a motion to accept Resolution 61 to pay the Fulton County Solid Waste (the landfill for the tipping fees) for debris at the Ephratah Transfer Station. Invoices for April, 2021 were in the amount of \$2,969.82. 2nd by Andrew Chorlton. 4 ayes, carried.

Ivan Duesler made a motion to adjourn the town board meeting. 2nd by Andrew Chorlton. 4 Ayes, carried. Time 6:58pm

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia A. Wesselmann
Town Clerk, Town of Ephratah