

Regular Meeting

The Regular Meeting of the Ephratah Town Board was held at 6 PM on Wednesday, October 13th, 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
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 September 8th, 2021. 2nd by George Cosselman. 5 ayes, carried.

Andrew Chorlton made a motion to pay General bills, Abstract #10, claim 483 thru 490 in the amount of \$39,768.17. 2nd by Ivan Duesler. 5 ayes, carried.

Eleanor Smith made a motion to pay Highway bills, Abstract #10, claim 469 thru 482 in the amount of \$25,587.27. 2nd by Ivan Duesler. 5 ayes, carried.

Communications:

- The Ephratah Transfer Station will be closed on Thursday, November 11th for the Veterans Day Holiday. They will be open Saturday, November 13th regular hours of 8am until 4pm.
- The Ephratah Transfer Station will be closed on Thursday, November 25th for the Thanksgiving Holiday. They will be open Saturday, November 27th regular hours of 8am until 4pm.
- The Town received notice from the Office of the State Comptroller that the Town of Ephratah has been selected for an audit. They will be in contact with the Town with a start date.

Public Input:

- None at this time.

Reports:

Code Enforcement Officer:

- Code Enforcement, Devon Percival has sent out 6 violations out and has been out on several calls and projects.
- Mr. Percival spoke with the Town Board about extending the reduced speed limit by Route 10. There would need to be further discussions on this.
- Ben Rebecca is requesting the Town's approval to put a trailer in that is a 1990.
- Mr. Percival has had communications back and forth with Carver Construction concerning the terms of their permit and some of the locals concerns with the dust and hours of operation. Carver had an open house to address any concerns of their neighbors.

- Representative from Carver were in attendance at the Town Board meeting. They asked the Town Board to support the modifications they were requesting to make to their permit through the APA. They requested 30 blasts per year instead of 18 and agreed to have the blasts produce a maximum of 20 ton; thus making the blasts smaller. This would reduce the impact and noise concerns of the neighbors and would produce less dust.
- Any questions or concerns, please call (518) 928-9360.

Resolution 70

Ivan Duesler made a motion to accept Resolution 70 to approve Ben Rebecca for the 1990 trailer within the Town. 2nd by Eleanor Smith. 5 Ayes, carried.

Resolution 71

Eleanor Smith made a motion to accept Resolution 71 for Carver Sand & Gravel to modify the EPA permit with the APA to a maximum of 30 blasts yearly, with a maximum production tonnage of 20,000 ton per blast producing a maximum yearly tonnage of 600,000 ton. The Town spoke with Carver representatives and were in agreement on smaller blasts and more of them to keep production going for Carver. The terms will be reviewed periodically for the local residents. 2nd by Andrew Chorlton. 5 Ayes, Carried.

Planning Board:

- Nothing at this time.

Highway:

- Highway Superintendent Alan Cretser said they had been doing sand and the pile is bigger. The pit is now closed until May.
- Mr. Cretser said they would like to blacktop Tillboro and lower end of the East Rd possibly next year.
- They had a recall on the Western Star.
- Mr. Cretser spoke to the Town Board at the budget meeting about ordering two John Deere tractors, as it would be next year before they would get them. He would also like them to consider getting a used truck in place of a plow truck as they need to replace one. Alan has a call into Chris Mosher regarding Chips monies they may be able to use.

Youth:

- Alan Cretser reported on saying the last day of soccer will be 10/2/21.
- Sara Gray resigned, they are waiting on her letter.

Assessor:

- The Assessor's report is on file. Lyn Yuenger reported that they are seeing changes without permits, which is an ongoing problem. They are adjusting parcels as they see them. They would also like a reimbursement for fuel.
- Ms. Yuenger is adjusting land parcels hoping to hold the equalization rate.
- Any questions or concerns, please contact their office extension at (518) 762-5688.

Supervisor:

- There was a Preliminary Budget meeting held with the Town Board members on September 22nd at 6pm, at the Ephratah Town Hall.

Historian:

- The Historian June Frasier reported they were at the History Museum on 10/2.

Unfinished Business:

Resolution 72

Eleanor Smith made a motion to accept Resolution 72 to authorize Highway Superintendent Alan Cretser to order and purchase two model John Deere 5055E Utility Tractors for \$22,224.98 each. 2nd by Ivan Duesler. 5 ayes, carried.

Andrew Chorlton made a motion to set a Public Hearing on November 10th at 6:15pm for the RGL Contract. 2nd by Ivan Duesler. 5 Ayes, carried.

Andrew Chorlton made a motion to set a Public Hearing for the Preliminary Budget, to be held on November 10th at 6:30 pm. 2nd by Eleanor Smith. 5 Ayes, carried.

New Business

- The Supervisor Todd Bradt spoke to the Town Board members about getting an ambulance service within the Town of Ephratah. He would like to get Stratford, Oppenheim, Bleecker and Caroga Lake on board, as there is a need for a centrally located Ambulance service and it would be a backup for the County. We would need a location, building with living quarters, a kitchen and restroom, and a garage for ambulances. The County may contribute up to \$450,000 towards this ambulance service. Mr. Bradt is researching all options and reiterated that this is all in the preliminary stages.

Ivan Duesler made a motion to adjourn the town board meeting. 2nd by George Cosselman. 5 Ayes, carried. Time 6:57pm

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia A. Wesselmann
Town Clerk, Town of Ephratah