

Regular Meeting

The Regular Meeting of the Ephratah Town Board was held at 6 PM on Wednesday, April 13th, 2022 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 -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 regular meeting on March 9th, 2022. 2nd by Eleanor Smith. 5 ayes, carried.

Ivan Duesler made a motion to pay General bills, Abstract #4 claim 196 thru 210 in the amount of \$6,182.01. 2nd by Andrew Chorlton. 5 ayes, carried.

Ivan Duesler made a motion to pay Highway bills, Abstract #4, claim 196 thru 210 in the amount of \$9,331.21nd by Andrew Chorlton. 5 ayes, carried.

Communications:

- Cindy Christman, the Lead Coordinator for Fulton County Public Health spoke on Lead paint and then Lime & Ticks. She made the Town aware of lead in paint before 1978. Also there is lead in some toys and medicines from other countries. Recalls can be found on their face book page. She also shared information on Lime and Tick diseases. March is National Tick Awareness month. Ms. Christman is retiring but she left the town with brochures and more information is available at Public Health.

Public Input:

- Thomas Becker provided the Town with Carver Construction information regarding “serious concern over the expansion and work activities”.
- Residents with questions or concerns should contact the Adirondack Park Agency for compliance, Bart Harrison (518) 891-4050, or DEC mining Operations Compliance at (518) 623-1271.

Reports:

Code Enforcement Officer:

- Code Enforcement Devon Percival reported that the Town has came up with guidelines for Carver that the Town would like implemented such as blasting limits and restricting hours of blasting. They came up with recommendations that would allow Carver to operate with minimal restrictions and for residents to enjoy their homes as well.
- Mr. Percival has sent out warnings to clean up debris. The Town Board would like to see him issuing tickets.
- He also has a couple residents with building projects.
- Any questions or concerns, please call Mr. Percival at (518) 928-9360.

Public Hearing opened 6:30pm

The Public Hearing for the Asphalt Bids was opened at 6:30 and read as follows:

Callanan Industries

1. Smolik Rd	192.50tn	\$103.50/tn =\$19,923.75
2. Tillboro Rd	683.50tn	\$87.50/tn = \$59,806.25
3. Wohlgemuth Rd	192.50tn	\$103.50 = \$19,923.75
4. East Rd	1207.5tn	\$87.50 = \$105,656.25

Ephratah Transfer Station to be billed to Fulton County Dept of Solid Waste

1. Inside fence	140 tn	\$140.00/tn = \$19,600.00
2. Entrance off 29	35tn	\$225.00/tn = \$7,875.00
3. Entrance	30tn	\$250.00/tn = \$7,500.00

Empire Paving

1. Smolik Rd	192.50tn	\$99.85/tn =\$19,221.13
2. Tillboro Rd	683.50tn	\$89.94/tn = \$61,473.99
3. Wohlgemuth Rd	192.50tn	\$99.85 = \$19,221.13
4. East Rd	1207.5tn	\$88.77 = \$107,189.78

Ephratah Transfer Station to be billed to Fulton County Dept of Solid Waste

1. Inside fence	140 tn	\$164.00/tn = \$22,960.00
2. Entrance off 29	35tn	\$164.00/tn = \$5,740.00
3. Entrance	30tn	\$164.00/tn = \$4,920.00

Cobleskill Stone

1. Smolik Rd	192.50tn	\$101.50/tn =\$19,538.75
2. Tillboro Rd	683.50tn	\$94.50/tn = \$64,590.75
3. Wohlgemuth Rd	192.50tn	\$101.50 = \$19,538.75
4. East Rd	1207.5tn	\$90.25 = \$108,976.88

Ephratah Transfer Station to be billed to Fulton County Dept of Solid Waste

1. Inside fence	140 tn	\$140.00/tn = \$19,600.00
2. Entrance off 29	35tn	\$225.00/tn = \$7,875.00
3. Entrance	30tn	\$225.00/tn = \$6,750.00

The Town Board, on the recommendation of the Highway Superintendent, tabled the bid award until next month.

Planning Board:

- Nothing at this time.

Highway:

- Highway Superintendent Alan Cretser said they have been doing ditches and sweeping.
- He asked the Town Board about getting rid of equipment they are not using. They would like to get rid of a number of items through Auctions International including a Gradall, tractor parts, brush hog, 1985 steam Jenny, push mower, screen plant belts and a 1993 generator.

Resolution 49

Ivan Duesler made a motion to accept Resolution 48 for the Highway Superintendent, Alan Cretser to list and sell equipment through Auctions

International. 2nd by Eleanor Smith. 5 ayes, carried.

Youth:

- Alan Cretser said they had 40 kids at the Easter Party and had 750 eggs filled for the event.
- Softball sign up is on Saturday, May 7th from 10am-1pm. Last day to sign up is May 21st from 10am-1pm. They will be using shirts that they have.
- They are planning on a new outhouse with a concrete floor.
- First day of softball is on July 9th at 10am. Last day is August 20th at 10am.

Assessor:

- The Assessor, Lyn Yuenger, has completed the Tentative Roll. Change of Assessment notices are in process to be mailed to taxpayers whose property has had a change in their assessment.
- The new values for the Star Exemptions have been determined and are as follows: Basic Star = \$19,470 and the Enhanced Star = \$48,610 of assessed value. The dollar value varies on the school district your property is in.
- Open book will be held on May 3rd, 10th, and 17th from 6pm to 8:30pm and May 21st from 9am to 12 noon. Grievance Day is May 24th from 5pm to 9pm. Please come to open book with questions or concerns.
- Any questions or concerns, please contact the Assessor's office at (518) 762-5688.

Supervisor:

- The Supervisor's financial report was submitted and on file. He also reported that the AUD was done and had been filed.

Historian:

- The Historian, June Frasier spoke with John Peck and will get a copy of the resolution to start the cleanup of the cemetery.
- There is a pie/bake sale at the Ephratah Rec Commission on May 7th in the am.

New Business

- The Town Board decided to purchase a new phone system with six phones. Highway will be running the wire and the Frontier bill would not change.

Resolution 50

George Cosselman made a motion to accept Resolution 50 to purchase a phone system from PCM including six phones for \$4,202.50. 2nd by Ivan Duesler. 5 Ayes, carried.

Resolution 51

Ivan Duesler made a motion to accept Resolution 51 to make adjustments at the recommendation of the auditor and **RESOLVED**, that the Supervisor be and hereby is authorized and directed to do whatever is necessary to correct the March, 2022 books to balance said books. All corresponding corrections/calculations are on file with the March, 2022 financial records for review.

THEREFORE, be it resolved that transfers be made to correct/balance said books as follows:

Bank Cash Transfers:

To: Fire Districts Funds:	\$669.98
To: Trust & Agency:	\$64,049.04
From: General Fund:	\$64,049.04

To: Trust & Agency: \$51,673.29
From: Highway Fund: \$51,673.29

To: Highway Fund: \$93,393.10
To: General Fund: \$90,519.72
From: Trust & Agency: \$183,912.82

General Journal Entry Transfers:

To: Highway EQ Reserve: \$95,392.86
From: Highway Fund: \$95,392.86

Bank Cash Transfer/General Journal Entry:

To: Highway Fund: \$95,392.86 (General Journal Entry)
From: Highway EQ Reserve: \$73,850.73 (Bank Cash Transfer)

2nd by Andrew Chorlton. 5 Ayes, carried.

Resolution 52

Andrew Chorlton made a motion to accept Resolution 52 to purchase a facial recognition time clock for the Highway Department, from Derby Office Equipment for \$286.00. 2nd by George Cosselman. 5 Ayes, carried.

Unfinished Business:

- Mr. John Polenski, the owner of Cannabis Cabin addressed the Town Board to let them know that he will be applying for a retail dispensary permit for Cannabis Sales. Mr. Polenski was requesting a letter of recommendation acknowledging and showing support for his store.

Ivan Duesler made a motion to go into Executive Session at 6:59pm. 2nd by Eleanor Smith. 5 Ayes, carried.

Andrew Chorlton made a motion to come out of Executive Session at 7:10pm. 2nd by Eleanor Smith. 5 Ayes, carried.

Resolution 53

George Cosselman made a motion to accept Resolution 53 as the Town Audited the Tax Collector, Vicki Lansburg, and found the books to be in very good standing with a job well done. 2nd by Andrew Chorlton. 5 Ayes, carried.

Eleanor Smith made a motion to adjourn the town board meeting. 2nd by Ivan Duesler. 5 Ayes, carried. Time 7:32 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia A. Wesselmann
Town Clerk, Town of Ephratah