

Regular Meeting

The Regular Meeting of the Ephratah Town Board was held at 6 PM on Wednesday, September 14th, 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

The meeting was opened with Salute to the Flag led Robert Smullen, requested by Supervisor Todd Bradt.

Ivan Duesler made a motion to accept the meeting minutes from the regular meeting on August 10th, 2022. 2nd by George Cosselman. 5 ayes, carried.

Ivan Duesler made a motion to pay General bills, Abstract #9, claim 484 thru 496 in the amount of \$35,422.24. 2nd by Eleanor Smith. 5 Ayes

Ivan Duesler made a motion to pay Highway bills, Abstract #9, claim 455 thru 483 in the amount of \$287,434.59. 2nd by George Cosselman. 5 ayes, carried.

Communications:

- Fulton County Solid Waste sent notice that the Ephratah Transfer Station will be closed Monday, October 10th, 2022 for the Columbus Day Holiday. The station will be open on Tuesday, October 11th from 10am till 6pm.

Public Input:

- Robert Smullen attended the meeting and updated the board on some of the current legislation.

Reports:

Code Enforcement Officer:

- Devon Percival reported that CG Roxanne was up and running at full capacity.
- He was reviewing defects in a storage shed on Hart Rd and they are making the necessary changes.
- Mr. Percival dyed the septic on the Old School House Rd and reported that there were no leakages found.
- He has had training for the upcoming ASHP via NYSERDA.
- Carver has responded to the APA and is being allowed to run under the old permit until the new permit is granted. The APA is reviewing Carver's response. Mr. Percival will be requesting the log books from Carver.
- Mr. Percival is checking into Congdon Springs and Zimmerman Creek water ways and has requested permission to have these waters tested.
- Mr. Percival's report is on file, and he can be reached at (518) 928-9360.

Planning Board:

- They have a couple upcoming mergers and or subdivisions in the works.

Highway:

- Highway Superintendent Alan Cretser reported that they had a couple issues with the screen plant and the time clock; also that salt went up \$17/ton.
- Highway has a couple spots to do blacktop on the Hart Road and had a request for shoulder repair on the New Turnpike Rd.
- Fort Plain Watershed is logging on the Tillboro Road.
- The Landfill is borrowing a truck that Mr. Cretser would like permission to sell if they are interested in purchasing it.
- The mowers are back and making a second pass along the town roads.
- Mr. Cretser will be on vacation the week of the 19th.

Public Hearing

The Public Hearing for Local Law 1 of 2022 “Four Way Stop Signs at Wohlgemuth and Tillboro Roads” was opened at the meeting with no public input.

Youth:

- They had the last Saturday of softball and started soccer with about 15 participants. The last day of soccer is Saturday, October 15th.
- They would like to replace board member Sara Gray, as her term is coming up.

Assessor:

- They are working on the 2023 Tentative Assessment Roll. They are entering data changes, exemptions, and value changes will be reflected on that roll.
- Ms. Yuenger said they have been doing data collections. Permits are needed for both building and demolitions.
- Any new Star applicants for Basic Star need to apply on line with the State. Anyone turning 65 in 2023 can apply for the Enhanced Star and Senior Exemption if they qualify. As of January 1st, 2022, all owners must be 65 to qualify for the Enhanced Star; effecting applicants that filed in 2022 for this school tax levy as well.
- 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.

Historian:

- The Historian, June Frasier and her Deputy, Abby Cretser had a successful bake sale at the Ephratah Rec Commission on Saturday, September 10th.

New Business:

Resolution 72

Eleanor Smith made a motion to accept Resolution 72 Be it resolved that The Board of the Town of Ephratah authorized the Ephratah Town Court to apply for a JCAP grant in the 2022-2023 grant cycle up to \$30,000.00. 2nd by Andrew Chorlton. 5 Ayes, carried.

Resolution 73

Eleanor Smith made a motion to accept Resolution 73 to have the Fulton County Demolition Team take down and remove the structure and debris from the former Top of the Hill Grill property at 4700 State Hwy 29 located in Ephratah. 2nd by Ivan Duesler. 5 Ayes, carried.

Resolution 74

Eleanor Smith made a motion to accept Resolution 74 to contract with Paradigm to do the air monitoring from the structure and debris on the project at 4700 State Hwy 29, located in Ephratah; see the contracted rates. 2nd by Andrew Chorlton. 5 Ayes, carried.

Resolution 75

Ivan Duesler made a motion to accept Resolution 75 to prepay for the purchase of a 2023 HV 607 International Tandem truck in order to retain the NBT Bank bond for the remaining \$150,000. 2nd by George Cosselman. 5 Ayes, carried.

- There will be a Budget meeting on September 20th at 6pm, at the Town Hall.
- The Standard workday Resolution will be posted on the board for 30 days.
The Standard Work Standard Work Day reads as follows:

Title	Name	Social Security Number (last 4 digits)	Registration Number	Standard Work Day (Hrs./day)	Term Begins/Ends	Participates in Employer's Time Keeping System Y/N	Days/ Month (based on Record of Activities)
Town Supervisor	Todd Bradt	4462	40310237 R11487235	6	1/1/20-12/31/23	N	14.42
Town Clerk	Cynthia Wesselmann	7722	42298984 R10510362	6	1/1/20-12/31/23	N	8.00
Attorney	Michael Albanese	3850	35192764 R10243604	6	1/1/22-12/31/23 appointed	N	3.16
Deputy Town Clerk	Susan Groesbeck	5910	R10016277	Per Diem	1/1/22-12/31/23 appointed	y	1.33

Unfinished Business:

- The Highway Department negotiations will be meeting on 9/15/22 at 4pm.

Andrew Chorlton made a motion to close the public hearing on Local Law 1 of 2022 “Four Way Stop Signs at Wohlgemuth and Tillboro Roads”. 2nd by George Cosselman. 5 Ayes, carried.

Resolution 76

Andy Chorlton made a motion to accept Resolution 76 to adopt Local Law 1 of 2022 “Four Way Stop Signs at Wohlgemuth and Tillboro Roads”. 2nd by George Cosselman. 5 Ayes, carried as follows:

**RESOLUTION 76 AUTHORIZING ADOPTION BY
EPHRATAH TOWN BOARD
OF LOCAL LAW NO. 1 OF 2022 entitled**

“Four Way Stop Signs At Wohlgemuth And Tillboro Roads”

WHEREAS, a resolution was duly adopted by the Town Board of the Town of Ephratah for a public hearing to be held by said Town Board on September 14, 2022 at 6:15 p.m. at Ephratah Town Hall to hear all interested parties on a proposed Local Law entitled, “Four Way Stop Signs At Wohlgemuth And Tillboro Roads”; and

WHEREAS, notice of said public hearing was duly advertised in the official newspaper of the Town of Ephratah; and

WHEREAS, said public hearing was duly held on September 14, 2022 at 6:15 p.m. at Town Hall and all parties in attendance were permitted an opportunity to speak on behalf of or in opposition of said Proposed Local Law, or any part thereof; and

WHEREAS, the Ephratah Town Board intends to adopt Fulton County Local Law 1 of 2022 entitled “Four Way Stop Signs At Wohlgemuth And Tillboro Roads”; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Ephratah, after due deliberation, finds it in the best interest of the Town to adopt said Local Law adopting said Fulton County Local Law 1 of 2022,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Ephratah hereby adopts said Local Law No. 1 of 2022 entitled “Four Way Stop Signs At Wohlgemuth And Tillboro Roads,” a copy of which is attached hereto and made a part of this resolution, be it further

RESOLVED, that the Town Clerk be and she hereby is directed to enter said Local Law in the minutes of this meeting and in the Local Law Book of the Town of Ephratah, and to give due notice of the adoption of said local law to the Secretary of the State of New York.

Aye: 5 NAY: 0

Introduced: Andrew Chorlton

Approved: George Cosselman

	ABSENT	AYE	NAY
Supervisor Todd Bradt	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Councilman Eleanor Smith	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Councilman Andrew Chorlton	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Councilman George Cosselman	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Councilman Ivan Duesler	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Resolution 77

Ivan Duesler made a motion to accept Resolution 77 to authorize Devon Percival to get pricing from an outside agency to have water samples tested. 2nd by Eleanor Smith. 5 Ayes, carried.

Resolution 78

Ivan Duesler made a motion to accept Resolution 78 to authorize Devon Percival to be reimbursed for eight security cameras for the Town of Ephratah for \$659.98. 2nd by Andrew Chorlton. 5 Ayes, carried.

Ivan Duesler made a motion to adjourn the town board meeting. 2nd by Andrew Chorlton. 5 Ayes, carried. Time 6:55pm

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia A. Wesselmann
Town Clerk, Town of Ephratah