

Regular Meeting

The Regular Meeting of the Ephratah Town Board was held at 6 PM on Wednesday, June 14th, 2023 at the Ephratah Town Hall. Roll call found the following members present:

Supervisor	Todd Bradt
Councilman	Ivan Duesler
Councilman	George Cosselman
Councilman	Andrew Chorlton - absent
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 May 10th, 2023. 2nd by Eleanor Smith. 4 ayes, carried.

Eleanor Smith made a motion to pay General bills, Abstract #6, claim 284 thru 301 in the amount of \$3,570.83. 2nd by Ivan Duesler. 4 Ayes, carried.

Ivan Duesler made a motion to pay Highway bills, Abstract #6, claim 302 thru 313 in the amount of \$10,418.98. 2nd by George Cosselman. 4 ayes, carried.

Communications:

- The Ephratah Transfer Station will be not be affected by the Independence Day Holiday. The Transfer Station will be open regular hours on Monday, July 3rd.
- The NYS Ag and Markets completed the Municipal Shelter Inspection report for the James A Brennan Memorial Humane Society and the shelter passed inspection.
- The State will be holding a public hearing for the Rockwood Bridge on June 26th at 7pm at the Ephratah Town Hall to hear any comments or concerns.
- The Fulton County Tax Foreclosure Real Estate Auction will be held on line on 6/29 at 10am. Interested parties can become a member and bid on NYSauctions.com site ahead of time.
- Family members of Sarah Richards submitted a posting for a benefit to be held at the Ephratah Rod & Gun club on September 30th, 2023 at 1pm.

Public Input:

- Steve Cornaire spoke of the NYS laws on Solar Panels as being a possible tax revenue for the Town. The Supervisor, Todd Bradt addressed solar panel concerns as well as the Code Enforcement Officer, Devon Percival. Fulton County and the Town of Ephratah opted out of the solar panels being tax exempt and there have been new restrictions put on the weight limits from snow (70lb dead load limit) and addressed fire hazards concerns for firemen; should there be a fire. Solar panels will need a fire shield when replacing or installing on a new roof.
- Henry Arayjo III addressed the Town Board about using the Ephratah Recreation Commission for possible softball teams and tournaments in the future. (End of 2024) The Town Attorney, Michael Albanese said the Town Board would need to be aware of any tournaments as they would need to up the insurance for the event. Mr. Arayjo said it was his daughter’s idea and if they get a team together it could possibly generate revenue for the ERC through the concession stand as well as be a good community service for the youth that wishes to participate.

Resolution 58

George Cosselman made a motion to allow Henry Arayjo III (to be contacted at 568-7472) to use the Ephratah Recreation Commission for a youth softball team for practice and tournaments on the condition that the Town be aware of any tournaments and an insurance certificate was needed and needs to be submitted ahead of time. 2nd by Eleanor Smith. 4 Ayes, carried.

Reports:

Code Enforcement Officer:

- Devon Percival reported that Tonies Treasure in Rockwood started cleaning up and remedying violations.
- Mr. Percival had to review building plans for construction by the Rockwood damn area.
- There were also solar panels installations, a pool installation and an addition built with permits.
- Mr. Percival can be reached at (518) 928-9360 and his report is on file at the clerk’s office.

Planning Board:

- They will be reviewing the Town of Palatine's Local Law pending and meeting with property owners for any upcoming property splits.

Youth:

- Alan Cretser reported that the t-shirts were ordered for the youth softball teams.

Assessor:

- The Assessor reported that there were three grievances and two stipulations done on Grievance Day. Grievance Day was held on May 23rd at the Ephratah Town Hall. The letters have been sent out.
- Ms. Younger said that they have been doing data collections and accepting new exemptions for the 2024 tax roll.
- Ms. Younger stated that people need a permit to demo construction as well as build. The permits prompt the Assessor's office to remove as well as add to the tax roll as needed.
- Any questions or concerns please contact the Assessor's office at (518) 762-5688 ext 23.

Supervisor:

- The financial report was submitted to the Town Board members and is on file.

Historian:

- The Historian, Abby Cretser said they have been doing research on the Green Street Cemetery. They had found records about the cemetery in an old newspaper.

New Business:

Resolution 59

Ivan Duesler made a motion to accept Resolution 59 to accept Stahl's bid price for the full stainless steel box and plow package as follows:

5/11/23**ALL QUOTES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE DUE TO RAPID PRICE CHANGES & INCREASES FROM MANUFACTURERS. WE CAN HONOR THE PRICING AS LONG AS WE HAVE THESE SPECIFIC UNITS STILL IN STOCKQUOTE TO BE INSTALLED ON A 2023 F550 60'' CA:

AIR-FLO PCS-9-3-SAC-U PRO CLASS DUMP BODY: 3.2 YARD CAPACITY, OVERALL WIDTH 96'', 17'' SIDES, 23'' TAILGATE, SINGLE COAL CHUTE, 12 GA 304 STAINLESS STEEL BODY, **3/16 HARDOX 450 FLOOR, MILD STEEL TRAPEZOIDAL LONGITUDINALS, NO UNDERBODY CROSSMEMBERS**, CLASS 20 SUBFRAME AND HOIST, DOUBLE ACTING ELECTRIC HYDRAULIC HOIST, DOUBLE ACTING TAILGATE, 6'' BOARD POCKETS, BODY LIGHT KIT, SINGLE LEVER TAILGATE RELEASE SYSTEM, BACKUP ALARM, 1/4-14'' STAINLESS CAB SHIELD

ADDED: BODY UP INDICATOR

HITCH PLATE W/ 2'' RECIEVER TUBE, D RINGS, TRAILER WIRING

MANUAL TARP SYSTEM

(2) LED STOP, TURN, TAIL, BACKUP & STROBES IN REAR CORNER POSTS

MUDFLAPS IN REAR WITH ANTI SAIL BRACKETS

LED ROOF LIGHT (MOUNTED TO CAB SHIELD OF BODY & HARDWIRED TO AUX SWITCH INSIDE CAB)

ADDED (4) WELD IN D-RINGS TO BODY FLOOR

COMPLETE & INSTALLED=

\$20,985.00

BOSS 10' HD MUNICIPAL GRADE STRAIGHT BLADE: RED STEEL, FULL MOLD BOARD TRIP, LED HEADLIGHTS, SMART HITCH ATTACHMENT SYSTEM

,SMART TOUCH CONTROLLER, 2 YEAR WARRANTY=

\$7,960.00 INSTALLED

RUBBER SNOW DEFLECTOR KIT FOR PLOW=

\$450.00 INSTALLED

2nd by George Cosselman. 4 Ayes, carried.

Resolution 60

Eleanor Smith made a motion to accept Resolution 60 to hire Eric Winchell to yolk rake, brush hog and mow the new ambulance location at 4900 State Rte 29, for \$700.00. The Supervisor said he was very appreciative he agreed to do the job for that amount. 2nd by George Cosselman. 4 Ayes, carried.

Unfinished Business:

- The Ambulance building still needs plumping and heating discussed by the Town Board members.

Resolution 61

Ivan Duesler made a motion to accept Resolution 61 to pay the invoice balance owed to Admire in the amount of .50 cents. 2nd by George Cosselman. 4 Ayes, carried.

Resolution 62

Eleanor Smith made a motion to accept Resolution 62 to approve the audit as complete for the Tax Collectors books. The Town Board said the Tax Collector, Vicki Lansburg had everything in order with a job well done. 2nd by Ivan Duesler. 4 Ayes, carried.

Ivan Duesler made a motion to adjourn the town board meeting. 2nd by George Cosselman. 4 Ayes, carried. Time 7:01 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia A. Wesselmann
Town Clerk, Town of Ephratah