

## Regular Meeting

The Regular Meeting of the Ephratah Town Board was held at 6 PM on Wednesday, October 8th, 2025 at the Ephratah Town Hall. Roll call found the following members present:

Supervisor	Todd Bradt
Councilman	Andrew Chorlton
Councilman	George Cosselman
Councilwoman	Eleanor Smith
Councilwoman	Paula Keppler
Clerk	Cynthia Wesselmann
Highway Superintendent	John Polenski Jr- absent
Code Enforcement Officer	Devon Percival - absent
Attorney	Michael Albanese

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 September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2025. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Eleanor Smith. 5 Ayes, carried.

George Cosselman made a motion to pay General bills, Abstract #10, claim 429 thru 442 in the amount of \$39,575.07. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Eleanor Smith. 5 Ayes, carried.

Eleanor Smith made a motion to pay Highway bills, Abstract #10, claim 443 thru 454 in the amount of \$6,742.63. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Andrew Chorlton. 5 ayes, carried.

### Communications:

- The Ephratah Transfer Station will be closed for Columbus Day Holiday, October 13<sup>th</sup>, and will be open on Tuesday, October 14<sup>th</sup> from 10am-6pm.
- Ephratah Transfer Station will not be affected by the Veteran’s Day Holiday.
- The Ephratah Transfer Station will be closed for Thanksgiving Day, November 27<sup>th</sup>. They will be open the Saturday after regular hours.
- The Rockwood Cemetery group will be meeting on October 21<sup>st</sup> at 6 pm at the Ephratah Town Hall.

### Public Input:

- Nothing to report at this time.

### Reports:

#### Code Enforcement Officer:

- There was a complaint call on Old State Road to be followed up on.

#### Planning Board:

- There is nothing to report at this time.

#### Highway

- Highway Department got permission for a new turnaround on Tillboro Road.

#### Youth:

- The last day of soccer was Saturday, October 11<sup>th</sup>. There were not a lot of children participating this year.
- The Halloween party will be October 25<sup>th</sup> from 1pm-3pm.

#### Assessor:

- The Assessor’s office has been collecting data for the 2026 Tentative Roll.
- It is that time of the year to apply for any senior or agricultural exemptions. Renewal forms will be going out in the mail in the fall and due back no later than March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2026. Anyone applying for a new 10 year agricultural building exemption is also due March 1<sup>st</sup>.

- Anyone planning on applying for any new star exemptions or changing from the basic star to the enhanced will need to apply with the state. There are new regulations coming out. Ms. Yuenger has no other information available at this time but is planning on having a link on the town website when it is. They will be sending letters to Basic STAR recipients who we know will be turning 65 as of December 31, 2025.
- As of January, 2026, we will be sending a letter to new property buyers about all available exemptions and the requirements for each along with a property inventory questionnaire to help identify any property data that needs to be updated or reviewed.
- Any questions or concerns, they are available on Tuesday evenings from 6-8 pm at the Town, or call the Assessor's Office at (518) 762-5688.

#### Supervisor:

- The Supervisor's report was given out to the Town Board members and is on file.

#### Historian:

- The Town of Ephratah will be celebrating 250 years since the American Revolution next year and is looking for public input and ideas.
- In 2027, the Town of Ephratah turns 200 years old. They are also looking for any input to help with this celebration.
- There are 2026 calendars available at the Town Clerk's office for \$5.00 to help support the Historical Society.

#### New Business:

- The 2026 Tentative Town budget reflects an increase of 6% currently.

#### **Resolution 78**

Eleanor Smith made a motion to accept Resolution 78 to adopt the 2026 Tentative Budget that is now the 2026 Preliminary Budget for the Town of Ephratah. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Andrew Chorlton. 5 Ayes, carried.

Andrew Chorlton make a motion to set the 2026 Preliminary Budget Public Hearing at the Town Board meeting on November 12, 2025 at 6:15pm. 2<sup>nd</sup> by George Cosselman. 5 Ayes, carried.

#### **Resolution 79**

Andrew Chorlton made a motion to accept Resolution 79 to set the time for Trick or Treat to be from 5-8pm on Friday, October 31<sup>st</sup>. 2<sup>nd</sup> by George Cosselman. 5 Ayes, carried.

#### **Resolution 80**

Andrew Chorlton made a motion to accept Resolution 80 to appoint Christopher Steepe of Murray Hill Road as a Planning Board Alternate. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Paula Kepler. 5 Ayes, carried.

Andrew Chorlton made a motion to go into an Executive session for contract. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Eleanor Smith. 5 Ayes, carried.

Eleanor Smith made a motion to come out of the Executive session. 2<sup>nd</sup> by George Cosselman. 5 Ayes, carried.

Paula Kepler made a motion to adjourn the Town Board meeting. 2<sup>nd</sup> by George Cosselman. 5 Ayes, carried. Time 6:45 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia A. Wesselmann  
Town Clerk, Town of Ephratah