

Town of Prattsville
Monthly Meeting
April 8, 2024

The Town Board of the Town of Prattsville, NY and County of Greene, NY held a Monthly Meeting at the Prattsville Town Hall on Monday, April 8, 2024 at 7:00pm.

Present:	Greg Cross	Supervisor
	Eli Martin	Councilman
	Mason Chase	Councilman
	Heidi Ruehlmann	Councilperson
	Joyce Peckham	Councilperson
	Theresa Whitworth	Town Clerk

Others Present: Dan Peckham, John Lane, Connie Briggs, Carole Cangelosi, Debbie Dymond, Shelly Brainard, Bonnie Chase, Jim Thorington, Dannie Peckham, Crystal Cornell, Dave Whitbeck, Kathy Sherman

Supervisor Cross opened the meeting at 7:00PM with the Pledge of Allegiance.

A motion was made by Councilperson Peckham and seconded by Councilman Martin to approve of the Clerks minutes for the Monthly Meeting of March 11, 2024.

Ayes 4 Cross, Martin, Ruehlmann, Peckham

Nays 0

Abstained 1 Chase

A motion was made by Councilperson Martin and seconded by Councilperson Ruehlmann to approve of the Monthly Financial report.

Ayes 5 Cross, Martin, Chase, Ruehlmann, Peckham

Nays 0

Comments from the floor – Connie Briggs would like to know when the playground at the Town Green would get the treatment stain it needed. Town Board said that it would get ordered and Councilman Chase said that he would volunteer his time to put it on.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Highway – no report
2. Water District report – a water leak has been discovered at the Plaza, the leak is located before the meter so it can not be measured.
3. Code Enforcement officer report – 2 violation letters have been sent
4. WWTP report – they are starting the study to see if the WWTP can take septage from other communities, this study was approved by CWC
5. Zadock Pratt Museum report – nothing at this time
6. Tax Collector's report – she just sent \$50,000. to Greene County for a total of \$200,000 so far this yr

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Spring Cleanup date – first week in May

2. PW application for Water System Improvement Project –Lamont Engineers proposal for increase in cost to \$210,000 total. The scope of work has not changed but was stalled by the Towns Attorney. The cost increase possibly was caused by the delay, easements still have not been signed.

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A motion was made by Councilman Chase and seconded by Councilperson Ruehlmann to approve of the contract Amendment #4 with Lamont Engineering for the DWSRF Water System Improvement Project. The Amendment will increase the authorized budget to \$210,000.

Ayes 4 Cross, Peckham, Ruehlmann, Chase

Nays 0

Abstained 1 Martin

3. Conine Ballfield Bids – none at this time – Bob Forte questioned if he could have a pre-operation inspection from DOH. He also questioned if he had to sell packaged products at the ballfield if he would still be required to pay the \$500 user fee. The Board acknowledged that it would be permissible to have a pre-operation inspection and the fee could be adjusted.

4. Handicap Parking Request – resident Kenneth Clark, 14580 Main St. sent a letter to DOT requesting a handicap parking space be placed on the road in front of his house for him to use. Mr Clark has asked for a letter of support from the Town in this matter.

A motion was made by Councilman Chase and seconded by Councilperson Peckham to approve of sending a letter of support in regards to this matter to the DOT.

Ayes 5 Cross, Martin, Chase, Ruehlmann, Peckham

Nays 0

5. Town Green – Flower Beds – Supervisor Cross will send an email to Ms. Wykoff requesting the services of the Gilboa Honor Society to assist in the clean up of the flower beds on Town property. Councilperson Ruehlmann suggested having a community day with volunteers to help. Resident Connie Briggs also reiterated about the stain for playground tree house was not purchased or followed through last year and could it be purchased this year and the tree house be preserved. The Board authorized the purchase of the special stain.

6. Pratt Rock Contract – Town Historian, Carolyn Bennett has requested the Town change from the company ICR dealing with the carvings at Pratt Rock to the company Cultural Heritage Conservation for their design services and study of the carvings. Cultural Heritage Conservation has submitted a proposal for their scope of work, design services and costs.

A motion was made by Councilperson Peckham and seconded by Councilman Chase to approve of engaging with Cultural Heritage Conservation to move forward with the restoration of Pratt Rock.

Ayes 5 Cross, Martin, Chase, Ruehlmann, Peckham

Nays 0

7. Town use forms – 3 requests, (1) Greene County First Responder Tournament April 10 & 11, (2) Theresa Whitworth April 27, (3) Prattsville Men's Softball League May 5 to August 31. All requests were granted.

8. Local Law to Regulate the Notification of Defects – tabled until May

9. Ambulance Contract – as of November 2023 the contract amount was \$631,477 and there was a surplus amount of \$187,000. There has been several meetings with the Ashland Supervisor and several

questions that still remain unanswered, no paperwork has been supplied to substantiate exactly where the surplus money is being held or used. On March 29, 2024 the Town Office received a letter from the Ashland Ambulance Service demanding payment or relinquish service.

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Councilman Chase noted that the Ashland Ambulance Service has already supplied there services since January 1, 2024 and the people of Prattsville could not be without service.

A motion was made by Councilman Chase and seconded by Councilperson Peckham to sign the contract for Emergency services with the Town of Ashland.

Ayes 3 Peckham, Chase, Ruehlman

Nays 2 Cross, Martin

The Town of Prattsville has received a letter from the State requesting the return of the sum of money granted to the Town after the flood of 2011. They are requesting the repayment of \$533,000. witch is they claim is ineligible expenses. The say it is the proceeds from the sale of the Spanhake property. The Town's Lawyer, Tal Rappleyea says he doesn't have any of the paperwork from the sale. Records are now being researched. Supervisor Cross will work with the State to try and resolve this issue.

Mrs. Bonnie Chase, a Board member at the time of the sale said that Supervisor at the time, Kristen Tompkins was working out details to just pay back the State for the Spanhake property. Councilman Chase asked if any files had been moved or deleted. Councilman Chase requested that emails between himself and Supervisor Cross be placed in the minutes of the meeting.

Councilman Chase also questioned Supervisor Cross about having authority to negotiate for the Town, referring to the Municipal Law 122-B.

A motion was made by Councilperson Peckham and seconded by Councilman Martin to give Supervisor Cross the authority to negotiate on behalf of the Town.

Ayes 4 Cross, Peckham, Ruehlman, Martin

Nays 0

Abstained 1 Chase

A motion was made by Councilman Martin and seconded by Councilperson Peckham to pay the bills on abstract #4 for April.

Ayes 5 Cross, Martin, Chase, Ruehlmann, Peckham

Nays 0

With no further business a motion was made by Councilperson Peckham and seconded by Councilman Martin to adjourn the meeting at 9:03pm.

Ayes 5 Cross, Martin, Chase, Ruehlmann, Peckham

Nays 0

Respectfully Submitted

Kathleen Sherman/ Deputy Town Clerk