

Town of Prattsville
Monthly Meeting
March 11, 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, March 11, 2024 at 7:00pm.

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

Others Present: Dan Peckham, John Lane, Connie Briggs, Carole Cangelosi, Don Rion, Jim Baltz, Debbie & Jim Dymond, Shelly Brainard, Tim Furstnau (Knot Weed), Jim Thorington, Diana DeSanto, Kathy Sherman

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

A motion was made by Councilman Martin and seconded by Councilperson Ruehlmann to approve of the Clerks minutes for the Monthly Meeting of February 15, 2024.

Ayes 5 Cross, Martin, Chase, Ruehlmann, Peckham

Nays 0

A motion was made by Councilperson Peckham and seconded by Councilman Chase to approve of the Monthly Financial report.

Ayes 5 Cross, Martin, Chase, Ruehlmann, Peckham

Nays 0

There were no comments from the floor or correspondence from the community

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Highway – all is good
2. Water district report – average daily flow was 44,600 gallons, bacterial sample came back as absent, the monthly MOR for the water system was submitted to NYSDOH.
3. Code Enforcement report – nothing at this time
4. WWTP report – no report at this time
5. Zadock Pratt Museum report – no report this month
6. Tax Collector report – Paid in full – General, Highway, Fire, Sewer, Water, Lighting, Ambulance district, \$150,000 sent to Greene County

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Clerk books – A motion was made by Councilperson Peckham and seconded by Councilman Martin to approve of the Clerks books.

Ayes 3 Cross, Martin, Peckham

Nays 0

2. Court books – A motion was made by Councilman Chase and seconded by Councilperson Ruehlmann to approve of the Court books.

Ayes 5 Cross, Martin, Chase, Ruehlmann, Peckham
Nays 0

3. Knot weed – Tim Furstnau is looking for a letter of support to continue with working with the knot weed along the bank of the Prattsville creek. All Town Board members agreed to give Tim Furstnau a letter of support so he may continue his work in collaboration with Greene County Soil & Water.

4. BAR member – the Town Board is looking for someone to fill a seat on the Board of Assessment Review.

5. Water Improvement Project – since 2016 there has been little to no progress, some of the land owners around the second well have agreed to terms, the next step is going to the planning board for lot line adjustments. The Bromomethane project has been submitted to DOH for approval. A broken hydrant needs to work to do this project. Jim Dymond will look into it and get clarification from Mike Harrington. The Town would also ask Mike Harrington to look into getting a 2 year extension and ask for more funds to complete the project.

Attorneys representing the Town of Prattsville in the Water Improvement project have requested an Addendum to the retainer agreement of March 4, 2004 and again on April 18, 2022. This Addendum expands the cost estimated at \$24,500 for future billings.

A motion was made by Councilperson Peckham and seconded by Councilperson Ruehlmann to approve of signing the Addendum to the Retainer Agreement from Young /Sommer LLC.

Ayes 4 Cross, Chase, Ruehlmann, Peckham
Nays 0
Abstained 1 Martin

6. Discover Life Project Contract – Lamont Engineers has submitted a proposal to represent the Town and assist the Planning Board with what is necessary in overseeing the Discover Life Project. An escrow account will also be set up.

A motion was made by Councilman Chase and seconded by Councilperson Peckham to approve of the proposal from Lamont Engineers to represent the Town in the Discover Life Project.

Ayes 4 Cross, Chase, Ruehlmann, Peckham
Nays 0
Abstained 1 Martin

7. Draft Vision Prattsville report – This Vision Report will replace the Towns Comprehensive Plan. Once the draft is approved the Town can receive the \$10,000 Greenway Grant and apply for another Grant.

A motion was made by Councilman Chase and seconded by Councilman Martin to approve of the draft with a few adjustments.

Ayes 5 Cross, Martin, Chase, Ruehlmann, Peckham
Nays 0

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8. CREATE grant request – The board has denied the request for a letter of support for an applicant for the CREATE grant.

9. Town Parking lot at MEWS – there are 7 vehicles that have been left in the parking lot by senior housing. Some of the vehicles have no tires and don't run. Supervisor Cross would like to initiate a Local Law for NO Parking overnight on town Property. The Board agreed to send a letter to the MEWS about removing the vehicles.

10. Ambulance District – At the Special meeting held on February 29, 2024 it was agreed that the Town of Prattsville would pay Ashland 40% of the cost of the ambulance service between the three towns of Ashland, Lexington and Prattsville but only 33% of the out of district calls. The 33% of the out of district calls was not put into the contract. Once the contract is signed a District will be formed. A motion was made by Councilman Chase and seconded by Councilperson Peckham to approve of signing the contract contingent on the wording is put into the contract.

Ayes 5 Cross, Martin, Chase, Ruehlmann, Peckham

Nays 0

A motion was made by Supervisor Cross and seconded by Councilman Martin to move to an executive session at 8:20pm.

Ayes 5 Cross, Martin, Chase, Ruehlmann, Peckham

Nays 0

A motion was made by Councilman Martin and seconded by Councilperson Ruehlmann to go back to a regular session at 8:45pm.

Ayes 5 Cross, Martin, Chase, Ruehlmann, Peckham

Nays 0

Supervisor Cross noted that on February 7, 2024 the town received a request from New York State for the return of \$533,000 given to the Town of Prattsville to build a Health Center which didn't happen. The Board has enlisted the services of Diana DeSanto (towns new lawyer) to plead the Towns case with the State.

The Court Clerk, Jim Baltz presented a list of his duties and the time spent on them to the Town Board per their request as a follow up to the February monthly meeting. Jim had requested that his pay be reestablished to \$6500/yr.

After some conversations and consideration a motion was made by Councilperson Ruehlmann and seconded by Councilman Chase to reinstate Jim's salary to \$6500/yr. The Board asked if he would call for his retirement hours through the State.

Ayes 4 Peckham, Martin, Chase, Ruehlmann

Nays 1 Cross

A motion was made by Councilperson Peckham and seconded by Councilman Chase to pay the bills on abstract #3 for March.

Ayes 5 Cross, Martin, Chase, Ruehlmann, Peckham

Nays 0

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With no further business a motion was made by Councilperson Peckham and seconded by Councilman Martin to adjourn the meeting at 9:01 pm.

Ayes 5 Cross, Martin, Chase, Ruehlmann, Peckham

Nays 0

Respectfully Submitted

Theresa Whitworth
Town Clerk