

Town of Prattsville
Special Meeting
March 19th, 2024

The Town Board of the Town of Prattsville, NY, and County of Greene, NY held a Special Meeting at the Prattsville Town Hall on Tuesday, March 19th at 5:00 pm.

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

Others Present: Connie Briggs, Carole Cangelosi, Crystal Soule-Cornell
On Zoom: Town Attorney- Diana DeSanto

The purpose of the meeting is to discuss the Ambulance Contract and anything else that may come before the Board.

Supervisor Cross opened the meeting at 5:00 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Supervisor Cross started the discussion by saying that what the Board asked for in the previous special meeting was not put into the new contract. The only change item was that Prattsville would pay 40%, Ashland 30% and Lexington 30%. The ask to split the calls out of the district, ambulance costs, benefits, and other costs between the three towns evenly was not answered. Discussion was made on whether or not to sign the Ashland Ambulance contract. Supervisor Cross made notes that we do need an ambulance service for the Town but the worry about the cost continuing to rise without any acknowledgment of what the actual cost is. It is made the notion that the board does want to sign the contract but would like clarification on where the taxpayer's money is going. It was suggested that a FOIL be sent to the Town of Ashland for where the money is going. The town attorney Ms.DeSanto said that it is acceptable to send a FOIL request. It was asked of Ms.DeSanto by a town resident if it was legal to enter into a contract with someone who doesn't have a CON (certificate of need) through the state yet. Ms.DeSanto said that they can work without a CON but it is under their discretion where they go to and that she can look into it more. Further discussion was had on why the full district has not been formed and why we do not have a committee for the district. It was told to the town board members by the previous attorney that it was the county holding the district up. Supervisor Cross has talked with the county administrator and it is said that it was not the case. Councilman Chase suggests that if the board is going to decline the contract they should put together exactly what we would like from Ashland. It is discussed that until a district is formed it goes back to a flat fee with a fee per call.

A motion was made by Supervisor Cross and seconded by Councilman Martin to not sign the Ashland Ambulance Contract for 2024, until the verbiage is changed.

Ayes 3	Cross, Martin, Ruehlmann
Nays 1	Chase
Abstain 1	Peckham

A counter-proposal for the contract suggested the town would like clear transparency for the money, The Town of Prattsville should only pay a third of the ambulance cost, they would like to know where the \$30,000 inter-fund transfer goes, a third of out-of-district calls, the town should be able to decide where their leftover money should go and we should get monthly profit and loss statement.

A motion was made by Councilman Martin and seconded by Councilman Chase to send the Town of Ashland a FOIL request for the years 2021, 2022, and 2023 for any financial records regarding the Ashland Ambulance.

Ayes 5 Cross, Peckham, Martin, Ruehlmann, Chase

Nays 0

Other business mentioned

MVP has not been receiving their checks for the health care insurance. It was asked of the Board if the bill could be paid online to not interrupt services. The Board agreed to this decision.

With no further business a motion was made by Councilman Martin and seconded by Councilperson Peckham to adjourn the meeting at 6:45 pm.

Ayes 5 Cross, Peckham, Martin, Ruehlmann, Chase

Nays 0

Respectfully submitted

Theresa Whitworth/Town Clerk