

Town of Prattsville
Monthly Meeting
August 12, 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, August 12, 2024 at 7:00pm.

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

Others Present: Connie Briggs, Kathy Sherman, Carol Landers, Carole Cangelosi, John Lane, Michael Miano, Cambria & Matt Steen, Carolyn Bennet

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

A motion was made by Councilman Chase and seconded by Councilperson Ruehlmann to approve of the Clerks minutes for the Regular meeting of July 8, 2024 and Special Meeting July 17, 2024.

Ayes 3 Cross, Chase, Ruehlmann

Nays 0

Absent 2 Peckham, Martin

A motion was made by Councilperson Ruehlmann and seconded by Councilman Chase to approve of the Monthly Financial report. Councilman Chase asked for the audit report, and talked about hiring a new accountant. The Board gave Theresa the permission to look for a new accountant.

Ayes 3 Cross, Chase, Ruehlmann

Nays 0

Absent 2 Peckham, Martin

Public Hearing: MTC Francise A motion was made by Councilman Chase and seconded by Councilperson Ruehlmann to open the Public Hearing at 7:20pm.

Ayes 3 Cross, Chase, Ruehlmann

Nays 0

Absent 2 Peckham, Martin

Representative Matt Steen presented their ideas as to MTC supplying homes on County Route 2 with the availability of cable tv. The francise agreement will be in effect for fifteen years. There are approximatly 360 adresses that are available if residents wish to use MTC. This will be for only television not internet or phones.

A motion was made by Councilman Chase and seconded by Councilperson Ruehlmann to close the public hearing at 7:27pm.

Ayes 3 Cross, Chase, Ruehlmann

Nays 0

Absent 2 Peckham, Martin

On motion by Councilperson Ruehlmann and seconded by Councilman Chase the following Resolution was adopted.

**RESOLUTION #5-2024 TO AUTHORIZE ENTERING FRANCHISE AGREEMENT
WITH MARGARETVILLE TELEPHONE COMPANY**

WHEREAS The Town of Prattsville (TOWN) with its principal offices located at 14517 Main St, Prattsville, NY 12468 wishes to enter into a Franchise Agreement with Heart of the Catskills Communications, Inc. dba MTC Cable, (MTC) a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of New York with its principal offices located at 50 Swart St., Margaretville, NY 12455; and

WHEREAS Pursuant to the Town Law the Board has the exclusive power on behalf of the TOWN to the grant franchises providing for or involving the use of the Streets and give the consent of the TOWN to any franchisee for or relating to the occupation or use of the Streets; and

WHEREAS Pursuant to the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, the Board has the authority to grant cable television franchises and renewals thereof on behalf of the TOWN; and WHEREAS the TOWN has conducted negotiations with MTC and has conducted a Public Hearing held Monday, August 12, 2024 regarding MTC's Franchise proposal affording all interested parties due process including notice and the opportunity to be heard; and

WHEREAS the Board has determined that MTC's plans for constructing and operating a franchise are adequate, feasible and beneficial for the community-at-large; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Town Board of the Town of Prattville does agree that the grant of the cable franchise to be an unlisted action and a negative declaration is hereby made determining that the proposed action will not have any significant effects on the environment; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the Town Board hereby authorizes the Town Supervisor to enter into aforementioned Franchise Agreement with MTC Cable and the Board in granting this Franchise, as embodied in the Agreement, has determined that the MTC Cable will fulfill the needs of the TOWN with respect to cable television service and compliance with the standards and requirements of the New York State Department of Public Service.

Ayes 3 Cross, Chase, Ruehlmann

Nays 0

Absent Peckham, Martin

COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR:

Representatives from the Zadock Pratt Museum spoke about rumors circulating about the Museum possibly having a fund raiser with spiritual mediums. Caorle Cangelosi wanted to inform people that it was just a suggestion and nothing had been planned. Carolyn Bennett said that if anyone had any problems or questions they should just call the Museum to get the facts.

Resident John Lane wished to thank and praise the Highway crew for their speedy response and cleanup of his road after Hurricane Debby.

Councilperson Ruehlmann mentioned that the gazebo was overflowing with garbage when she was there with family. Theresa said she empties it twice a week, Heidi suggested emptying it more often.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Highway – Superintendent Sutton said there is quite a bit of clean up to do, they are now working on Cozy Hollow road.
2. Water District Report – The Dept of Health has not responded to LDVD about the water sample with arsenic that was sent to them. Approximately 40,000 gallons per day used. Bacteria sample “absent”, Air vacuum breaker installed on sample hose.
3. Code Enforcement report – 1 demolition permit, 1 permit for installation of charging station
4. WWTP report – Average daily flow 34,000 gallons, troubleshoot the SCADA computer, monthly samples delivered to Adirondack, monthly reports sent in for July.
5. Zadock Pratt Museum report – no report at this time
6. Tax Collectors report – Carole closed her books on July 31, 2024 and delivered it to Greene County.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Town Records – Carolyn Bennett the Town Historian spoke on archiving and digitizing the records in the attic that were recovered after the flood of August 28, 2011. The museum paid for an archival consultant to review and assess the stored records. It is their suggestion that the records be moved to the Museum digitized and stored in a climate controlled locked room immediately. The Pratt Museum would raise the funds to digitize and archivally store its own and the town’s records.

A motion was made by Supervisor Cross and seconded by Councilperson Ruehlmann to approve of moving the flood damaged records to the Museum with the exception of any Birth, Death or Marriage records.

Ayes 3	Cross, Chase, Ruehlmann
Nays 0	
Absent 2	Peckham, Martin

2. Youth & Veterans Grant (County ARPA money) – A grant of \$25,000 has been proposed for the town to use for either or both the youth and veterans. Several different options have been proposed. Theresa will look into playground equipment, Heidi will look into flowers and Mason will get quotes for a monument for the veterans.
 3. DEC email for 5456 Washington Street – Supervisor Cross received an email from DEC requesting that any garbage located on this property needs to be cleaned up. Superintendent of Highways, acknowledged the problem and said the highway crew had done so.
 4. Ballfield cameras proposal – only one camera is working at the ball field, a quote was received from Country Home Security for \$595. to replace a non working one. The Board agreed that the Town should purchase the new camera and have it installed.
 5. Town use forms – Mattice hot dog cart, would like to use the Town Green and Ball field on weekends – they need to provide the board with liability insurance certificate and Dept of Health certificate.
- The Prattsville Community group would like the Town Green for a music gathering for October 4, 2024 (approved).

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A motion was made by Councilman Chase and seconded by Councilperson Ruehlmann to move to an Executive Session to discuss legal matters at 8:15pm.

Ayes 3 Cross, Chase, Ruehlmann
Nays 0
Absent Peckham, Martin

A motion was made by Councilman Chase and seconded by Councilperson Ruehlmann to go out of the Executive Session at 8:45pm.

Ayes 3 Cross, Chase, Ruehlmann
Nays 0
Absent Peckham, Martin

A motion was made by Councilperson Ruehlmann and seconded by Councilman Chase to pay the bills on abstract #8 for August

Ayes 3 Cross, Chase, Ruehlmann
Nays 0
Absent Peckham, Martin

With no further business a motion was made by Councilman Chase and seconded by Supervisor Cross to adjourn the meeting at 8:47pm.

Ayes 3 Cross, Chase, Ruehlmann
Nays 0
Absent Peckham, Martin

Respectfully Submitted

Theresa Whitworth/Town Clerk