Town of Prattsville
Monthly Meeting
September 14th, 2026

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, September 14th, 2026, at 7:00pm.

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

Others present: Charlie & Beverly Santos, Stephen & Lisa Birnbaum, Melissa Peters, John Lane, Don Schoenborn, Michelle & Jesse Petricini
Present on zoom: Michael Miller, Mike Ryan

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

A motion was made by Councilperson Ruehlmann and seconded by Councilman Chase to approve of the Clerks minutes for the Regular meeting of August 10th, 2026.

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

A motion was made by Councilman Chase and seconded by Councilman Martin to approve the monthly financial report.

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

Comments from the floor-

Community members offered positive remarks regarding the 250th celebration event, complimenting the effort and expressing hope for continued creative fundraising initiatives. Brief conversation followed about event attendance and activities.

REPORTS:

1. Highway – Superintendent Olmstead submitted a written report stating that things are running smoothly for the department. Supervisor Cross mentioned that they received no bids for the roof project on the highway garage and that he would continue to do outreach to hopefully get a bid.
2. Water District – The monthly water flow was reported around 32,000 gallons, which continues to creep upward. Residual chlorine was reported at 1.49. It was noted that the high-water readings from the prior meeting had been mostly resolved. Two meters were not syncing with the computer system correctly and the one property remains slightly irregular.
3. WWTP report – The wastewater treatment plant reported an average daily flow of 30,000 gallons. The Timm Road generator was found to not be working, after a few fuses were replaced, it is back in operation.
4. Code Enforcement Report- 3 permits were issued.
5. Pratt Rock – Survey equipment is being borrowed in order to take proper measurements for the sidewalk project.

6.Billing Report- The water district has collected around $14,000 of the $28,00 billed for water, and $53,00 of the $61,000 billed for sewer. The due date had just passed the prior week for the water bills, so collections are expected to increase. Clerk Whitworth will send out final notices soon. Councilman Martin suggested seeing if the due date could be written slightly larger.

7.250th Celebration- Clerk Whitworth reported final financials for the 250th celebration event. Total costs were $3,536, with revenues of $6,775, resulting in a net of $3,238 being deposited in the Pratt Rock account. The papers will be sealed and shrink-wrapped next week and then the highway crew will dig the hole to bury it. The board decided that it should be announced after it was buried that it was done.

8.Pratt Museum- Lisa Birnbaum reported that they had the Victorian Tea last Saturday and it was a success with 40 participants. A reporter from the local paper was in attendance, and a favorable article is anticipated. Several attendees dressed in period costume and added to the atmosphere of the event. Some upcoming events are Saturday, September 26th at 4 PM, a presentation by Kelly Huggins on the folklore of the "wild women of upstate New York" and on October 10th at 4 PM, a Chili Cook-Off. The cook off will celebrate Pratt's birthday and the entry fee will be $20 per team or person. The museum will provide plates, spoons, birthday cake and corn chips with the goal of covering costs through entry fees.

BUSINESS:

1. Water and Sewer for Parcel 74.14-2-11.2 – Supervisor Cross presented the request from the Petricini family to have their water and sewer billing be removed from their parcel on Wright St. Background was provided indicating the parcel was previously deemed by the town board as unbuildable and was reflected in the property deed. The building inspector reviewed the property and confirmed there is no legal or practical way to construct a dwelling on the lot. A survey from Siver was presented showing the right-of-way was widened from 10 feet to 25 feet on each side (totaling 50 feet) following the 2011 flood, originally intended as an emergency access corridor. The Petricini's said this parcel was bought it was explained to them from the previous Board that they would not be able to hook up to water or sewer and when the town's audit of the districts billing, they did not notice the new bills due to a postal box mix up. They did want to merge the properties as this one serves as a yard for their double wide residence next door but were discouraged from doing it at that time. Reference was made to a prior precedent in which a parcel owned by Steve Baker that was located in the floodway and deemed unbuildable was similarly removed from billing. The Board was generally in agreement that this situation constituted a logical exception, given the parcel cannot be developed.

   A motion was made by Councilman Chase and seconded by Councilperson Ruehlmann to waive all current bills and relieve parcel 74.14-2-11.2 from future water and sewer obligations.

Ayes 3	Cross, Ruehlmann, Chase
Nays 0	
Absent 1	Peckham
Recused 1	Martin

2. Concession Stand – Don Schoenborn, the operator of the concession stand at the town ball field addressed the board to request a one-year extension of his existing contract without going through a rebid process. He explained that significant upfront investment was required to pass the Department of Health inspection including purchase of equipment and maintenance of the building. Also, his health certificate is valid through April 2028. He noted the season got off to a difficult start due to interference from a prior unauthorized vendor operating in the parking lot under the guise of a donation-only barbecue, which significantly impacted customer traffic in the first half of the season. The situation resolved later in the season as the softball league

addressed the issue internally, and business improved. Supervisor Cross confirmed that the town's attorney indicated no legal obstacle to extending the contract for one year. He noted there had been no competing bids historically and that previous operators had failed to fulfill financial obligations to the town, whereas this operator met all requirements. A suggestion was made that future contracts be issued for two-year terms to better align with the Department of Health certification cycle.

A motion was made by Councilman Chase and seconded by Councilperson Ruehlmann to extend the concession stand contract for one additional year.

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

3. Banners- Supervisor Cross reported on the status of the veteran's banner program, which has been operated by the local American Legion. The program had seen declining participation largely due to a semi-annual or biennial renewal fee charged to families. Supervisor Cross indicated the Legion had been internally discussing discontinuing the program due to lack of engagement, and that he had initiated a conversation with Chris Tompkins about the town assuming responsibility for the program. It was proposed that the families would purchase the banner which cost around $175 per banner, after which the town would install, take down, and maintain them at no recurring cost to the family. This approach is what is done in the Town of Hunter where the highway department handles all installation. Supervisor Cross proposed budgeting approximately $1,000 annually for bracket maintenance and related costs. Discussion touched on the quality and durability of the current banners, the need to recover existing banners from the Legion, the possibility of getting the banners from alternative vendors and the cost in the budget. Guidelines for eligibility were also discussed. No formal vote was taken but the Board did agree to move forward with talking to the American Legion about some of the questions presented.
4. Septage Study Paperwork – Supervisor Cross provided background on the septage acceptance study, noting that the town's wastewater treatment plant was evaluated for capacity to receive septage from haulers. The study has been completed, and the next phase is an engineering design to be performed by Lamont Engineers at a cost of $195,000 fully funded by the CWC, with no local cost to the town. The design phase will produce detailed plans and costs to accommodate the extra septage, after which the board will negotiate terms and make a final decision on whether to proceed. Community members raised questions about truck traffic, employment implications and public transparency. It was noted that it would be approximately 5,000 gallons per a four-day cycle which would be equivalent to about two truckloads per week. The Board acknowledged that a public process would be appropriate before any final commitment is made.

A motion was made by Councilman Chase and seconded by Councilperson Ruehlmann to authorize execution of the $195,000 design phase contract with the Catskill Watershed Corporation.

Ayes 3 Cross, Ruehlmann, Chase
Nays 0
Absent 1 Peckham
Recused 1 Martin

5. October's Meeting- It was noted that the regular October meeting falls on Columbus Day. The Board agreed to proceed with the meeting as scheduled for the second Monday of October.

6.Budget Meetings- Supervisor Cross indicated the budget draft is nearly complete and proposed scheduling two public budget workshop meetings in October. After discussion of Board availability, the Board settled on the following dates:

- Thursday, October 15th at 6:00 PM
- Wednesday, October 21st at 6:00 PM

Both meetings will be publicly advertised as budget workshops. A brief discussion was held regarding the ambulance budget. The County allocation is expected to be around the same as last year's. It is hoped that Prattsville's portion of the ambulance costs will be lower than the prior years due to usage decreased and an increase in Lexington's usage.

7.Town Use Forms- Two Town use forms were presented for Board approval a birthday/karaoke party event on October 3rd, on the Town Green with approximately 40 people and the annual youth soccer request of the ball field. Both forms were approved.

Additional conversation was the mandatory harassment training will be scheduled for November 2nd at 6 PM at the Firehouse. Continued recruitment of volunteers for the Comprehensive Plan Committee is needed. It was also discussed adding another crosswalk to the Town Green. After some discussion it was noted that it would be a good idea, along with better crosswalk signs and possibly reducing speed. Clerk Whitworth will write up a letter for Supervisor Cross to review and send to NYS Department of Transportation.

A motion was made by Councilman Chase and seconded by Councilman Martin to pay the bills on abstract #9 for September.

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

With no further business a motion was made by Councilman Martin and seconded by Councilman Chase to adjourn the meeting at 8:17 pm.

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

Respectfully Submitted
Theresa Whitworth
Town Clerk