

Town of Prattsville
Special Meeting
October 24, 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 Thursday, October 24, 2024 at 6:00pm.

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

Absent:	Heidi Ruehlmann	Councilperson
Others Present: Kathy Sherman, Connie Briggs		

The purpose for the meeting is to hold a public hearing for Local Law #1-2024 passing of the Tax Cap percentage, and a Budget Workshop.

Supervisor Cross opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance at 6:00pm. Supervisor Cross noted that the budget does not reflect the payment plan of \$17,000 to the State. He also noted that the payment would come from the FEMA Bond account, not the taxpayers. The State has agreed to let the Town make payments for 25 years at 0 percent interest.

The Ambulance budget has been submitted from Ashland and has been increased to \$310,000. If the FUND balance is used it would be depleted in 4 years so it will have to be included into the 2025 budget.

The Accounting line needed an increase as the cost goes up every year. The board has considered looking for a new company.

Councilman Chase asked a question about the cost of the IT company and why it is so much. Town Clerk Whitworth explained that they maintain the website and the security.

The question came up that the Code Enforcement Officer is asking for a raise in his salary of \$5,000 per year. Councilman Chase asked if there was a enough building and fees to warrant an increase in his salary of this proportion. This part of the budget will be revisited at the next meeting.

The Assessor's extra salary was a two year deal, the first year was for inventory data and the second year is for calculations for a 100% assessment of properties.

A discussion ensued about the Ambulance budget, last year it was \$210,000 and there was an excess of \$54,000 left to the good. With already having an excess, the Board decided this year to budget \$225,000 for the Ambulance service.

A motion was made by Councilperson Peckham and seconded by Councilman Martin to open the Public Hearing for Local Law #1-2024 – Tax Cap Override at 7:30pm.

Ayes 4	Cross, Peckham, Martin, Chase
Nays 0	

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With no comments or concerns a motion was made by Councilman Martin and seconded by Councilman Chase to close the Public Hearing at 7:32pm.

Ayes 4 Cross, Peckham, Martin, Chase
Nays 0

A motion was made by Councilman Chase and seconded by Councilman Martin to pass Local Law #1-2024 – Tax Cap Override.

Ayes 4 Cross, Peckham, Martin, Chase
Nays 0

On motion by Councilman Chase and seconded by Councilman Martin the following Resolution was adopted. RESOLUTION NO. 6-2024 A Resolution Adopting Local Law No. 1 of 2024 A Local Law to Override the Property Tax Cap For the 2025 Budget Introduced by: Supervisor WHEREAS, effective in 2012, local governments are subject to a tax levy limitation as a result of the New York State Property Tax Cap Legislation set forth in General Municipal Law Article 2, §3-c; and WHEREAS, there is a provision within the legislation that requires the Town to pass a local law by a 60% majority vote that states that it wishes to override said tax cap limit if the tax levy limit established by the preliminary budget will exceed the tax cap limit; and WHEREAS, Paragraph 5 of §3-c of Article 2 of the General Municipal Law reads in full: “A local government may adopt a budget that requires a tax levy that is greater than the tax levy limit for the coming fiscal year, not including any levy necessary to support the expenditures pursuant to subparagraphs (i) through (iv) of paragraph g of subdivision two of this section, only if the governing body of such local government first enacts, by a vote of sixty percent of the total voting power of such body, a local law to override such limit for such coming fiscal year only, or in the case of a district or fire district, a resolution, approved by a vote of sixty percent of the total voting power of such body, to override such limit for such coming fiscal year only.”

And WHEREAS, Supervisor Cross has recommended that a Local Law to Override the Property Tax Cap be adopted to exceed the tax cap of approximately two percent (2%) for the 2025 Budget; and WHEREAS, a public hearing was held on October 24, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. at Town Hall, 14517 Main St., Prattsville, New York, to receive comments from the public regarding the attached Local Law to Override the Tax Cap. Now, therefore be it RESOLVED, that Local Law No. 1 of 2024, a Local Law to Override the Property Tax Cap for the 2025 Budget is hereby approved.

Ayes 4 Cross, Peckham, Martin, Chase
Nays 0

With no further business a motion was made by Councilperson Peckham and seconded by Councilman Martin to adjourn the meeting at 7:45pm.

Ayes 4 Cross, Peckham, Martin, Chase
Nays 0

Respectfully Submitted

Theresa Whitworth/Town Clerk