

Town of Prattsville  
Monthly Meeting  
November 14th, 2025

The Town Board of the Town of Prattsville, NY, and County of Greene, NY, held a Monthly Meeting at the Prattsville Town Hall on Friday, November 14th, 2025, at 7:00 pm.

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

Others present: Connie Briggs, Dan Peckham, Deb & Jim Dymond, Carole Cangelosi, Crystal Soule-Cornell

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

A motion was made by Councilmember Peckham and seconded by Councilmember Ruehlmann to approve the Clerk's minutes for the Regular meeting for October 13th, 2025, and Budget Workshop minutes for October 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2025.

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

A motion was made by Councilman Chase and seconded by Councilman Martin to approve the Monthly Financials report.

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

Public Hearing to Adopt the Preliminary Budget

A motion was made by Councilman Martin and seconded by Councilperson Ruehlmann to open the public hearing at 7:20 PM for the Adoption of the Preliminary Budget.

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

Supervisor Cross noted that he had made some recent changes to the budget. On page 5, the health insurance for employees was reduced from \$50,000 to \$30,00 due to two buyouts, eliminating the need for monthly premiums. The other change was for the Ambulance District, which increased from \$225,000 to \$231,900. The final budget was received from Ashland Ambulance, and it was totaled for \$738,050.93. Of that total, Prattsville is expected to pay 54.08% amounting to \$399,137.94. The County will be providing \$72,013.25 to offset the cost. Ashland also provided revenue of \$89,335.50 to help with the cost.

Supervisor Cross noted that the tax levy increase collectively for the fire district, sewer district, water district, lighting district, highway department, and general department is 4.46%.

No questions or concerns were raised about the budget.

A motion was made by Councilman Martin and seconded by Councilperson Peckham to close the public hearing at 7: PM for the Adoption of the Preliminary Budget.

Ayes 5                      Cross, Peckham, Martin, Chase, Reuhlmann

Nays 0

Absent 0

#### COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR/CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE COMMUNITY

No comments from the floor.

#### **Reports:**

1. Highway – Everything is going well.

2. Water District report – Supervisor Cross reported that the water leak had been fixed. Water usage had previously been running at around 37,000 gallons per day but has now decreased to approximately 25,000 – 27,000 gallons. The leak had likely been present for some time and the drought conditions probably had made it more noticeable. He did note that the project in total was going to cost the town around \$20,000. All water tests have passed, and the monthly report is available in the office.

3. Code Enforcement report—1 certificate of occupancy was issued and 3 permits were issued.

4. WWTP report- Average daily flow was approximately 25,000 gallons. Routine maintenance has been achieved, and the report is available in the office.

5. Pratt Rock report – Councilman Chase reported that the native plants had been successfully planted at Pratt Rock, and the project is now 100% completed. This will allow them to submit to DEC that the project has been completed. They also removed fallen logs that were across a trail, and the Town crew cleaned up a large fallen tree at the bottom, improving the appearance of the area. Councilman Chase mentioned that the Friends of Historic Prattsville has a list of smaller grants they plan to pursue in the next year. He also reported receiving a \$1,600 insurance bill and is working with their insurance broker to reduce costs by potentially eliminating an unnecessary \$600 umbrella policy. The Town of Prattsville would like to formally thank Steve Whitesell, as he donated \$2,000 to Pratt Rock (\$700 in cash plus \$1,300 for plants).

#### **New Business:**

1. Water Readings – The board discussed changing the timing of water meter readings. Currently, meters are read in February and August, but there was consideration of changing to January and June readings. The thought process was to provide customers with more time between when bills are issued and when they become delinquent and are sent to the county. Deb Dymond raised concerns about the feasibility of January readings for meters located in pits, as these cannot be accessed in winter conditions and would need to be estimated. She also noted that June readings would not capture summer water usage and would potentially put more customers over the 35,000-gallon allowance for the next January bill. After discussion, the board decided to modify the current reading schedule rather than switch months completely. They agreed the second reading would be done at the end of July so that bills could be prepared for the first week of August, allowing customers approximately two months until the October payment deadline instead of less than 30 days.
2. Water Costs- Supervisor Cross reported that water bills do not need to increase to cover expenses.

3. December pay- Supervisor Cross said that the past practice has been to pay the monthly and annual pay employees for the first pay period of December. The Board agreed to that.
4. UTV Local Law NO 1 of 2025– Supervisor Cross reported that he spoke with the Town Attorney, who advised against including provisions for future fees unless the Board wanted to do the fees now. If in the future the Town Board wanted to have fees, they would just need to do an amendment to the Law. The Board members expressed their preference not to include fees in the current law.

A motion was made by Councilman Martin and seconded by Councilman Chase to adopt Local Law Number 1 of 2025, A Local Law Designating Town Highways for Travel by Off-Highway Vehicles.

Ayes 5                      Cross, Peckham, Martin, Ruehlmann, Chase

Nays 0

5. Resolution to Adopt the Preliminary Budget – Dates were discussed to adopt the budget. It was scheduled for November 19<sup>th</sup>, 2025 at 5:30 PM.

A motion was made by Councilman Chase and seconded by Councilmember Peckham to approve the Preliminary Budget.

Ayes 5                      Cross, Peckham, Martin, Ruehlmann, Chase

Nays 0

Before adjourning, Clerk Whitworth mentioned receiving information about a \$97 million grant that Governor Hochul sent out for active transportation. This grant opportunity could potentially be used for a sidewalk to the ballfield from the Town. The minimum grant amount is \$500,000 and the maximum is \$7 million, with applications due March 12<sup>th</sup>. The board agreed to discuss this further at the next meeting.

Supervisor Cross added that the Ambulance Contract came in and is only a one-pager. He said that he would like to message Ashland Town Supervisor Rich Tompkins to see if they could use the same contract as the previous year, but use this year's numbers. The Board, besides Councilman Chase, said this was a good idea. Councilman Chase said this might upset Supervisor Tompkins. Supervisor Cross said that he was going to reach out to Supervisor Tompkins to see what he said.

A motion was made by Councilman Martin and seconded by Councilmember Peckham to pay the bills on abstract #11 for November.

Ayes 5                      Cross, Peckham, Ruehlmann, Chase, Ruehlmann

Nays 0

Absent 0

With no further business, Councilmember Peckham made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Ruehlmann, to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 p.m.

Ayes 5                      Cross, Peckham, Martin, Chase, Ruehlmann

Nays 0

Absent 0