

Town of Prattsville Monthly Meeting July 13th, 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, July 13th, 2026, at 7:00pm.

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

Others present: Dewitt Olmstead, Connie Briggs, Deb & Jim Dymond, Carole Cangelosi, Charlie & Beverly Santos, Stephen & Lisa Birnbaum, Melissa Peters

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

A motion was made by Councilperson Ruehlmann and seconded by Councilman Martin to approve of the Clerks minutes for the Regular meeting of June 8th, 2026.

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

Supervisor Cross advised the Board that the town recently transitioned from desktop QuickBooks to online QuickBooks because of this transition the financial report was not available. While preparing the report for the meeting it was discovered the Town needed to upgrade the service, they had to receive these reports which would cost another \$380 a year. The Board agreed to move forward with the additional costs and Supervisor Cross said that he would email the Board the reports once they were available.

Comments from the floor-

Resident Melissa Peters addressed the Town Board regarding the Town's ATV/UTV local law. Peters stated that she had read the recent front-page newspaper article on the issue and expressed concern that, while the law had been adopted, there had been little to no enforcement of its provisions. Peters reminded the Board that when members of the 607 Riders Club previously attended a Town Board meeting, several residents had recommended including additional requirements such as vehicle registration, proof of insurance, and a town-issued permit or sticker program. She noted that the Board chose not to incorporate those recommendations into the law and commented that, without stronger enforcement measures or additional requirements, the law lacked sufficient accountability and allowed riders to operate with few consequences. Peters urged the Board to consider amending the existing law to include these regulations rather than rescinding it altogether. The Board acknowledged her comments and advised that the matter would be discussed further during the designated ATV/UTV agenda item later in the meeting.

Supervisor Cross also thanked Melissa for buying the box weed and planting them around the gazebo.

REPORTS:

1. Highway – Superintendent Olmstead submitted a written report stating the guys are working on ditching for Cozy Hollow Rd and then will go to Albert Slater Rd. Highway staff have also been working hard at the cemetery and mowing.

2. Water District report – The Board reviewed the water district report. The approximate daily flow was 32,00 gallons a day. A communication error occurred on June 17th; the required sampling was missed. The DOH was contacted immediately and they have set up a new check list to make sure this is prevented in the future. Chlorine residual daily average is 1.13 mg/L.
3. WWTP report – The wastewater treatment plant reported an average daily flow of 25,000 gallons. NYCDEP came for an onsite quarterly inspection. Manholes were inspected and were found clear of any obstructions.
4. Code Enforcement Report- 1 permit was issued for fireworks, and 1 violation sent out.
5. Pratt Rock – Councilman Chase reported that DEC conducted a final on site inspection of the Pratt Rock trail in June and they granted final acceptance. Outstanding grant vouchers can be submitted and that grant will be formally closed out. Regarding the sidewalk project, Councilman Chase plans to set up a meeting with DOT to ensure the proposed improvements meet their requirements before work proceeds.

Two notable donations were reported. Tulnoy Lumber donated 6X6 freshly treated timbers for the gazebo. Additionally, a local resident recently completed a landscaping project and offered to donate 15 pallets of leftover mixed store.

6. Tax Collector Report- The Tax Collector reported that collection is in its final stages, her books close on July 31st and then she will bring the reports to the county.

7. Billing Report- Water bills still showed \$5,451.67 outstanding, second readings will be done by the end of the month. Sewer bills have \$17,445.45 outstanding and second notices would be sent out soon.

8. 250th Celebration- Two vendor inquiries were discussed. First was from a local craft beverage vendor offering to sell and sample kombucha craft beverages. The Board discussed this and determined to decline this vendor to keep the town green an alcohol-free environment. The second was from a psychic medium offering readings and book sales, after some discussion and mixed opinions the board decided to allow the vendor. The Board was updated that the 250th celebration will include a parade, a basket auction, and a touch a truck event. Additionally, a special 250th anniversary article was published in the Mountain Eagle newspaper, featuring a write-up on Prattsville. The piece was arranged and donated by Supervisor Cross and written by Clerk Whitworth. It was noted by Supervisor Cross that Prattsville was the only mountain top town featured in the article. A copy will be put in the time capsule.

BUSINESS:

1. Town Use Form – The Board reviewed the use form by Joyce Peckham to hold a family picnic. Councilperson Peckham recused herself and the Board had no objections.
2. Cemetery – Supervisor Cross confirmed with Taylor's Monument that the price to have stones reset or repaired was still \$500. It was identified that three stones needed immediate repair, two separated from their bases and one in the older section (possibly 1830's) was at risk of toppling over. The Board budgeted for the repairs and agreed to proceed with fixing the three stones.
3. Truck Offer- The Board received one bid for the 2014 Dodge Ram, it was \$20,000. There was discussion on if the bid should be accepted or if they should try to out the flyer out to more people or possibly do the only auction. It was agreed to accept the bid, on the condition that the truck would not be released until all payment is received.

A motion was made by Councilman Martin and seconded by Councilperson Peckham to sell the 2014 Dodge Ram to Daniel Dymond for \$20,000 per his submitted bid.

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

4. Road Quotes – The Highway Superintendent Olmstead presented the paving bids to the board for Cozy Hollow Rd. Four bids were received, KCK Paving, Callanan Industries, Cobleskill Stone Products and Peckham Road Corp. KCK Paving and Peckham Road Corp were the lowest bidders with a difference of only \$1,291.50. Superintendent Olmstead noted that KCK was competitive due to it having more tonnage and was the only company to include the shim work Olmstead requested. Supervisor Cross had questions about whether the extra tonnage wasn't used if the cost would be lowered because of it. Superintendent Olmstead thought that would be the case but thought that the extra tonnage would be used. The Board decided to go with KCK Paving.

A motion was made by Councilman Chase and seconded by Councilman Martin to accept the bid of KCK Paving to pave Cozy Hollow Road.

Ayes 5 Cross, Peckham, Martin, Ruehlmann, Chase

Nays 0

5. Swim Camp Counselors – Supervisor Cross reported that the swim program counselors requested a pay increase after the season had already begun. The Board decided that a pay increase would need to be discussed during budget time. They did agree to let them start 30 minutes sooner but that this would already be close to pushing over the budget this year.

Resident, Melissa Peters, asked the Board what it would take to extend the swim program to include Fridays and possibly an additional week. Peters offered to raise money for the additional \$2,000 if necessary. The Board was open to the idea but wanted to make sure the counselors, director and transportation would be available for this. It was determined that it would be decided on during budget time to see how much it would actually cost for the extra days.

6. ATV/UTV – The Board held an extensive discussion regarding the Town's ATV/UTV local law in response to ongoing resident complaints, public safety concerns, and a recent newspaper article. Under the current local law, ATVs and UTVs are permitted to operate on designated Town roads provided they meet the requirements outlined in the law, including maintaining insurance, observing the speed limits, operating in the designated portion of the roadway, wearing required safety equipment such as helmets, and complying with all other applicable regulations. However, the Board noted that many of these requirements are not being followed. It was further observed that most riders are operating primarily on State and County highways, where such operation is generally prohibited, rather than on Town roads authorized under the local law. The Board also discussed insurance and registration requirements for UTVs. It was noted that UTVs are generally only eligible for liability insurance and cannot be registered through the New York State Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV). As a result, if a UTV is involved in an accident while being operated on a public highway outside the scope of its permitted use, there is concern that the owner's insurance carrier may deny coverage. Residents attending the meeting again suggested that the Town establish a local licensing or registration program for ATVs and UTVs, believing it would provide law enforcement with an additional enforcement tool, including the ability to revoke local operating privileges for repeat offenders. Councilman Martin reviewed information published on the New York State DMV website, which states: *"No locality may require its own ATV licenses or registrations, but it may impose additional restrictions or rules on ATV operation."* This information prompted further discussion regarding the Town's legal authority and whether permitting ATV/UTV operation on Town roads creates any potential liability for the municipality. The Board discussed whether rescinding the local law would improve public safety or whether the unlawful behavior of a small number of riders would continue regardless of whether the law remained in effect.

Several Board members expressed the opinion that repealing the law alone would not necessarily resolve the ongoing issues, as many of the current violations involve operation on roads where ATVs and UTVs are already prohibited under State law. Following discussion, the Board directed the Town Attorney to conduct a comprehensive legal review of both the Town's local law and the applicable provisions of New York State law. Specifically, the Board requested an opinion regarding the Town's potential liability exposure in allowing ATV/UTV operation on designated Town roads and whether the local law could be amended to include additional enforcement measures or legal consequences for individuals who violate its provisions

A motion was made by Councilman Chase and seconded by Councilmember Ruehlmann to pay the bills on abstract #7 for July.

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

With no further business a motion was made by Councilman Chase and seconded by Councilman Martin to adjourn the meeting at 8:12 pm.

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

Respectfully Submitted
Theresa Whitworth
Town Clerk