

# Prattsburg Free Library



## 2024 Proposed Budget

April 23, 2022

---

### Summary

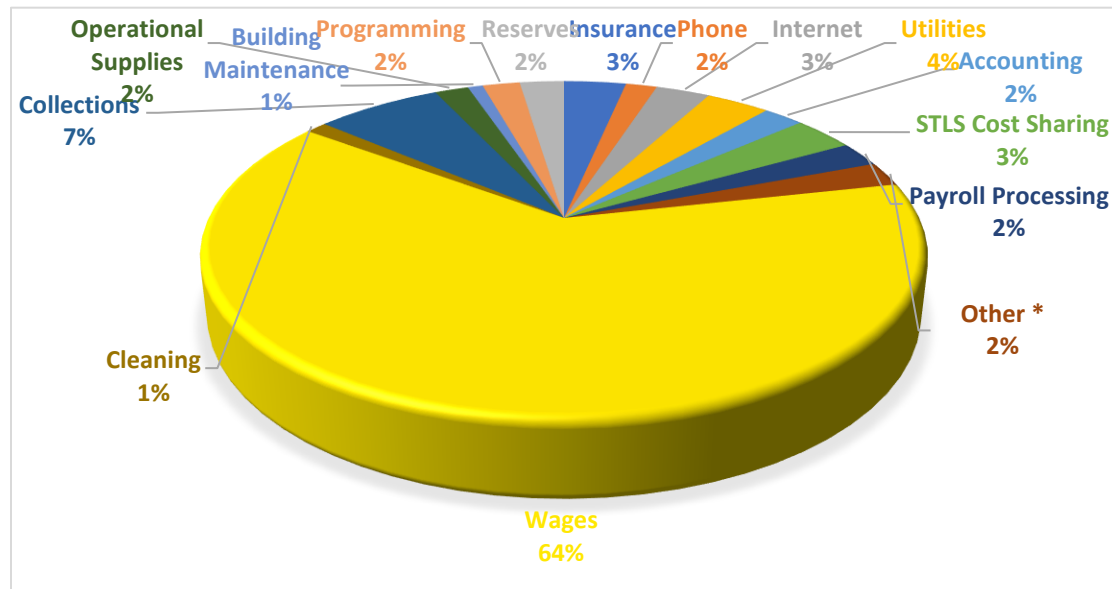
Our proposed budget this year totals \$105,109.10. If approved, a family with a home assessed at \$100,000 will see their library tax increase by \$8.04. If you have a home assessed at \$150,000, your library tax will increase by \$8.86. The proposed tax rate of .4916 per \$1,000 of assessed value is up slightly from the existing rate of .4112 per \$1,000 of assessed value.

Budget	Assessed at \$70,000	Assessed at \$100,000	Assessed at \$150,000
Existing Tax Levy	\$30.28	\$41.12	\$64.88
Proposed Tax Levy	\$34.41	\$49.16	\$73.74
<b>Tax Increase</b>	<b>\$4.13</b>	<b>\$8.04</b>	<b>\$8.86</b>

The past year we continued to expand our services while further developing our collections. We offered Wi-Fi hotspots which has been successful. The digital divide affects the community of Prattsburgh, and we hope as an institution to be a leader in this battle. Besides Wi-Fi hotspots, we have also brought back Lego Club and continued with movie nights. Besides these services, we have developed a graphic novel section for juveniles, young adults, and adults. We plan to continue these endeavors in the future.

We also have other exciting plans for the future. For example, we will be offering craft kits aimed at older kids and adults. Plus, we will be having more field trips! Last, but not least, we will apply for the second round of NYS Construction Aid so that the bank building can be turned into the future home of the library.

## Projected Expenditures



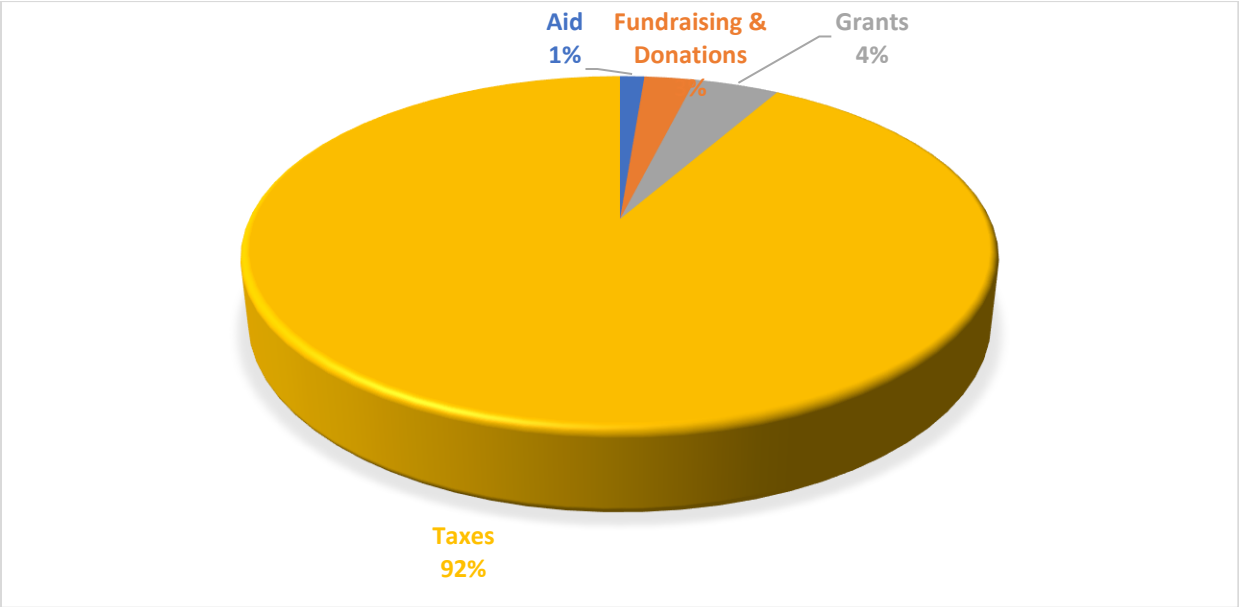
\*Other includes all the following categories: disability insurance, fire & safety, marketing, professional development, workers comp, and organizational membership fees.

About 73% of our expenditures go directly toward the delivery of programs and services to our community. Insurance, utilities, and accounting fees are some of the bigger expenses that indirectly contribute to the programs and services that we provide. Our wage expense has increased significantly because of minimum wage increases that began in 2016 and continued every year since, raising the rate from \$9.00 an hour to \$14.20 an hour. Moreover, staff hours need to remain static to serve the community.

Aid for libraries is always under threat; it is always one of the first entities that sees a cut during a time of crisis. The county legislature has held funding flat for 2023 relative to 2022 and 2021. The allocation retains the 20% cut we received in 2021 as a result of the pandemic. But, once an entity gets cut in a budget process, it is very difficult to get it back. However, we will continue to fight the good fight.

## Projected Revenue

Clearly, we couldn't do what we do without your support. Even so, pursuing grants enables the library to expand services and spend tax dollars on essential library services such as providing circulating materials and programs. In 2022 we received \$15,700 in grant support from the American Library Association, Coordinated Outreach Service Program through the New York State Division of Library Development, Foundation for Southern Tier Libraries, and Tyrtle Beach. Aggressively pursuing grants is one way in which we honor your support.



**The budget vote is Tuesday, May 16th. Polls will be open from 12:00 PM to 8:00 PM at the school. Please come out and support your library, and your school too!**