

RIDGWAY BOROUGH COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING
Ridgway Loyal Order of Moose, 237 N. Broad St., Ridgway, PA 15853
August 1, 2022

The special meeting of Ridgway Borough Council was called to order by Frank Quattrone at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, August 1, 2022, at the Ridgway Loyal Order of Moose.

PRESENT: Council Members Frank Quattrone, Steve Caggese, Abbi Peters, Ron Burkett, Ralph Dussia, and Brent Kemmer. Also in attendance were Borough Manager Michael Handley and Mayor Ray Imhof

ABSENT: Council Member Steve Lawrie, Solicitor David Pontzer

Recognition of Visitors

There were no visitors.

Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

Old Business

There was no old business to discuss.

New Business

American Rescue Plan 2022 Funding - Borough Manager Handley stated the second tranche of American Rescue Plan funds should be deposited soon. He stated the allocation received should be approximately \$196,000.00. He described several eligible uses of funds and pointed out that the funds need to be spent by 2024.

Handley noted that the purpose of this meeting is to review the eligible uses of the funds and to have an open discussion on community needs. In reference to the Interim Final Rule, it may be possible to use funds for payroll and covered benefits expenses for police officers. Another use could be investing in park improvements or other public outdoor recreation spaces. It was indicated that there is a strong public interest in improving our municipal parks.

Municipal Parks and Recreation - Handley said that there is a group of community advocates that would like to encourage the Borough to improve the three municipal playgrounds. He described their intent and noted that the park equipment has not been replaced in many years. The group has been named the Ridgway Parks Revitalization Community Representatives and they are working on a plan to raise funds and get volunteers to provide in kind services. Mayor Ray Imhof mentioned that he attended a meeting with the group.

Council Discussion

It was recommended to invite the Ridgway Parks Revitalization Community Representatives to the next Council meeting to express their thoughts.

It was stated that the Borough should not invest anymore money towards the Ridgway Mills property until the Flood Mitigation Program has been implemented.

It was asserted that the Borough needs to put a cap on Sewer Fund (Trucked Waste) spending and possibly earmark a percentage towards flood mitigation.

It was proposed to design and erect a Ridgway Mills campground directional sign to improve patronage.

The discussion moved to the Mountain Fest organizers' need for a Ridgway location to host the 2023 event. The large warehouse located at the Ridgway Mills was referenced.

Execution Session

After no further discussion, council adjourned the meeting into executive session at 6:42 p.m. for personnel matters.