

RIDGWAY BOROUGH MEETING
Second Ward Firehall
321 W Main St, Ridgway, PA 15853
July 18, 2022

The regular meeting of Ridgway Borough Council was called to order by Frank Quattrone at 6:00 p.m. on Monday July 18, 2022 at the Second Ward Firehall.

PRESENT: Council members Frank Quattrone, Abbi Peters, Steve Lawrie, Ralph Dussia, Steve Caggeso, Brent Kemmer and Ron Burkett. Also, in attendance were Borough Manager Michael Handley, Police Chief Shawn Geci, Mayor Ray Imhof, Fire Chief Scott Pontious, Environmental Manager Josh Quattrone, Solicitor David Pontzer, One Member of the Press and Recording Secretary Diana Newell.

Councilman Dussia made a motion to approve the Regular Council Meeting minutes held on June 20, 2022. Councilman Kemmer seconded the motion and it was approved by the following vote:

Councilman Dussia	Aye
Councilman Kemmer	Aye
Councilwoman Peters	Aye
Councilman Burkett	Aye
Councilman Quattrone	Aye
Councilman Lawrie	Aye
Councilman Caggeso	Aye

Recognition of Visitors

Enoch Aboussou was invited to the meeting and attended with his father for recognition for a job well done on the Ridgway Area School District Track and Field Team. Council members congratulated him for breaking several Elk County records.

Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

Councilman Dussia made a motion to approve the funds A-E and pay the bills. Councilwoman Peters seconded the motion and it was approved by the following vote:

Councilman Dussia	Aye
Councilwoman Peters	Aye
Councilman Kemmer	Aye
Councilman Burkett	Aye
Councilman Quattrone	Aye
Councilman Lawrie	Aye
Councilman Caggeso	Aye

Mayor

Mayor Imhof thanked everyone for a successful carnival week.

Police Department

Police Chief Shawn Geci provided council with his report if anyone has any questions. Geci reported the Police Department accepted a generous donation which was very appreciated. He also reported the new uniforms have arrived and the officers will begin wearing them. Geci stated the Police Department co-hosted an event with State Representative Armanini's office with the new license plate event. He explained how successful this event was with many people in attendance.

Fire Department

There was nothing to report.

Environmental Manager

Quattrone reported there was a DEP inspection conducted and the report came back with no violations.

Borough Manager

- a. **Sheetz Project Update** – Handley reported the demolition has begun on the Sheetz building. He stated Lafayette Street will be closed during working hours for the demolition process. Handley explained the underground tanks are expected to be delivered by mid-August for the new building. He explained with Sheetz being closed down, there are expectations of on-going high traffic congestion at the other two gas stations during peak morning and afternoon hours. The borough would like to encourage the community to refuel during not so busy times of the day. He stated the project is expected to be completed by Christmas.
- b. **Smoke and Dye Testing Notice** – Handley reported the smoke and dye testing is an effective method used to identify potential sources of inflow in sewer systems and locate and evaluate the pipe connections. He stated this round of testing will occur south of Center Street and houses will be checked for unlawful connections to the sanitary sewer system. He stated that all stormwater discharges should be directed to the storm sewer system.
- c. **Clarion-Little Toby Trail Extension Project Update** – Handley reported an update on the project that involves extending the biking/hiking trail connection from Ridgway to Johnsonburg and eventually to Knox-Kane. He explained the feasibility study is underway, they are currently working on establishing a Focus Group and beginning the public input phase. He reported that informational flyers will be dispersed at some upcoming events.

d. **River Fest Music Festival** – Handley reported that as per the Lazy River Canoe Rental Zoning Special Exception condition, all residential owners and/or tenants affected by any special event must be notified at least one week prior to the special event. He explained the property owner did so and stated that Friday, July 22 from 2p-11p and Saturday, July 23 from 9am-11pm the River Fest Music Festival will take place.

Old Business

1. Old Business

- a. Green Light-Go Project Grant Resolution – Handley reported the Borough of Ridgway will receive \$32,000 for addition of a protected/permitted left turn phase and detection upgrades at the intersection of Main Street (Route 219/948), North Broad Street (Route 219), and South Broad Street. He explained that council unanimously approved the proposed Resolution to administer the grant at a previous meeting. Handley gave special thanks to Operations Engineer Ross DePanfilis for drafting the competitive grant application and acknowledged Councilman Frank Quattrone for his assistance with the coordination of multiple on-site collaboration meetings with PennDOT officials.
- b. Elk County Riders – Handley reported the Elk County Riders would like to speak to council at next month’s meeting regarding their Trail of Dreams project. Council agreed to let Cheryl Ruffner come to the meeting to talk. Councilman Dussia stated his opinion of wanting to open the roads as of September 1st, 2022 for all ATVs and snowmobiles to ride the borough streets. After much discussion between council members some agreed and many disagreed stating they should let the group come to the meeting to discuss first.

Councilman Dussia made a motion to open the borough streets for ATVs and snowmobiles to drive on. Councilman Burkett seconded the motion and it was voted accordingly:

Councilman Dussia	Aye
Councilman Burkett	Aye
Councilwoman Peters	Nay
Councilman Kemmer	Nay
Councilman Quattrone	Nay
Councilman Lawrie	Nay
Councilman Caggese	Nay

2. New Business

- a. 2019/2020 CDBG Funded ADA Curb Ramps Installation Project – Handley reported the ADA curb ramps installation project is near complete.
- b. Ridgway Mills Property Improvements –
 - i. Handley reported the Ridgway Mills has made the online newsletter for 21 Tranquil Lakeside Getaways in PA.

- ii. Handley stated there was roof damage to the large warehouse in the amount of \$7,200.00 during the last severe storm. He also explained they are looking into the option in installing a dump station, but the needed rinse water line may pose a problem requiring some cost. Council decided to table this and refer it to committee.

After no further discussion, council adjourned the meeting into executive session at 6:45 p.m. for personnel and legal matters.