

**RIDGWAY BOROUGH MEETING**  
**Second Ward Firehall**  
**321 W Main St, Ridgway, PA 15853**  
**October 17, 2022**

The regular meeting of Ridgway Borough Council was called to order by Frank Quattrone at 6:00 p.m. on Monday October 17, 2022 at the Second Ward Firehall.

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

Councilman Caggese made a motion to approve the Regular Council Meeting minutes held on September 19, 2022. Councilman Dussia seconded the motion and it was approved by the following vote:

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

**Recognition of Visitors**

Linda Dyne & Bill Gorton attended the meeting to discuss some recent issues with their neighbor. Dyne discussed with council members the issue they are having with their neighbor is he is renovating the backyard and putting in a “rock garden” which actually seems like he is putting in a parking lot for his apartment complex. Dyne explained he wasn’t allowed to put in a parking lot as per recent zoning hearings and several discussions with Borough Manager Mike Handley. The residents expressed their concerns of this neighbor doing things against what he is permitted to do and they have requested it to be investigated. Dyne also expressed her frustrations with their recent backyard digging which has resulted in her yard becoming a mess. Dyne presented several pieces of evidence for her complaint to show council members. Council members and Handley stated they will look further into this and get back to them on a resolution.

**Correspondence**

**Finance Department**

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

Councilman Caggese	Aye
Councilman Burkett	Aye
Councilwoman Peters	Aye
Councilman Kemmer	Aye

Councilman Quattrone	Aye
Councilman Lawrie	Aye
Councilman Dussia	Aye

**Mayor**

Mayor Imhof reported he and Borough Manager Handley attended the leadership conference and met with some of the Ridgway High School students. He stated they received a lot of good input and ideas to include them in upcoming events within the town.

Imhof also reminded council of Coffee with the Mayor on Saturday, October 29th at the Creative Cup and invited everyone to join him.

**Police Department**

Police Chief Shawn Geci provided council with his report if anyone has any questions. Geci also reported he has been working very hard through the hiring process to fill the open Police Officer position. Geci stated Business Trick or Treat will be held next Thursday, October 27<sup>th</sup> 3pm-5pm as well as regular Trick or Treat on Saturday, October 29<sup>th</sup> 5pm-7pm. He advised everyone to use extra caution while driving on the streets on both of these days.

**Fire Department**

Mayor Imhof reported Engine 44 will be going to the garage by the end of November to begin the refurbishing process.

**Environmental Manager**

Environmental Manager Josh Quattrone gave an update on the Scada project for the water plant. Quattrone stated he expects the construction permit to be finished this week to begin the project.

**Borough Manager**

**Municipal Building Renovation Update**

Handley reported the first draft of the blue prints has been completed for the municipal building renovations.

**Leaf Collection Machine Update**

Handley reported he was notified that if the first step for the leaf collection truck was ordered and paid for then they would try to expedite the second step to complete the truck by the end of 2023. He stated the money would come out of trucked waste and when the money is reimbursed, it would be put back into trucked waste account. Handley still encourages the town to bag their leaves and/or rake them to the curb for this year's leaf pick up process.

Councilman Caggese made a motion to order the first part of the leaf truck and to pay for it out of trucked waste money. Councilman Dussia seconded the motion and it was approved by the following vote:

Councilman Caggese	Aye
Councilman Dussia	Aye
Councilwoman Peters	Aye

Councilman Burkett	Aye
Councilman Kemmer	Aye
Councilman Quattrone	Aye
Councilman Lawrie	Aye

**Chainsaw Rendezvous 2023**

The Chainsaw Rendezvous is set to take place on April 26-29 2023 and they are requesting to use the Ridgway Mills Property again for the event. Council referred this to the Property Committee to discuss further details.

**Street Lighting, Parking, and Traffic:**

Councilman Caggese stated the recommendation from this meeting held on September 28, 2022 was to discuss with the Dollar General to determine earlier or later loading times for their store.

**Planning, Grants, and Recreation:**

Councilwoman Peters discussed the recommendations from this meeting held on October 4, 2022 was to advertise for an outside entity to manage the Ridgway Mills Campground on a year-to-year basis. Councilman Dussia proposed several questions about this and was not in agreeance.

Councilwoman Peters made a motion to advertise for an outside entity to manage the Ridgway Mills Campground on a year-to-year basis. Councilman Caggese seconded the motion and it was approved by the following vote:

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

Councilwoman Peters also reported the new Parks and Recreation group was awarded some different grants to help redo the Neilson Park which will take place in the Spring 2023.

**Personnel:**

The Personnel Committee met on October 6, 2022; Police Chief Shawn Geci requested for the current Police Officers to be paid for their unused vacation days by the end of 2022 as a one-time deal. Geci requested this due to the short staff issue the department is experiencing and most of the officers won't get a chance to use their vacation days because of this. He estimated the amount of \$9,300 for the current unused vacation days.

Councilman Caggese made a motion to approve the current police officers to be paid for the unused vacation days by the end of 2022. Councilwoman Peters seconded the motion and it was approved by the following vote:

Councilman Caggese	Aye
--------------------	-----

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

**Old Business**

**Ordinance No. 682 (Tax Collector Fee Establishment)**

Councilman Caggese made a motion to approve the Ordinance No. 682. Councilman Dussia seconded the motion and it was approved by the following vote:

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

**New Business**

**Resolution No. 8-2022 (CDBG Funding)**

Councilman Caggese made a motion to approve the Resolution No. 8-2022. Councilwoman Peters seconded the motion and it was approved by the following vote:

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

**Resolution No. 9-2022 (DCED Plan Implementation Phase II)**

The personnel committee recommends hiring a Community Economic Development Coordinator with additional duties of grant writing and code enforcement. The starting salary will be set at \$50,000. Handley reported if awarded the state funds, the salary will be reimbursed 75% in year one, 50% in year two, and 25% in year three.

Councilwoman Peters made a motion to approve the Resolution No. 9-2022. Councilman Caggese seconded the motion and it was approved by the following vote:

Councilwoman Peters	Aye
Councilman Caggese	Aye
Councilman Dussia	Opposed
Councilman Burkett	Opposed
Councilman Kemmer	Aye

Councilman Quattrone      Aye  
Councilman Lawrie          Aye

After no further discussion, council adjourned the meeting at 6:45 pm into executive session for legal and personnel matters. They will not return.