

**RIDGWAY BOROUGH MEETING**  
**Ridgway Municipal Building**  
**108 Main St, Ridgway, PA 15853**  
**February 20, 2023**

The regular meeting of Ridgway Borough Council was called to order by Frank Quattrone at 6:00 p.m. on Monday February 20, 2023 at the Ridgway Municipal Building.

**PRESENT:** Council members Frank Quattrone, Abbi Peters, 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.

**ABSENT:** Council Member Steve Lawrie

Council members pointed out a location amendment necessary to the January 2023 meeting minutes. This will be amended for the records.

Councilwoman Peters made a motion to approve the Regular Council Meeting minutes as amended held on January 16, 2023. Councilman Burkett seconded the motion and it was approved by the following vote:

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

**Recognition of Visitors**

The Ridgway Parks Revitalization Team was supposed to attend the meeting to discuss the update on their current fundraising efforts. Handley reported they have been writing several grants and holding many fundraising events with the current donating total of \$56,000 for the program. They will continue with their efforts to raise more money to cover the costs of the upgrading park materials.

Danny DeVito attended the meeting to announce he is planning to run for District Attorney. He gave a brief explanation of what he plans to do if he were to be voted in.

**Correspondence**

Handley reported the owners of Ferragine Spa and Pool has been very generous to let the Borough use their vacant lot for overflow parking if need be. The owner has requested the Borough to take care of the sidewalks in lieu of permission to use their lot when it is necessary. Councilman Dussia made a motion to approve setting up an agreement for the Borough crew members to take care of the sidewalks of Ferragine Spa and Pool property. Councilman Caggese seconded the motion and it was approved by the following vote:

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

Handley reported the Ridgway Chainsaw Carvers Rendezvous requested using the Ridgway Mills lot again this year for their event in April.

Councilman Dussia made a motion to approve the Chainsaw Carvers Rendezvous to use the Ridgway Mills lot for their event. Councilman Caggese seconded the motion and it was approved by the following vote:

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

**Finance Department**

Councilman Caggese made a motion to approve the funds A-E and pay the bills. 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

**Mayor**

Mayor Imhof stated Coffee with the Mayor will be held this weekend and welcomed everyone to attend.

**Police Department**

Police Chief Shawn Geci stated he provided council with his monthly report and would answer any questions. He stated the new recruit fell out of the police academy and will not be employed by the department anymore. He also reported the new police vehicle will arrive next month.

**Environmental Manager**

Environmental Manager Josh Quattrone gave an update on the SCADA program. He stated the first of five filters have been completed.

**Borough Manager**

Handley reported the borough residents will be receiving a new tax form from Berkheimer and to watch for it in their mail. He stated this form will be used when filing taxes.

Handley reported the ordinance 631 will remain at local deliveries only and this will continue to be enforced with the signs that are placed on the streets.

Handley reported the 2021 audit report was received by the council members.

Handley explained the DCED SMPP Phase II funding will be received in July 2023. He stated the Johnsonburg Borough has requested to combine the new hires with Ridgway Borough for both Code Enforcement and Community Economic Employee. He explained they are also looking to fill these two openings and would be willing to split the duties between Johnsonburg and Ridgway to make the positions full time with one employee for each position. He explained they are going to meet with the Johnsonburg Borough and DCED for clarifications next week to discuss more.

Handley made a statement to remind all borough citizens that chickens are not allowed to be raised in the borough and also stated that there are only 4 cats allowed to be in one residence. He explained all dogs and cats must be licensed and registered.

**Committee Reports**

**Personnel (February 2, 2023)**

Recommendation #1: to increase Custodial Workers, General Laborers and Animal Control wages.

Councilwoman Peters made a motion to approve the increase in pay discussed at the Personnel Meeting for the Custodial Workers, General Labors and Animal Control. Councilman Caggese seconded the motion and it was approved by the following vote:

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

Recommendation #2: to increase the Seasonal Mow Crew and Compost Workers wages as discussed at the Personnel Meeting.

Councilwoman Peters made a motion to approve the increase in wages for the Seasonal Mow Crew and Compost Workers as discussed at the Personnel Meeting. Councilman Kemmer seconded the motion and it was approved by the following vote:

Councilwoman Peters	Aye
Councilman Kemmer	Aye
Councilman Dussia	Aye
Councilman Burkett	Aye

Councilman Caggese           Aye  
Councilman Quattrone        Aye

**Planning, Grants and Recreation Meeting (February 8, 2023)**

Councilwoman Peters read the minutes to the meeting which started out with Aaron Bleggi and his presentation with the Whitetail Real Estate. Handley reported this will be looked into further and will be discussed more at a later time.

Councilwoman Peters stated Gary Gerber was also at the meeting discussing the requested assistance from the borough for the skate park. The committee decided to meet with Gerber again to devise a plan with him and the skate park needs.

Councilwoman Peters then stated there was discussion of the Ridgway Borough Mills property being advertised for a small business to assist in running the campground and helping campers access local amenities. An optional vendor's opportunity was also discussed. She reiterated the profits would be split between the two entities, but this would take a lot of burden off of the Ridgway Borough running a campground. The committee is looking for approval for advertising purposes for the entity.

Councilwoman Peters made a motion to approve the advertisement of the Ridgway Mills Campsite Concessionaire 2023 Season Request for Proposals as presented. Councilman Caggese seconded the motion and it was approved by the following vote:

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

**Old Business**

Handley reported there have been appraisals completed on seven properties within the borough and are ready to be advertised for completion of sealed bids.

Councilman Burkett made a motion to approve the advertisement for the properties to be bid on.

Councilwoman Peters seconded the motion and it was approved by the following vote:

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

**New Business**

Handley explained a letter of intent through DCED. He explained he would like the new Finance Director to receive some training and DCED will pay for the training. He stated none of the money for the training would come from the Borough and it would be someone coming into the office for support on Friday's.

Councilwoman Peters made a motion to approve the letter of intent for DCED. Councilman Caggese seconded the motion and it was approved by the following vote:

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

Handley reported the new leaf collection machine has been ordered but is a higher cost than expected. DEP has suggested to re-apply for the Section 902 grant to help offset the extra costs the new leaf collection machine will be. Handley reported this is a 50% matching grant and recycling can be tied into it if council chooses.

After no further discussion, Councilman Dussia made a motion to adjourn the meeting with an executive session for personnel and legal matters at 6:47 p.m. Councilman Caggese seconded the motion and the vote was carried unanimously.