

RIDGWAY BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING
Ridgway Municipal Building
108 Main Street, Ridgway, PA 15853
August 17, 2026

The Ridgway Borough Council meeting was called to order by Steve Caggese at 6:00 p.m. at the Ridgway Municipal Building.

PRESENT: Steve Caggese, Abbi Peters, Brent Kemmer, Zack Pontious, Lauren Stark, Chris Matheson

ABSENT: Steve Lawrie

Also in attendance were Borough Manager Mike Handley, Mayor Ray Imhof, Police Chief Ken Hinton, Fire Chief Jeff Yeager, Environmental Manager Josh Quattrone, and Recording Secretary Cari Amacher.

Councilman Matheson made a motion to approve the regular council meeting minutes as scheduled on July 20, 2026. Councilman Kemmer seconded the motion and it was approved by the following vote:

Councilman Caggese: Aye

Councilman Pontious: Aye

Councilman Kemmer: Aye

Councilman Matheson: Aye

Councilwoman Peters: Aye

Councilwoman Stark: Aye

Public Comment

None

Finance Department

Councilman Pontious made a motion to pay the bills. Councilman Matheson seconded the motion and it was approved by the following vote:

Councilman Caggese: Aye

Councilman Pontious: Aye

Councilman Kemmer: Aye

Councilman Matheson: Aye

Councilwoman Peters: Aye

Councilwoman Stark: Aye

Mayor

Mayor Imhof reported on a successful "Coffee with the Mayor" event featuring two police officers. He expressed gratitude to the fire department for the carnival and thanked the police department for their presence at both the carnival and music festival.

Police Department

Chief Hinton reported that part-time officer Darren Forester was sworn in and is participating in the Field Training Program. He reported strong community engagement for the Battle of the Barrel, the first annual National Night Out, and multiple summer events including the Firemen's carnival and Ridgway's Rock Valley Revival, all of which had no major incidents and only minor issues that were promptly resolved. Chief Hinton also attended the Ridgway School District's Emergency Operation Plan meeting. He introduced two new reports, including a transport and detention log as well as a damage to borough property log. Chief Hinton mentioned the police department implemented increased foot patrols for local parks and downtown areas to address recent vandalism.

Fire Department

Report is in the packet.

Chief Hinton and Chief Yeager are moving into the enforcement phase following the passing of the new accidental false alarms ordinance. This aims to address issues such as false alarms and non-compliance in the borough. Chief Hinton noted that residents will be notified before citations or criminal arrests are filed.

Environmental Manager

Both plants are running at 100%.

Correspondence/Petitions

Handley reported on two letters of correspondence received. One was an invitation from the Senior Junction of Ridgway to council members to attend lunch tomorrow and the other was a follow-up from Julee Marzella regarding a blighted property.

Borough Manager

Handley discussed the state awarded Ridgway \$100,120 from the Green Light-Go grant to upgrade Main Street traffic signals over a two-year period. He credited Ross Depanfilis for his hard work in securing the grant funding. Handley mentioned future upgrades are planned for other areas, including Montmorenci Road and near the YMCA crosswalks.

Committee Reports

None

Old Business

None

New Business

Handley reported a request made to reallocate funds within the sewer capital replacement fund. The decision was made to postpone a \$55,000 aeration diffuser project until next year due to timing issues. In its place, the request of \$40,415 to replace an aging wet well pump and a grit well blower, ensuring reliable emergency backup capabilities at the sewage plant.

Councilwoman Peters made a motion to approve \$40,415 from the Sewer Capital Replacement fund to replace the wet well pump and grit well blower. Councilman Pontious seconded the motion and it was approved by the following vote:

Councilman Caggese: Aye

Councilman Pontious: Aye

Councilman Kemmer: Aye

Councilman Matheson: Aye

Councilwoman Peters: Aye

Councilwoman Stark: Aye

Councilman Matheson made a motion to approve the billing of RTMA for all sewage transferred through the Borough's sewage system. Councilwoman Stark seconded the motion and it was approved by the following vote:

Councilman Caggese: Aye

Councilman Pontious: Aye

Councilman Kemmer: Aye

Councilman Matheson: Aye

Councilwoman Peters: Aye

Councilwoman Stark: Aye

Public Comment

Frank Quattrone thanked the council for the use of the Mills property for the Fireman's parade to line up.

After no further discussion, President Steve Caggese adjourned the meeting at 6:18 p.m. before going into executive session.