

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

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

PRESENT: Council members Abbi Peters, Steve Lawrie, Ralph Dussia, Steve Caggese, Brent Kemmer and Ron Burkett. Also, in attendance were Borough Manager Michael Handley, Mayor Ray Imhof, Police Chief Shawn Geci, Fire Chief Scott Pontious, Financial Manager Mary Lynn Feidler, Environmental Manager Josh Quattrone, Solicitor David Pontzer and Recording Secretary Diana Newell.

ABSENT: Councilman Frank Quattrone

Councilwoman Peters made a motion to approve the Regular Council Meeting minutes held on March 21st, 2022. Councilman Kemmer seconded the motion and it was approved by the following vote:

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

**Recognition of Visitors**

There were no visitors.

**Correspondence**

Chainsaw Carver's Rendezvous Organization (Special Request)

Liz Boni attended the meeting to discuss a special request from the borough for the upcoming Chainsaw Rendezvous. She requested that in case of inclement weather during the event, would the vendors be allowed to set up inside the warehouse. She explained that the vendors will be outside setup but she wanted to make sure to have a back up plan in case of inclement weather during the event.

Councilman Dussia made a motion to approve the use of the warehouse for the Chainsaw Rendezvous in case of inclement weather. Councilwoman Peters seconded the motion and it was approved by the following vote:

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

Councilwoman Peters 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:

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

### **Mayor**

Mayor Imhof reported that he spoke at Jim Martin's memorial service on April 2<sup>nd</sup> and it was a very nice service honoring him.

Imhof stated the Coffee with the Mayor will be held Saturday, April 23 and all the council members are welcome to attend.

### **Police Department**

Police Chief Shawn Geci reported the police department is finishing some projects up from the recent large grant they were awarded. He also stated a recent grant of \$2,500 was completed for a complete uniform overhaul.

### **Fire Department**

Mayor Imhof provided council with the report and assured them he would answer any questions they may have.

### **Environmental Manager**

Quattrone reported everything is currently running smoothly at both plants.

### **Borough Manager**

Handley reported Chris Jordan has been hired full time as of March 28, 2022 as a Public Works Employee.

Handley stated the Spring Clean Up will be April 18-22 from 7am-7pm.

Handley reported the April 29<sup>th</sup> Arbor Day hasn't been officially approved yet but everyone is encouraged to celebrate.

Handley stated line painting will begin May 1-June 30 with no modifications.

Handley reported there is a Laurel Mill Trail Realignment taking place with a de-commission of one trail and a re-route for another trail.

Handley stated there has been 8 new campsites added to the Ridgway Mills Campground which will be advertised after the Chainsaw Rendezvous.

Handley reported most of the \$10,000 given to the Mills has been used and he is requesting another \$20,000 of unbudgeted expenses from trucked waste to maintain the property.

Councilman Dussia made a motion to approve the unbudgeted \$20,000 from trucked waste to the Mills property. Councilman Burkett seconded the motion and it was approved by the following vote:

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

Handley reported the current location for the council meetings will be unavailable next month and a temporary location will need determined for the May meeting.

Councilman Dussia made a motion to approve the Moose for the temporary location for the May council meeting. Councilman Kemmer seconded the motion and it was approved by the following vote:

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

At 6:20 p.m., council members adjourned into executive session for personnel matters and will be returning for further discussion.

At 6:40 p.m., council members came back from executive session.

#### Committee Reports

##### a. Personnel

###### i. Succession Plan (Finance Department)

- b. Outsourcing Payroll – The Personnel Committee would like to recommend outsourcing payroll. The quote received will cost less than \$3,600.00.

Councilwoman Peters made a motion to approve outsourcing payroll. Councilman Dussia seconded the motion and it was approved by the following vote:

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

- c. Finance Director Position – The Borough is currently accepting applications for the Finance Director position. The Personnel Committee would like to recommend the hiring of a new finance director in early May to receive one on one training from our current department head.

Councilman Dussia made a motion to approve the hiring of a full-time finance director in early May. 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 Caggese	Aye
Councilman Lawrie	Aye

- d. Recommendations of Policy - The Personnel Committee would like to recommend the approval of the Fringe Benefit policy that may offer up to four months of Health, Dental, and Vision Insurance to those who retire as a non-uniformed full-time employee with 35 plus years of service.

Councilman Dussia made a motion to approve the Fringe Benefit policy.

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 Caggese	Aye
Councilman Lawrie	Aye

### **Old Business**

Family Dollar (Loading/Unloading Zone Update)

Handley reported the Family Dollar is now requesting a limited parking sign for the 4 public parking spaces they plan to give the borough out of their new lot across from the Armory. The Family Dollar is requesting to have 30-minute parking signs on the spaces. Handley reported he told them they could possibly do one hour parking signs but would have to approve it with council members first. After much discussion, council member Lawrie stated they should have to have all of the requirements done first and then come present their request at a borough council meeting before this is approved.

Councilman Lawrie made a motion for Family Dollar to have all requirements met and then come to a borough council meeting to present their request before it is approved. Councilman Burkett seconded the motion and it was approved by the following vote:

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

Handley reported there has been a request for “compact car only” signs to be placed on the four spaces in front of the Chinese Restaurant on Main Street. He explained it was brought to his attention that there are blind spots there when a bigger vehicle is parked in those spaces. After much discussion, this topic was tabled for now and will be discussed further at a later time.

**New Business**

Handley reported that the Borough will be applying for \$6,000.00 of County aid liquid fuels money to go towards repairing the streets. There were no objections. (Liquid Fuels Allocation Request- \$6,000).

**Council Discussion**

There was no council discussion.

After no further discussion, Councilman Dussia made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:10 p.m. Councilman Burkett seconded the motion and it was carried out unanimously.