

THE VILLAGE OF



# RIDGWAY

## **PUBLIC WORKS, SAFETY, AND HEALTH COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

July 20, 2023 at 5:00 PM

Ridgeway Community Center - Room 101/102 208 Jarvis Street, Ridgeway, WI 53582

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### **CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

Meeting called to order by Chair Short at 5:01 pm.

PRESENT: Rick Short, Ruth Nevins, Cindy Niehaus, Dale Peterson-Director of Public Works, Marshal Michael Gorham, Maggie Johnson-Deputy Clerk

### **CONFIRMATION OF OPEN MEETING**

Johnson indicated this was a properly noticed meeting posted on Thursday, July 19, 2023, at the Ridgeway Community Center, and the Village website with notification sent via email/text to subscribers.

### **ADOPTION OF MEETING AGENDA**

Motion made by Nevins, seconded by Niehaus to adopt the consent agenda and minutes as presented. Motion carried.

### **ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION AND ACTION**

1. Grove Street Parking Resolution

The commission discussed adding no parking signs from 9am-5pm, Monday-Friday at the beginning of Grove Street. This would reduce the amount of parked cars around the bend so large equipment and tractors can safely drive through.

2. Snow Removal Policy

Peterson indicated that residents along the 100 and 200 blocks of Main have asked the public works team about plowing the gravel space between Main Street and the sidewalk. Peterson mentioned the easiest way to remove the snow along those blocks is to push it to the opposite side of Main Street, along the bike trail. The commission also suggested adding alternate side parking to make it easier for the snow plowers.

3. Fire Siren and Noon Whistle

Johnson presented the complaint about the fire siren and noon whistle. The complainant would like the village to remove the noon whistle because it's too loud and unnecessary. Joe Thomas was present and mentioned that it would likely be impossible to only have the whistle go off for emergency situations only because of the technology inside of the siren. The committee will recommend keeping the fire siren and noon whistle as is to the Board of Trustees.

4. Water Tower/Hydrant Fencing

Niehaus and Nevins mentioned Julene Garner is working on fencing options and she will bring those to the next board meeting on August 8th.

5. Dog License Policy

Marshal and Johnson presented the dog license policy that outlined the process the village office and the Marshal's office can take to ensure dog licenses are taken care of by residents. The village office proposed sending out reminders twice a month to residents, sending a letter to unlicensed dog owners the second week of April, and then Marshal writing tickets to those who did not update their dog license by May 31. Marshal indicated it is under his discretion to write tickets and he feels his time spent on dog licenses could be put towards other issues around the village. The commission recommended sending out notifications to residents once a month via Facebook and on utility billing and the Marshal will take care of unlicensed dogs on a case-by-case basis.

6. Compost Site, Illegal Dumping, and Site Signage

Peterson mentioned the appropriate signs are up at the compost site.

7. Chapter 10 Section 8 Regulation of Fires and Review of Burn Permit Policy including applicable ordinances and fees

Marshal presented rewriting Chapter 10 Section 8 to state residents only needing a permit for fires bigger than a campfire because it's too hard to regulate small camp fires. The committee recommended the village lawyer rewrite the ordinance.

8. Sign Ordinance

Marshal mentioned putting no parking signs on some of the business properties along Main Street that surround the village green. Marshal will discuss with property owners on whether or not they want no parking signs on their property.

9. Grease Ordinance

Peterson recommended adopting a grease ordinance due to the amount of grease balls that collect at the treatment plant. The committee recommended moving forward with the ordinance.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion by Niehaus, Seconded by Nevins to adjourn at 6:38pm. Motion carried.**