

THE VILLAGE OF



RIDGEWAY

PUBLIC WORKS, SAFETY, AND HEALTH COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

March 04, 2026 at 6:30 PM

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

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Meeting called to order by Chair Niehaus at 6:30 pm.

PRESENT: Chair Cynthia Niehaus, Trustee Julene Garner, Trustee Ruth Nevins, Marshal Gorham and Lori Phelan-Clerk/Treasurer.

Also present: Doug Murphy-property owner, Brad Butler-resident

CONFIRMATION OF OPEN MEETING

Phelan confirmed this was a properly noticed meeting being posted on March 2, 2026 at the Ridgeway Community Center and on the Village website with notifications being sent to subscribers via email and/or text.

AGENDA

Motion by Garner, seconded by Nevins to approve the meeting agenda as presented. Motion carried.

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION AND ACTION

1. Property located at 215 Main Street
Discussion regarding this property.

This property was deemed uninhabitable and condemned by the Village Building Inspector in September 2025. There has also been an infestation of rats which the Iowa County Health Department addressed in September 2025 by placing a notice to remediate the infestation on the door of property. Marshal will follow up with the Health Department.

Doug addressed the committee regarding damage done to his tenants car at the property next door. Over \$3,000 in damage due to wires being chewed in the engine and under the hood. The tenant has had an exterminator coming monthly to ensure rats are not accessing the home.

Phelan will reach out to the Village Attorney for further guidance.

Motion by Nevins, seconded by Garner to recommend to the board that the Village hire an exterminator to eliminate the rats and weeds and eventually acquire the property after receiving a response from the attorney. Motion carried.

2. Ord 2026-02 DRAFT Charter Ordinance Discontinuing Office of Marshal

To disband the Marshal's Office a Charter Ordinance needs to be adopted and published. The ordinance becomes effective 60 days after voting and publication.

Motion by Nevins, seconded by Garner to recommend to the Board that they approve Charter Ordinance 2026-02 during the May 12, 2026 Board Meeting to then be published on May 20, 2026. Motion carried.

3. Ordinance Amendments relating to the Marshal's Office or Police Department

Discussion regarding the ordinances that will need to be amended or repealed by dissolving the Marshal's office. Lori and Marj will begin to go through them. Tabled until the next meeting, date to be determined.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Garner, seconded by Nevins to adjourn at 7:51 pm. Motion carried.

DRAFT MINUTES TO BE APPROVED AT THE NEXT REGULAR SESSION BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING.