



2024 Budget Presentation

Village Council

Paul Vagianos, Mayor

Pamela Perron, Deputy Mayor

Lorraine Reynolds, Councilmember

Evan Weitz, Councilmember

Siobhan Winograd, Councilmember

Village Manager

Keith Kazmark

Chief Financial Officer

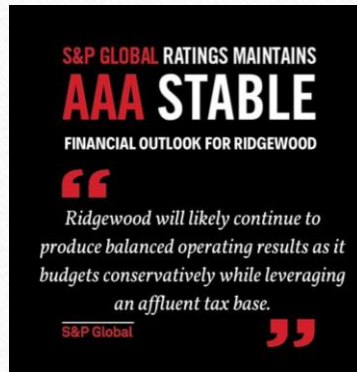
Robert G. Rooney

Village Clerk

Heather Mailander



2023 Accomplishments



- Reaffirmed our AAA Bond Rating by S&P.
- Maintained a 99.8% property tax collection rate.
- Restored Hybrid Access for public participation at Village Council meetings.
- Restructured to create the Director of Communications & Special Projects position with a focus on communication.
- Launched the newly designed Village website.
- Designed new logo/branding for the Village.





2023 Accomplishments



- Submitted the application to the State Historic Preservation Office for the Schedler Park Development Project.
- Established Juneteenth as a Village holiday.
- Adopted an Anti-Nepotism Ordinance and the Alternate Route Hiring Process for Police Officers.
- Earned Recertification as a Bronze Level Member of Sustainable New Jersey.
- Updated and revised our Employee Evaluation Process, which will now include an annual review for all employees.



VILLAGE OF RIDGEWOOD

2023 Accomplishments



- Retained the services of Millennium Strategies for grant writing services.
- Maintained funding through two Health Department grants totaling \$550,000, providing for a social worker and outreach coordinators.
- Engaged Intervention Strategies as the Village EAP provider.
- Implemented a program to comply with New Jersey's new Lead Paint Law.
- Entered into Shared Services Agreements for Health Officer (Mahwah) and for our Styrofoam condenser with five other municipalities.
- Resurfaced more than 32 miles of roads in 2023 and added bump outs at W. Glen Avenue and Heights Road.



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2023 Accomplishments



- Made necessary structural repairs to the 3rd floor of Village Hall.
- Took delivery of new sanitation and recycling trucks.
- Planted 120 new trees in residential neighborhoods and 37 new trees in the CBD.
- Launched the Adopt a Sapling Program through the Shade Tree Commission.



2023 Accomplishments



- Winner of the “Daniel M. Gasalberti Excellence in Recreation Program Award” for Annual Giving Thanks Ridgewood Elder Dinner.
- Razed the Barn at Habernickel Park after recommendations from various Department Directors.
- Supported the Veterans Banner Program in the CBD and approved the design of the Gold Star Family Memorial.
- Brought back dining corrals and hosted live music, events and culturally themed weekends, promoted through Destination Ridgewood.
- Returned Kissing Balls to the CBD during the holiday season.



Flooding Impacts/ Action Plan



- Flood Mitigation – 3 flood events in September, December and January:
 - Engaged the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to begin a study and make regional recommendations for flood mitigation in Ridgewood.
 - Launched a Residential Flood Portal for residents to submit photos and descriptions of past flood events for review by the US ACE and NJDEP.
 - Removed downed tree debris from the Ho-Ho-Kus Brook and the Saddle River.
 - Held Village Manager visits to resident homes to assess flood impacts.
 - Promoted the NJDEP Blue Acres Program for residential flood buyout opportunities.
 - Maintained the Village's Community Rating System (CRS) rating of 6, providing property owners with a 20% discount on flood insurance premiums.
 - Continued Restoration of Maple Field to a playable condition.

FLOOD EVENT SURVEY AND PHOT...



The Village of Ridgewood has launched an online portal for residents to submit details and photos of prior flood events that have impacted their homes. The data collected will be compiled for Village use and may be shared with the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, the United States Army Corps of Engineers, and FEMA. Our purpose is to create a historical database of residential flooding in Ridgewood to help create a long-term flood mitigation plan and assist our first responders and engineering staff.

We ask that you please complete the form(s) by **March 1, 2024**. You may submit a form for each flood event you have experienced.





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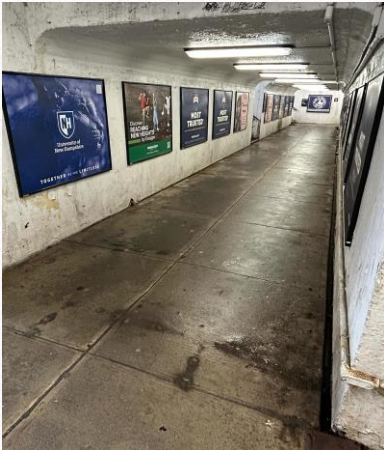
2024 Goals & Objectives



- Seek alternate sources of revenue raised by the Village to reduce the burden on taxpayers.
- Aggressively pursue Federal and State Appropriations to offset the cost of Ridgewood Water PFAS Treatment Projects.
- Obtain grant funds for major and operational projects and initiatives – road resurfacing, train station pedestrian tunnel, Habernickel Park playground, Veterans Field lighting, tree planting, waste water improvements, etc.
- Implement the Employee Evaluation Process so every employee is evaluated annually.
- Undergo repairs to the Kingsbridge Lane pedestrian bridge.



2024 Goals & Objectives



- Add sidewalks on W. Glen Avenue, E. Glen Avenue and Clinton Avenue.
- Work with the owner of the Warner Theater to ensure a similar use that benefits Village residents, especially our children, and the downtown.
- Generate concept plans for the train station pedestrian tunnel.
- Implement the collection of outstanding municipal court fees by a third-party agency.
- Provide CPR training to employees.
- Launch the use of the Master Library program by Parks & Recreation.
- Renovate the bus station downtown.



2024 Goals & Objectives



- Expand programs for the disabled, for all residents at the Community Center.
- Build a shelter and restroom facility at Habernickel Park.
- Pursue upgraded lighting at Veterans Field.
- Finalize recommendation and next steps regarding the formation of a Special Improvement District.
- Re-establish our Sanitation and Recycling vehicle fleet to full capacity.
- Achieve State accreditation of the Ridgewood Police Department through the New Jersey Police Chiefs Accreditation Program.



Current Fund Budget 2024



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Budget Highlights

- Four (4) New Police Officers (to fill vacancies)
- Two (2) New Firefighters (to fill vacancies)
- Two (2) P/T positions – Recreation (Master Library) & Building Dept. (Inspector)
- Sanitation Truck Leases
- Consolidated EMS services to OEM and Fire Department.
- Funded a Grant Writer to pursue funding across Departments.
- The Village gained \$17 million in new ratables through assessments.



2024 Budget Impacts

• Sanitation – Vehicle Lease	\$ 165,000
• Time & Attendance	\$ 25,000
• Grant Writing	\$ 50,000
• SID Consultant	\$ 20,000
• New P/T Employees	\$ 65,000
• Police – Vacant Officer Positions	\$ 140,000
• Police – Vehicle Lease	\$ 20,000
• Police Licensing & Accreditation	\$ 55,000



2024 Budget Impacts

• Salary and Wage Contractual Increases:	
• Police	\$ 154,000 (2.75%)
• Fire	\$ 135,000 (2.75%)
• Blue Collar	\$ 103,000 (2.00%)
• White Collar	\$ 48,000 (2.00%)
• Supervisor	\$ 17,000 (2.50%)
• Debt Service Increase (Net)	\$1,609,929
• Health Benefits Increase	\$ 668,896
• Pension Costs Increase	\$ 279,247
• Summer Recreation Program Personnel Increases	\$ 104,000
• Landfill Disposal Costs Increase	\$ 79,500
• Social Security Cost Increase	\$ 151,000



Summary of 2024 Current Fund Budget

• Total Current Appropriations	\$ 61,231,433
• Reserve For Uncollected Taxes	\$ 1,230,000
• Debt Service	\$ 7,651,719
• Salaries	\$ 25,067,184
• Budget Revenue	\$ 18,783,707
• Amount to be Raised by Taxes	\$ 39,658,266



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Current Fund Budget Surplus

(IN MILLIONS)

YEAR	1/1 SURPLUS BALANCE	UTILITZED SURPLUS
2024	\$ 7.803	\$ 5.500
2023	7.333	4.570
2022	5.050	4.215
2021	4.871	4.000
2020	4.567	4.000
2019	4.801	3.730
2018	5.073	3.730
2017	4.809	3.630
2016	5.178	3.300
2015	4.837	3.032



**VILLAGE OF
RIDGEWOOD**

Ridgewood Water Utility Budget 2024



Ridgewood Water Accomplishments

- Completed the rehab or replacement of 2.3 miles, or approximately 12,000 linear feet, of distribution water main.
- All four service-area towns successfully adopted a 2-Day Watering Conservation Ordinance.
- Initiated expanded stakeholder communication including the 4-town Weekly Update.
- Outfitted Ridgewood Water's Laboratory with HVAC Upgrades, an Acid Storage Cabinet, a VOC Fume Hood, Equipment Table, and have a GC/MS on order awaiting delivery and installation.



Ridgewood Water 2024 Goals

-
- Complete the rehab or replacement of 1.5 or approximately 7,900 linear feet of distribution water main.
 - Launch the Emergency/Routine Construction Map and Construction Activity Page.
 - Complete Lab Certification for GC/MS.
 - Increase Water Conservation campaign and outreach.



PFAS Treatment & Operations

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- Successfully executed an Administrative Consent Order with the NJDEP in May 2023 for our PFAS Treatment Master Plan.
- Received Permanent Permit Approval for Twinney PFAS Treatment Facility.
- Broke ground on 2 additional PFAS treatment facilities, Ravine and Prospect.
- PFAS Operational Strategy remains in effect.

GOALS:

- Complete construction of Ravine PFAS Treatment Facility.
- Break ground on remaining PFAS Treatment Facilities.
- Break ground on Raw Water Mains to connect satellite wells to PFAS Treatment Facilities.





Lead Service Line Replacements

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- Replaced 152 Main to Curbs Lead Service Lines, as of November 1, 2023.
- Achieved substantial agreement from the representatives of all 4 towns on the plan to complete the Lead Service Line Identification and Replacement Program.
- Interviewed and contracted the Lead Service Line Replacement Program Planning consultant.

GOALS:

- Complete another 150 Main to Curb service replacements.
- Identify remaining unknowns through Hydro-Excavation, In-home Inspections, or Customer Survey.
- Achieve final approval on ordinances and shared service agreements with all 4 towns.
- Complete the design of a comprehensive Lead Service Line Replacement Plan and Website Landing Page.





Summary of 2024 Water Utility Budget

• Current Appropriations	\$ 23,375,178
• Debt Service	\$ 4,623,315
• Salaries	\$ 4,866,011
• Budget Revenue	\$ 19,220,314
• Surplus (Used)	\$ 4,154,864



Parking Utility Budget 2024



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Summary of 2024 Parking Utility Budget

• Current Appropriations	\$ 2,744,000
• Debt Service	\$ 780,544
• Salaries	\$ 648,620
• Budget Revenue	\$ 2,344,000
• Surplus (Used)	\$ 400,000



Long-Term Structural Budget Recommendations

- Enhance ambulance services billing through new vendor.
- Increase charges for outside Police Department services to be more competitive with other enforcement agencies.
- Develop new shared service opportunities with surrounding communities to increase revenue.
- Develop a plan to enhance communications with surrounding municipalities into a Radio Communications System that is currently being developed.
- Begin to budget for certain Capital Budget expenditures such as Police vehicles.
- Further pursue sinking funds in Capital Budget for more costly investments and equipment.



Local Municipal Tax Rate

- 2024 budget is \$1,268,000 under the Tax Levy Cap and under the Appropriations Cap by \$798,404
- 2024 Assessed Value \$5,930,301,900
- 2023 Assessed Value \$5,913,103,400
- Municipal Taxes are Projected for 2024 at \$0.6678
- 2023 Municipal Actual Taxes: \$0.6509



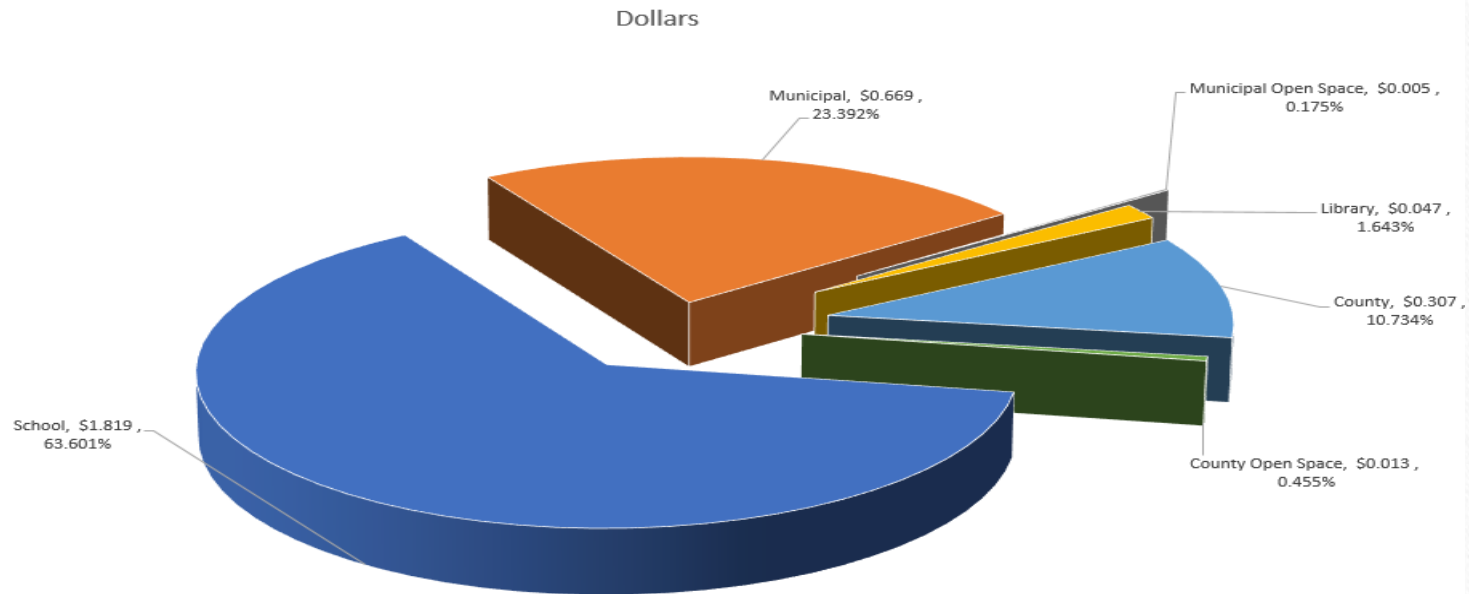
Local Municipal Tax Rate

- No cuts in services to the residents of Ridgewood
- Adjustment = \$0.0169 increase per \$100 of assessed value over the 2023 tax rate
- The 2024 average home in the Village is valued at \$710,168 (\$707,500 in 2023)
- Municipal Taxes – 2023 – \$4,605
2024 – \$4,751, an increase of \$146.00/avg. home (\$12.17 month)
- Municipal Increase of 2.74% - less than the rate of inflation today



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Village of Ridgewood Proposed Property Tax Breakdown 2024





Capital Budget 2024



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2024 Capital Budget Projects

• Road Paving	\$	2,000,000
• West Glen Sidewalks, East Glen Sidewalks		950,000
• Kingsbridge Restoration		515,000
• Fire Department Gear, Air Packs & Equipment		115,000
• Fire Engine Replacement (Sinking Fund)		250,000
• Police Department Vehicles & Radios		186,000
• OEM Equipment, Facility Upgrades, & Radios		240,000
• North West Central Dispatch		50,000



2024 Capital Budget Projects

• Sanitation & Recycling Trucks & Equipment	\$ 905,000
• Parks & Recreation Projects & Equipment	1,260,000
• Maple Field (Sinking Fund)	50,000
• Shade Tree Plantings	390,000
• Library Generator Project	65,000
• Public Works Equipment & Upgrades	<u>850,000</u>
• Total	\$ 7,831,000



VILLAGE OF RIDGEWOOD

Gross Debt All Capital Funds as of 12/31/23

	<u>GENERAL</u>	<u>WATER</u>	<u>PARKING</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
SERIAL BONDS	\$ 34,891,000	\$ 38,134,000	\$ 10,890,000	\$ 83,915,000
BOND ANTICIPATION NOTES	24,717,250	21,418,200	509,955	46,645,405
BONDS & NOTES	59,608,250	59,552,200	11,399,955	130,560,405
BONDS & NOTES AUTHORIZED & NOT USED	12,971,377	77,717,242	2,836,280	93,524,899
TOTAL GROSS DEBT	<u>\$ 72,579,627</u>	<u>\$137,269,442</u>	<u>\$ 14,236,235</u>	<u>\$224,085,364</u>



2024 Budget Schedule

Budget Hearings

Budget Introduction

March 13, 2024 – 7:30 pm

Public Hearing and Final Adoption

April 10, 2024 – 7:30 pm