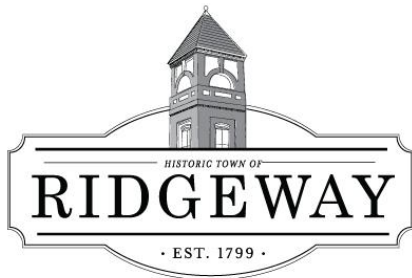


# Ridge Notes

## Ridgeway, South Carolina



## Revitalization, Responsibility, Relationships

### Revitalization, Responsibility, Relationships:

#### Revitalization

**School:** Expansion and relocation of the Barclay School to the former site of the Palmetto Montessori School on Cook Road.

**New Businesses:** The Little Shop, The Jewelry Lady, Brice's Country Store, The Ivy Veranda, The Loft at 115 –Expansion of Fairfield County Arts Gallery, Simply Town Boutique and Concept Packaging and Suncrest Suppliers in the building on E. Church Street.

**Grants:** Implementation of grants awarded to the Town of Ridgeway- PARD – Playground, \$80,250; RIA-Water Tank Replacement, \$500,000; MASC Hometown Grant –Restoration of three iconic sites, Smallest Police Station, Phone Booth and The Old Ridgeway School Arch, \$25,000 and Palmetto Pride-trash containers, \$ 5000

#### Responsibility

**Town Council:** Participation in MASC Training as well as recertification with Town Boards, Commissions and Committees.

**Personnel:** Contracted with consultants, Larry Finney and Administrator David Hudspeth to review the town budget to maximize services to meet the needs of our community. Employed Vanessa Hollins as Interim Judge for the Town of Ridgeway. Thanks to the service of Gen Palmer.

**Town Boards, Commissions, Committees and Citizens:** Supported their town government via meetings and implementation of strategic goals.

**Public /Private Partnerships:** MOA with Fairfield County regarding code enforcement and capital improvement projects, Municipalities in Fairfield County for the Scenic Byway Designation, and Fairfield County School District and the Frasier Family for a site and site preparation for the new water tank in Ridgeway.

**Capital Improvements:** Utility Building at the Waste Water Plant, Painting at Town Hall, Restoration of Iconic Structures, and contract with Norfolk Southern for the purchase of property as a match for a grant for a library, public restroom facilities and other businesses.

**Safety:** Installed Security Cameras in the Town for greater safety of citizens and employees.

**Employees:** Supported employees work performance by purchasing vehicles for Police, Water and Maintenance Departments.

#### Relationships

**Citizen Recognitions:** Citizen of the Year – Jeanette Richardson; Entrepreneurs of the Year – Fairfield County School District and Fairfield County Government and Friend of the Arts, Mayor Charlene Herring.

**Town Recognitions:** Municipal Achievement Award- Population 1-1000, “ A Picture is Worth More Than a 1000 Words in Ridgeway”, a tribute to the arts and the William Banks Patrick Award for Historic Preservation for saving the old Ridgeway Water Tower.

**Public Relations:** Historical Cultural Committee and Jongy Ward, Production of a revised Walking Tour Guide for Historic Ridgeway; Laura’s Tea Room and Carol Allen, Featured in the national magazine, “Tea Time”; MASC Grant and Cal Harrison, Visitors Kiosk in Smallest Police Station and Blythewood Chamber of Commerce and Darlene Embleton, Inclusion of Ridgeway as a sister city in the Visitors Guide to Blythewood.

**Events:** Pig on the Ridge, Arts on the Ridge, The Great Eclipse, Big Grab, Holidays on the Ridge- A Small Town Christmas Tree Lighting, Home, /Iconic Structures and Unique Buildings Tour, and Parade, First Fridays, Shop Small Saturday, The Unity Walk, and the Back to School Prayer Walk.

### **Priorities for 2017-2018**

Town Council established priorities per the components of the Strategic Plan and committee input for the Town of Ridgeway for 2017-2018.

#### **Organization**

- Investigate expansion of town limits

#### **Services – Utilities**

- Create a plan for the extension of water lines for economic development and service to future citizens
- Go Green with the automation of meter reading and billing

#### **Services – Safety, Police Department**

- Secure funding to hire second police officer or some form of additional assistance
- Find funding for security cameras in Downtown Ridgeway

#### **Economic Development**

- Explore form based codes for mixed residential/commercial use of downtown
- Investigate possible developers for more business space downtown, lodging and home sites in the area
- Establish restroom facilities for tourists and visitors in Downtown Ridgeway

#### **Historical Cultural**

- Review preservation and restoration of historical buildings in Ridgeway such as Century House, Ridgeway School Teacherage, and Old Town Hall
- Publish an oral pictorial book about Ridgeway

#### **Public Relations**

- Maximize the use of the new kiosk in the World’s Smallest Police Station for merchants, tourists, and citizens

#### **Community Actions**

- Establish a community garden
- Have a Health / Help Day for the Ridgeway Community

#### **Calendar of Events**

January 3, 2018	Fire Department Meeting	7:30 p.m.
January 9, 2018	Fairfield County Arts Council	6:00 p.m.
January 11, 2018	Ridgeway Town Council Meeting, Town Hall	6:30 p.m.
January 15, 2018	Ridgeway Reads, Home of Phyllis Gutierrez	6:00 p.m.
January 15, 2018	Unity Walk	
January 15, 2018	Martin Luther King Day (office closed)	