

**TOWN OF RIDGWAY, COLORADO
ORDINANCE NO. 05-2025**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF RIDGWAY, COLORADO,
AMENDING CHAPTER 2 OF THE RIDGWAY MUNICIPAL CODE
CONCERNING COMPENSATION OF TOWN COUNCIL**

WHEREAS, the Town of Ridgway, Colorado (“Town”) is a home rule municipality existing pursuant to the laws of the Colorado Constitution, the Colorado Revised Statutes and the Town’s Home Rule Charter (“Charter”); and

WHEREAS, Section 2-6 of the Charter establishes that Town Councilors and the Mayor shall receive compensation as the Town Council may prescribe by ordinance; provided, however, that their compensation may not be increased nor decreased during their current term in office; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Town Councilors commit significant time in representation of the citizens of the Town of Ridgway through: (1) preparation for and attendance at Town Council meetings and workshops; (2) serving as Town-appointed representatives and liaisons to various boards, commissions, and committees; and (3) meeting and communicating with constituents and businesses; and

WHEREAS, a study of elected officials' compensation in municipalities both contiguous to the Town and similar in size to the Town concluded that the Ridgway Town Council's compensation was not commensurate with the substantial time and effort expended in representation of the Town; and

WHEREAS, any increase in compensation for Town Council members will not benefit the individuals currently holding office as elected Council members and, therefore, there exists no conflict of interest resulting from any increase in compensation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF RIDGWAY, COLORADO the following:

Section 1. Recitals Incorporated. The above and foregoing recitals are incorporated herein by reference and adopted as findings and determinations of the Town Council.

Section 2. Amendment of Subsection 2-1-4 - Compensation of Town Council. Subsection 2-1-4 - *Compensation of Town Council* of the Ridgway Municipal Code is hereby amended to read in full as follows:

2-1-4 – COMPENSATION OF TOWN COUNCIL

The Mayor shall be paid \$442 per month and each Councilor shall be paid \$267 per month.

Section 3. Codification of Amendments. The Town Clerk, as the codifier of the Town's Municipal Code, is hereby authorized to make such numerical and formatting changes as may be necessary to incorporate the provisions of this Ordinance within the Ridgway Municipal Code. The Town Clerk is authorized to correct, or approve the correction by the codifier, of any typographical error in the enacted regulations, provided that such correction shall not substantively change any provision of the regulations adopted in this Ordinance. Such corrections may include spelling, reference, citation, enumeration, and grammatical errors.

Section 4. Severability. If any provision of this Ordinance, or the application of such provision to any person or circumstance, is for any reason held to be invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of this Ordinance which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this Ordinance are declared to be severable. The Town Council hereby declares that it would have passed this Ordinance and each provision thereof, even though any one of the provisions might be declared unconstitutional or invalid. As used in this Section, the term "provision" means and includes any part, division, subdivision, section, subsection, sentence, clause or phrase; the term "application" means and includes an application of an ordinance or any part thereof, whether considered or construed alone or together with another ordinance or ordinances, or part thereof, of the Town.

Section 5. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall take effect thirty (30) days after the date of final passage in accordance with Article 3-7 of the Ridgway Charter.

Section 6. Safety Clause. The Town Council hereby finds, determines and declares that this Ordinance is promulgated under the general police power of the Town of Ridgway, that it is promulgated for the health, safety and welfare of the public, and that this Ordinance is necessary for the preservation of health and safety and for the protection of public convenience and welfare. The Town Council further determines that the Ordinance bears a rational relation to the proper legislative object sought to be obtained.

Section 7. No Existing Violation Affected. Nothing in this Ordinance shall be construed to release, extinguish, alter, modify, or change in whole or in part any penalty, liability or right or affect any audit, suit, or proceeding pending in any court, or any rights acquired, or liability incurred, or any cause or causes of action acquired or existing which may have been incurred or obtained under any ordinance or provision hereby repealed or amended by this Ordinance. Any such ordinance or provision thereof so amended, repealed, or superseded by this Ordinance shall be treated and held as remaining in force for the purpose of sustaining any and all proper actions, suits, proceedings and prosecutions, for the enforcement of such penalty, liability, or right, and for the purpose of sustaining any judgment, decree or order which can or may be rendered, entered, or made in such actions, suits or proceedings, or prosecutions imposing, inflicting, or declaring such penalty or liability or enforcing such right, and shall be treated and held as remaining in force for the purpose of sustaining any and all proceedings, actions, hearings, and appeals pending before any court or administrative tribunal.

Section 8. Publication. The Town Clerk is ordered to publish this Ordinance in accordance with Article 3-7 of the Ridgway Charter.

INTRODUCED AND REFERRED TO PUBLIC HEARING on November 12, 2025, and set for public hearing on December 10, 2025, at Ridgway Town Hall, located at 201 N. Railroad Street, Ridgway, Colorado.

BY:

ATTEST:

John I. Clark, Mayor

Pam Kraft, Town Clerk

ADOPTED on December 10, 2025.

BY:

ATTEST:

John I. Clark, Mayor

Pam Kraft, Town Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Bo James Nerlin, Town Attorney