

COMMISSIONERS OF RIDGELY
JANUARY 4, 2021
TOWN MEETING MINUTES



Summary of the December 17, 2020 closed session:

DATE: December 17, 2020

TIME: 12:03 PM

PLACE: Town Hall and Zoom Teleconference

PURPOSE: To perform an administrative function not subject to the Open Meetings Act and to discuss personnel matters involving specific individuals over whom the Commissioners have jurisdiction

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: Md. Code Ann., General Provision Article §3-305(b): (1) "To discuss the appointment, employment, assignment, promotion, discipline, demotion, compensation, removal, resignation, or performance evaluation of an appointee, employee, or official over whom this public body has jurisdiction; or any other personnel matter that affects one of more specific individuals."

VOTE TO MEET IN CLOSED SESSION: In favor: President Hurley, Commissioner Buckle, Commissioner Casey; Opposed: none.

TOPICS DISCUSSED: Personnel matters involving specific individuals over whom the Commissioners have jurisdiction

ATTENDING: President John Hurley, Commissioner Leonard John Buckle, Commissioner Anthony Casey, Assistant Clerk-Treasurer/Human Resources Melissa Leonard, Lt. Jeff Eckrich.

ACTION TAKEN: Lt. Eckrich's contract for Chief of Police was reviewed and signed.

Commissioner Buckle made a motion to adjourn the closed session part of the meeting, 2nd Commissioner Casey, approved. The closed session was adjourned at 12:22 PM.

The Commissioners of Ridgely met on the above date in the Town Hall at 6:00 pm for the January 2021 town meeting. The following were in attendance: President John Hurley, Commissioner Leonard John Buckle, Commissioner Anthony Casey, Clerk-Treasurer Stephanie Berkey, Director of Public Works David Crist, Chief Gary Manos, Lt. Jeff Eckrich, Zoning Admin Melissa Leonard, Cathy & Rick Schwab, Gerald Sutton, Christine Eckrich, Patrick Eckrich, Timmy Eckrich, Matthew Eckrich, Brianna Puffenbarger, VIA ZOOM: Brandon Strong, Danielle E, Heather, Jessica Holliday, Lilian L, Maureen, Michael Redgraves, Robert Amador, Teresa Flye Victoria's iPhone, Robert's Iphone.

President Hurley opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioner Casey made a motion to approve the following minutes:

- December 7, 2020 Vote to go into Closed Session
- December 7, 2020 Closed Session
- December 7, 2020 Town Meeting
- December 17, 2020 Vote to go into Closed Session
- December 17, 2020 Closed Session

Commissioner Buckle seconded the motion, approved.

STAFF REPORTS

CLERK-TREASURER

Commissioner Casey made a motion to approve paying the bills, 2nd Commissioner Buckle, approved. Total General Funds reconciled \$523,425.82, Total Sewer Funds reconciled \$121,455.56, Total Water Funds reconciled \$57,334.40.

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS

The Ridgely Lions want to donate 2 park benches for Martin Sutton Park in memory of two of their members that have recently passed away. The benches would honor Ed Miller and former Ridgely Commissioner Dale Mumford. There was a discussion of where to place the benches and how to anchor them. The town thanks the Ridgely Lions for their generous donation.

CHIEF OF POLICE

Chief Gary Manos said that Sgt. Geesey is completing the year end report the department and that the numbers look good. Chief Manos announced that he was retiring from the position as Chief of Police and that he would be swearing in Lt. Jeff Eckrich tonight as the new Chief of Police. The Commissioner thanked Chief Manos for his years of service to the Town of Ridgely. Chief Manos swore in Lt. Jeff Eckrich as the new Chief of Police.

ZONING ADMINISTRATOR

Notices for rental inspections have been mailed. We expect to be able to do the inspections again in the Spring as restrictions for COVID ease.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANT

The audit report to the State has been completed and the results were very good. The positive fund balance continues to grow.

HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Cathy Schwab reported that there were 14 winners with over \$700 in prizes for the Christmas Decorating Contest. They are hoping to have the Historical Society Library open in the Spring.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

NEW BUSINESS

Commissioner Casey made a motion to do a proclamation for School Choice Week, 2nd Commissioner Buckle, approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT (None)

The meeting was adjourned at 6:30 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Stephanie L. Berkey, CMC
Clerk-Treasurer