

COMMISSIONERS OF RIDGELY

JULY 6, 2021

TOWN MEETING



The Commissioners of Ridgely met on the above date at 9:00 AM in the Town Hall for the July town meeting. The following were in attendance: President Leonard John Buckle, Commissioner Anthony Casey, Commissioner John Hurley, Clerk-Treasurer Stephanie Berkey, Director of Public Works David Crist, Chief of Police Jeff Eckrich, Zoning Administrator Melissa Leonard, Financial Assistant Gerald Sutton, Ridgely Historical Society Rick & Cathy Schwab.

President Buckle opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioner Hurley made a motion to approve the June 8, 2021 Town Meeting minutes, 2nd Commissioner Casey, approved.

STAFF REPORTS

CLERK-TREASURER

Commissioner Hurley made a motion to approve paying the bills, 2nd Commissioner Casey, approved. Total General Funds reconciled \$264,523.10, total Sewer Funds reconciled \$104,246.66, total Water Funds reconciled \$104,955.43. The Queenstown Bank account for the police needs to be closed and the money deposited into the PSB Severance account to offset the withdraw for Chief Manos retirement. Commissioner Hurley made a motion to close the account, 2nd Commissioner Casey, all in favor, approved. The Sewer Money Market account at Provident State Bank has been sitting untouched for more than a decade. The Commissioners discussed closing the account and depositing the money into the MLGIP investment pool account for sewer. Commissioner Hurley made the motion to close the Sewer Money Market account, 2nd Commissioner Casey, all in favor, approved.

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS

David Crist said that the grant application for FY22 LPPI funding was submitted to the County for \$300,000 for Martin Sutton Park improvements. We have met Delmarva Power to begin the process for the electrical drops at the Railroad Park for the Christmas display.

CHIEF OF POLICE

Chief Jeff Eckrich said that Officer Andrew Turner has started as a full-time officer and Officer Frank Jones is back to part-time. There was a school bus stolen in town and the vehicle was recovered in Denton.

ZONING ADMINISTRATOR

Melissa Leonard said that we are back to doing rental inspections and rubble letters have been going out as well.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANT

Gerald Sutton said that the preliminary audit for FY21 went well. The auditors will be back in September to complete the FY21 audit. Local income tax revenue has been increasing, which is good.

HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Rick and Cathy Schwab thanked the Commissioners for attending the opening of the RHS Library in town. The train station was open on July 3rd and one of the visitors was from Russia. The library roof has been patched. They thanked David Crist for putting up the patriotic bunting at the Train Station and also complimented the town on the new welcome to Ridgely signs.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

NEW BUSINESS

The Commissioners discussed new Juneteenth National Independence Day Federal Holiday. In order to make it an official holiday for the Town to observe there will need to be a change to the employee manual and then approved in an open meeting. The Commissioners agreed to have the changes to the manual prepared. There will be no retroactive holiday pay for the FY21 holiday.

President Buckle read Resolution No. 2021-01 amending the bulk trash policy prices from \$6.00/item to \$8.00/item. This will cover the rising costs of tipping fees at the landfill for the Town. Commissioner Casey made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2021-01, 2nd Commissioner Hurley, all in favor, approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Stephanie Berkey asked the Commissioners for approval to purchase a popcorn machine, hot chocolate dispenser and all the supplies for the Christmas season in the Railroad Park. We are going to be having movie nights in the Train Station and want to have civic organizations come in to sell the popcorn and hot chocolate. It will be a fund raiser for the group and the supplies used will come out of the Commissioners Donations in the budget, so that they will have no out-of-pocket expenses. Commissioner Hurley made a motion to approve, 2nd Commissioner Casey, all in favor, approved.

Lisa Wielgosz from North Carolina Cheerleaders Boosters made a request for a donation. Commissioner Hurley made a motion to approve a \$500 donation, 2nd Commissioner Casey, all in favor, approved.

Jerry Sutton said that the benches that the Lions Club donated to Martin Sutton Park have been installed.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:39 AM.

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