

COMMISSIONERS OF RIDGELY
FEBRUARY 3, 2020
TOWN MEETING



The Commissioners met on the above date at the Ridgely Town Hall for the February 2020 Town Meeting at 7:00 pm. The following were in attendance: President Anthony Casey, Commissioner John Hurley, Commissioner Leonard John Buckle, Clerk-Treasurer Stephanie Berkey, Director of Public Works David Crist, Chief of Police Gary Manos, Assistant Clerk-Treasurer Melissa Leonard, Financial Assistant Gerald Sutton, Officer Ross Harper, Joe Anderson, Cathy Schwab, Rick Schwab, Danny Foster, Blair Carmean, Joe Riley, Daniel B. Foster, Greg Jackson.

President Casey opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioner Hurley made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 6, 2020 Town Meeting, 2nd Commissioner Buckle, approved.

STAFF REPORTS

CLERK-TREASURER

Commissioner Hurley made a motion to approve paying the bills, 2nd Commissioner Buckle, approved. Total General Funds Reconciled \$367,856.63 Total Sewer Funds Reconciled \$136,549.30 Total Water Funds Reconciled \$28,722.16.

Rodney Dobson of the Hannah Circle has requested that the town help them honor Mrs. Hannah Henry on her 107th birthday April 8, 2020 at 11:00 am. He is asking for the ceremony to take place at the town hall or around the flagpole and if a Town Commissioner would be willing to say a few words on this great day. The Commissioners agreed.

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS

David Crist presented his report to the Commissioners. The judge made a ruling in our favor for the Hanover Foods case. They will have until the 18th to appeal.

CHIEF OF POLICE

Chief Manos presented his report to the Commissioners.

ZONING ADMINISTRATOR

Melissa Leonard discussed updating the town code to restrict on street parking of RVs, boats and commercial vehicles. The changes would make it that they have to be housed on the property and not on the streets. A discussion followed. Melissa will consult with the town attorney to make sure everything is done in accordance with the law. It will be discussed at the Planning and Zoning meeting on February 26, 2020. She provided the Commissioners with an update of court cases for code violations. It is coming up on the date when the fines will need to be paid. These can be liens on the property. We are also consulting with the attorneys regarding the property on Sunset and legal processes.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANT

Gerald Sutton discussed the FY20 budget revisions. He thanked the town staff for the work done for the revision. We did manage to budget for a new police vehicle.

STATE'S ATTORNEY

Joe Riley discussed the Ridgely convictions for January 2020.

HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Cathy Schwab announced that the train station will be open the first Saturday of the month from 10-2 , beginning in March 2020. She asked if the town could put it on the website. She thanked David Crist for putting the baggage cart back into place and securing it. The historical society donated a brick in the park to thank CCTC for the work they did on the baggage cart. February 22nd is the Caroline's Most Beautiful Volunteer Award Ceremony at 1:00 pm. Joe Anderson has been nominated. She asked about putting a sign on the Historical Society Library, they will need a permit.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

NEW BUSINESS

President Casey introduced Ordinance No. 2020-383 FY20 Budget Revision.

Blair Carmean discussed the Chicken Bridge Tax Ditch Association recent annual meeting. They appreciated the contribution from the town. They requested to have the budgeted amount for the donation to be \$6,000 for FY21. He discussed some of the recent activities and costs of the ditch.

Greg Jackson, from the Caroline Tennis Association, thanked the town for allowing them to use the courts. They requested the use of the courts for the spring tennis camps. The town has the insurance information already, but will send a lease over to make it official. Blair Carmean discussed the court conditions. There are cracks and the courts are peeling. Previous estimates to get the courts fixed were \$65-\$75,000. More research is still being done and they are going to contact USTA for help. President Casey discussed the need for the Board of Education to help with the costs. Commissioner Hurley made a motion to allow the Tennis Association start the process to obtain funding from USTA, 2nd Commissioner Buckle, all in favor.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Daniel Foster recently purchased 4 Eighth Street. There is a dump truck that is on a neighboring property that he does not believe should be allowed to be parked on the property. Zoning Administrator Melissa Leonard reiterated what was discussed earlier in the meeting, 2 property owners have come to the commissioners with a request to park their commercial vehicles on their property and were granted permission. She invited him to attend the Planning and Zoning meeting on the 4th Wednesday of the month at 6:00 pm to discuss the issue further, as they move forward to change the code.

Danny Foster has a question who was zoning administrator and who was code enforcement. He believes authority was overstepped when people were allowed to park their commercial vehicles in town.

Melissa Leonard presented the request from Mr. John Smith for abatement of late fees for his water bill. A discussion followed. Commissioner Hurley made a motion to deny the request, 2nd Commissioner Buckle, all in favor. The request was denied.

109 Maryland Avenue is requesting a sewer abatement for filling a swimming pool during the summer of 2018. A discussion followed regarding the amount of time that has passed since the billing. Commissioner Hurley made a motion to deny the request, 2nd Commissioner Buckle, all in favor. The request was denied.

President Casey reviewed the request from Exquisite Basketball for a donation. Commissioner Hurley made a motion to donate \$500, 2nd Commissioner Buckle, all in favor. The donation was approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:48 pm.

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

Commissioners of Ridgely
Public Works Department Report
Commissioners Meeting
February 3, 2020

SEWER

- 79 days holding capacity
- All reports have been completed and sent to MDE

WATER

- All reports have been completed and sent to MDE
- 1 Water leak

PUBLIC WORKS

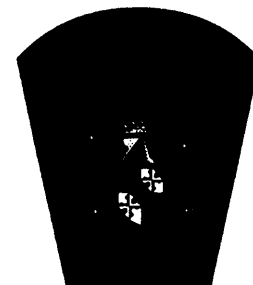
- 16 locates
- 4 loads of brush
- 15 rubble pick ups
- Patched pot holes
- Sweeping Streets every other week
- Servicing equipment
- Picking up leaves once to twice a week
- Working on ally's

Ridgely Police Department

2 Central Avenue, Ridgely, Maryland 21660

Phone: 410 634-2151

Fax: 410 634-8083



January 2020 Police Report

Calls for Service	565
Property Checks	246
Community Policing	154
Arrests	3
Traffic Violations	85

Pfc J. Eckrich attended the Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) Training. The forty-hour (40) program is designed to assist officers in identifying when a person he/she comes in contact with is experiencing a mental health crisis. This training instructs officers in how to use different strategies when dealing with those suffering with a mental health crisis. This approach has been proven to dramatically reduce the risk of serious injury and or death to both officer and those suffering from a mental health emergency.

We are experiencing a good number of thefts from unlocked vehicles. Batteries are also being taken from boats and RV's. Please do your best to secure them. We have varied the times of patrol in an attempt to stop/deter the thefts. We are also working closely with local recycling centers.

Chief Manos attended training on Human Trafficking. The local training was well attended and very informative. Several investigations have been conducted here on the eastern shore.

Residents are encouraged to call the 911 Center instead of the individual officers' cell number when requesting assistance. This will expedite the response and ensure that the closest officer available will respond.

Please record the serial number and photograph all tools and other valuables in your possession. Make sure the documentation is readily available if needed. This will help your officers when conducting an investigation by enabling us to compare the stolen item to others when checking several data bases that available to law enforcement.

Respectfully Submitted,

Gary M. Manos
Chief of Police

COMMISSIONERS OF RIDGELY
FEBRUARY 3, 2020
TOWN MEETING



Thank you for attending.

PLEASE PRINT NAME CLEARLY

Jeff Anderson

Cathy + Rick Schwab

Blair Carmean

Daniel Foster

Greg Jackson

Joe Ciley

David R. Foster

Daniel H. Foster

GEORGE THOMPSON

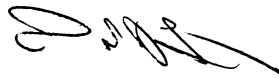


COMMISSIONERS OF RIDGELY
FEBRUARY 3, 2020
TOWN MEETING
PUBLIC COMMENT LOG

**ALL PUBLIC COMMENTORS MUST SIGN THE PUBLIC COMMENT LOG
(PLEASE PRINT)**

Blain Carmean _____

Greg Jackson _____

 Daniel B. Fisher _____

Manny Fisher _____

ORDINANCE NO. 2020-383

AN ORDINANCE TO REAPPROPRIATE FUNDS AND ADJUST REVENUE ESTIMATES IN ACCORDANCE WITH EVENTS THAT NECESSITATE CHANGES IN THE BUDGET ADOPTED FOR FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2019 AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2020.



Be it ordained and enacted by the Commissioners of Ridgely, Maryland that the following revenue and expenditure estimates are enacted to adjust the budget in anticipated revenue and to reallocate funds to adjust expenditures for Fiscal Year 2019-2020:

- Sec. 1 General Fund
- Sec. 2 Rate of Taxation on Real Property
- Sec. 3 Rate of Taxation on Business Personal Property
- Sec. 4 Service and Administration Fee Collected by Caroline County Tax Office

Sec. 1 General Fund

- A. That the following amounts shall be and hereby are appropriated for the expenditures designated for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2019 and ending June 30, 2020 for the General Fund:

Activity Title	Approved Budget And Appropriation
GENERAL GOVERNMENT	
General Administration	\$ 223,316
General Administration – Total	\$ 223,316
PUBLIC SAFETY	
Police Department	\$ 517,988
Volunteer Fire Co. Grant & Lease	\$ 20,000
Public Safety – Total	\$ 537,988
PUBLIC WORKS	
Streets	\$ 266,519
Sanitation	\$ 121,507
Parks	\$ 70,370
Public Works – Total	\$ 458,396

GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES	\$1,219,700
SEWER SYSTEM	\$ 378,577
WATER SYSTEM	\$ 321,212
CONTINGENCY	\$ 47,814
DEPRECIATION	\$ 8,595
TOTAL APPROPRIATION	\$1,975,898

B. That the following revenues are, in the considered judgement of the Town Commission, a fair appraisal and estimate of the revenues available to finance this budget and these appropriations for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2019 and ending June 30, 2020.

Source	Estimated Revenues
Taxes	\$ 868,446
Revenue from Other Agencies	\$ 191,866
Dedicated Revenue General Fund Balance	\$ 18,000
Fines & Fees/Miscellaneous Income	\$ 189,202
Fees for Water Service	\$ 296,042
Fees for Sewer Service	\$ 412,342
Total FY 2020 Revenues	\$1,975,898

Sec 2. Rate of Taxation of Real Property

That the rate of taxation on real property to be taxed within the boundaries of the Town of Ridgely, Maryland shall be and hereby is established as:

Fifty Six and .86 cents (\$0.5686)

On each one hundred dollars (\$100.00 of value for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2019 and including June 30, 2020.

Sec 3. Rate of Taxation on Business Personal Property

That the rate of taxation for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2019 and including June 30, 2020 on any personal property to be taxed by the Town of Ridgely, Maryland, shall be and hereby is established as:

One Dollar and twenty seven cents (\$1.275)

On each one hundred dollars (\$100.00) of assessed valuation, unless otherwise provided for by Article 81 of the Annotated Code of Maryland.

Sec. 4 Service and Administration Fee Collected by Caroline County Tax Office

That the rate of service and administrative fees on semi-annual billings assessed by the Caroline County Tax Office shall be established as: .55% Service and Administrative Fee.

THE TOWN OF RIDGELY

Anthony Casey, President

John Hurley, Commissioner

Leonard John Buckle, Commissioner

ATTEST:

*Stephanie Berkey, CMC
Town Clerk-Treasurer*

Date Introduced: February 3, 2020

Date Passed:

Effective Date: