

**COMMISSIONERS OF RIDGELY  
OCTOBER 7, 2013  
TOWN MEETING**

The Commissioners of Ridgely met on the above date in the Ridgely House. 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, Herb Geary TGM Group, Joanne Shipley, Rick and Cathy Schwab, Joe Werner and members of the Shore Explosion Fast Pitch Girls Softball team.

President Casey called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioner Buckle made a motion to approve the minutes of the September 9, 2013 meeting, 2<sup>nd</sup> Commissioner Hurley, approved.

Shore Explosion Fast Pitch Girls Softball Team was here to thank the Commissioners for their support. They presented a plaque and letter of thanks to the Commissioners.

**STAFF REPORTS**

**CLERK-TREASURER**

Commissioner Buckle made a motion to pay the bills, 2<sup>nd</sup> Commissioner Hurley, approved  
Total General Funds Reconciled \$404,138.35, Total Sewer Funds \$158,597.60, Total Water Funds \$151,041.57.

Additional funds are needed in the PSB Sewer Money Market account to keep it from getting a service charge. The next loan payment scheduled to come out of the account is in December. Commissioner Hurley made a motion to transfer funds in the amount of \$20,000 from the LGIP account into the money market account, 2<sup>nd</sup> Commissioner Buckle, approved.

The town hall office will be closed on October 18, 2013 for training.

We received notice today that the Governor of Maryland has approved our request for funds for the rehabilitation and preservation of the Ridgely Railroad Station Phase 1 Project. The approved amount is \$297,000. Thank you to Rick Schwab for all of his hard work preparing the grant.

**DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS**

Director of Public Works David Crist discussed sidewalks. We need to come up with a game plan for the sidewalks and figure out where we are going to budget for this. A discussion of options followed including saw cutting and a grinder. We will need to go off of the ADA specifications.

There was a discussion about the painting of the water tower and about what color to paint the tower. They would like to have it say Ridgely, MD 21660. The pipe still needs to be fixed and we need to contact URS about painting the tower.

**CHIEF OF POLICE**

Chief Gary Manos presented his report to the commissioners. UCR's are now online. Chief Manos proposed adding 2 new part-time police officers, with the money for this coming out of the police overtime budget. The estimated cost to outfit the officers will be \$1,500. They would only be used a few times a year when we have special events or when we are short on staff due to training and leave.

Commissioner Hurley made a motion to approve the hiring of 2 part-time police officers, 2<sup>nd</sup> Commissioner Buckle, unanimous approval.

Chief Manos discussed the training that he and Sgt. Creason had last week on terrorism and bomb threats. They are going to be putting together a plan to present to the Board of Education for school safety and evacuations.

### **FINANCIAL ASSISTANT**

Herb Geary from TGM Group presented a draft financial statement for FY13 to the Commissioners. He had great news for the town and even though the statement is a draft (we will make the November 1 deadline). The General Fund balance is positive, the first time since 2006. FY2009 there was a deficit of \$280,000. We are now \$80,000 to the good. Water and sewer also had a good year. Things are going very well. Herb congratulated everyone and said that we have a good team in place.

### **HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

Cathy discussed the new benches for the Railroad Park and that we can wait until the spring to install them. She thanked the town for their support.

### **TREE COMMISSION**

The tree received a check for \$680 to plant trees in the spring.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

There was no old business

### **NEW BUSINESS**

The Commissioners discussed joining the FEMA Flood Insurance Program. The town must participate for a resident to be able to purchase the insurance. The Commissioners agreed to pursue participating in the program.

Resident Mary Ketner made a request to put sidewalks by Medifast. We do have a right of way on the side but the front would be State Highway. The Commissioners discussed that there is no money for sidewalks, but perhaps State Highway could have a crosswalk put in.

The Commissioners discussed trick or treat, it will be October 31<sup>st</sup> from 6-8pm.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Cathy Schwab said that they have changed the style of the Christmas ball for this year.

Melissa Leonard discussed Bay Broadband. They are at the point now where the contract is now in violation. They are in arrears to the town. There is someone that is interested in putting equipment on the tower for \$150 a month. Currently we get \$1,000 a month. A discussion followed.

The next meeting will be November 4, 2013 at 7:00pm.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Stephanie Berkey  
Clerk-Treasurer