

COMMISSIONERS OF RIDGELY
MARCH 10, 2014
TOWN MEETING MINUTES

The Commissioners of Ridgely met on the above date at 7:00pm in the Ridgely House. The following were in attendance: President Anthony Casey, Commissioner John Hurley, Commissioner L. John Buckle, Clerk-Treasurer Stephanie Berkey, Director of Public Works David Crist, Chief of Police Gary Manos, Assistant Clerk-Treasurer Melissa Leonard, Cathy Schwab, Angela Visentainer, John Sears, Stephanie Quinta and Dan Franklin.

President Casey opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioner Hurley made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 3, 2014 Town Meeting, Commissioner Buckle 2nd, approved.

Commissioner Hurley made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 18, 2014 meeting with the County Commissioners regarding the tax differential, 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 \$522,619.63

Total Sewer Funds Reconciled \$174,386.66

Total Water Funds Reconciled \$66,850.94

The Department of Assessments and Taxations provided us with the 2014 Constant Yield Tax Rate Certification which is \$0.5900. There was a discussion about adopting the Constant Yield Tax Rate. Commissioner Hurley made a motion to adopt the constant yield tax rate proposed by the State, 2nd Commissioner Buckle, approved.

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS

Director of Public Works David Crist presented his report to the Commissioners. The Tree Commission has requested a tree planning for April 19th. The Commissioners want to know what type of trees and if a sidewalk is nearby (root barriers and gator bags would be needed). The Tree Commission has been dissolved per Joanne Shipley. They want to finish out the grant that they received to plant the trees. We also need to know who will be planting the trees to get the permit from DNR.

President Casey presented a certificate to David thanking him for his thirteen years of service.

CHIEF OF POLICE

Chief Gary Manos presented his report to the Commissioners. BDK will have the new server up by the end of the week. Homeland Security Funding is being decreased, but there is still \$2500 that will be available for the end of the fiscal year. Chief would like to purchase a new mobile laptop with these funds.

Commissioner Hurley asked if we could contact the insurance company of the person that hit the police cruiser to compensate for the use of the spare police vehicle.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANT

Gerald Sutton was absent.

HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Easter Egg Hunt is April 12th from 1-3. The Easter Bunny will be in attendance! The elementary school would like to plant a tree in the Railroad Park on April 16th at 10am.

OLD BUSINESS

Resolution No. 2014-02 Bulk Trash Policy, a Resolution of the Commissioners of Ridgely adopting policies and procedures relative to bulk trash collection in the Town of Ridgely was discussed. Commissioner Hurley made a motion to approve, 2nd Commissioner Buckle, approved.

NEW BUSINESS

Angela Visentainer of the CEDC made a request to the Commissioners to allocate \$10,000 to the CEDC specifically to market the tech park. A discussion followed. The Commissioners discussed that we are already allocating \$4,500 for the next year, the additional \$5,500 will be difficult.

Melissa Leonard presented an Emergency/Snow Policy for the Employee Manual as there was not a policy currently in effect. A discussion followed. Commissioner Hurley made a motion to adopt the policy, 2nd Commissioner Buckle, approved.

Ridgely Lions Club and Ridgely PTA requested a donation for the Play 60. Commissioner Hurley made a motion to donate \$30, 2nd Commissioner Buckle, approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Resident John Sears discussed his water bill. He claimed to have not received it. His water had been disconnected for non-payment and he turned the water back on. He has been charged with theft of the water and is asking the Commissioners to reconsider the charges. The Commissioners agreed to consider his request.

Dan Franklin a Republican candidate for County Commissioner spoke about his platform for election.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:42pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Stephanie L. Berkey
Clerk-Treasurer