

**COMMISSIONERS OF RIDGELY  
OCTOBER 6, 2014  
TOWN MEETING**

The Commissioners of Ridgely met on the above date in the Ridgely House at 7:00 pm for the October 2014 Town Meeting. The following were in attendance: President John Hurley, Commissioner John Buckle, Commissioner Anthony Casey, Clerk-Treasurer Stephanie Berkey, Director of Public Works David Crist, Chief of Police Gary Manos, Assistant Clerk-Treasurer Melissa Leonard, Financial Assistant Gerald Sutton, Marie Jarrell, Denzil Cheek, Mike Redgraves, Mark Kottwitz, Herb Geary, Angela Visintainer, Rachel Barry, Norma Pinkney, Joanne Sisco and Donna Eveland

President Hurley opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioner Casey made a motion to approve the September 8, 2014 meeting minutes, 2<sup>nd</sup> Commissioner Buckle, approved.

Herb Geary of TGM Group, LLC discussed the FY14 Financial Audit. The audit went well and the town's management team was well prepared for the audit. They intend to issue an unmodified opinion of the town's finances, which is the highest level of assurance that an independent audit firm can provide.

#### **STAFF REPORTS**

##### **CLERK-TREASURER**

Commissioner Casey made a motion to approve paying the bills, 2<sup>nd</sup> Commissioner Buckle, approved.

Clerk-Treasurer Stephanie Berkey presented her report to the Commissioners.

Total General Funds Reconciled - \$411,194.61

Total Sewer Funds Reconciled - \$243,666.77

Total Water Funds Reconciled - \$116,623.56

The Ridgely Lions club is requesting a donation for the "Fuel Up to Play 60" program. Commissioner Casey made a motion to donate 4 boxes of fruit at \$30/box, 2<sup>nd</sup> Commissioner Buckle, approved.

##### **DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS**

Director of Public Works David Crist presented his report to the Commissioners.

Quotes were presented for the power broom attachment for the bobcat that will be used for leaf pick up and snow removal. Commissioner Casey made a motion to purchase the broom from Burke Equipment, 2<sup>nd</sup> Commissioner Buckle, and unanimous approval.

We have not received all of the price quotes for the dump trailer yet, but this will be used for street sweeping, bulk pick-up, mulching and other tasks.

There was a discussion of the upcoming winter projects which included trimming and scraping the alleys, tree removal and trimming, in house mapping of the water system, repair and maintenance of equipment, Martin Sutton playground work among other things.

Leaf pick-up will hopefully begin the week of October 20<sup>th</sup>.

We are still waiting for the permit from MDE for the painting of the water tower.

The Ridgely Lions are requesting a donation for new street banners. Our street decorations budget is \$1,000 for this year. David does not see a problem donating the entire amount for the banners. The Commissioners approved.

There was a discussion regarding the Highway User Revenue and how to apply the funds. Commissioner Casey made a motion to prepay the Maryland Avenue loan with the highway user revenue, 2<sup>nd</sup> Commissioner Buckle, unanimous approval.

#### **CHIEF OF POLICE**

Chief Manos presented his report to the Commissioners. There was a discussion regarding acquiring 2 trained K9 Drug Detection Dogs. Costs offset can come from the changes in the personnel changes in the police department and the drug task force. Commissioner Casey made a motion to proceed with Highland Canine Training and the acquisition of 2 K9 dogs at \$8,500 each, 2<sup>nd</sup> Commissioner Buckle, unanimous approval.

#### **FINANCIAL ASSISTANT**

Gerald Sutton spoke to the Commissioners about the audit. We ended FY14 with a positive fund balance and a great audit report. He commended the staff and Commissioners.

#### **RVFD**

Not present.

#### **HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

Gerald Sutton spoke on behalf of Rick and Cathy Schwab, who were unable to attend the meeting. The chat session with the Ridgely "old timers" went well. The next one will be November 1<sup>st</sup>. The fountain in the horse troph is working.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

Henry property request for abatement – not present.

Angela Visintainer gave her report for the EDC and the strategic report for Caroline County. Strategies for the tech park are being looked at as well as the covenance for the tech park. There was a discussion about signage for our local businesses.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mark Kottwitz of North Maryland Avenue spoke regarding the influx of cars on his street. He would like something to be done about that from the Commissioners or the police department. There are many young children that live on that street. Late afternoon is a troublesome time.

Marie Jarrell is back in town. She commended the office staff. Her brother lives on 408 Sunrise and there needs to be stones put on the right of way. She had concerns about the properties in town that need to have grass cutting. She wants property owners held accountable.

Nora Pinkney spoke regarding Hanover foods. They had an ammonia leak on Friday night and some people were injured.

Denzil Cheek spoke regarding the intersection of Central at 480. Turning lanes need to be marked. We will contact State Hwy regarding this issue.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Stephanie L. Berkey  
Clerk-Treasurer