

**COMMISSIONERS OF RIDGELY  
AUGUST 3, 2015  
TOWN MEETING**

The Commissioners of Ridgely met on the above date at 7:00 pm in the Ridgely House for the August 2015 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 Gary Manos, Assistant Clerk-Treasurer Melissa Leonard, Gerald Sutton, Cathy and Rick Schwab, Denzil Cheek, Joe Anderson, Terri Hinch, Linda Jones, Joe Graham, Debbie Pfiel AECOM, Lauren Good, AECOM, Dustin Holt, Dr. E. Mitchell Arion, Susan Ricker, Nate Slaughter, Allen Slaughter, Jacob Hulbert, Meg Hulbert, Liam Welch, Joe Welch & Vicki Arion.

Commissioner Hurley made a motion to approve the July 6, 2015 meeting minutes, 2<sup>nd</sup> Commissioner Casey, approved.

**STAFF REPORTS**

**CLERK-TREASURER**

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

Total General Funds Reconciled \$563,413.47

Total Water Funds Reconciled \$89,604.27

Total Sewer Funds Reconciled \$290,450.56

The Maryland Avenue loan has been paid off early in full.

**DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS**

Director of Public Works David Crist presented his report to the Commissioners. The repairs are continuing on the pump station. Utility Service asked the Commissioners to reconsider the service contract. A discussion followed and the Commissioners agreed to proceed with the termination of the contract. We are waiting on a quote for the work at 202 Park Avenue from Underground Construction. Bids were presented for 2 new public works trucks that would be equipped with snow plows. Commissioner Casey made a motion to purchase the 2 trucks, 2<sup>nd</sup> Commissioner Hurley, unanimous approval. We received a quote from for \$11,623.50 from Pardoe's to remove several town trees that are dead or dying. A discussion followed and the Commissioners asked if we could get other bids as this far exceeds the tree maintenance budget for the year. There was a discussion regarding the intersection of 480 and Central Avenue. Scott Cole from State Highway has informed us that there is room for a left turn lane on the Medifast side of the intersection. A formal letter requesting this from the town is required. Commissioner Casey made a motion to send the letter 2<sup>nd</sup> Commissioner Hurley, unanimous approval. There was a discussion about the several other streets in town and the need for repaving.

### **CHIEF OF POLICE**

Chief Gary Manos presented his report to the Commissioners. Chief Manos requested to sponsor a soccer team at the cost of \$295. Commissioner Casey made a motion to approve, 2<sup>nd</sup> Commissioner Hurley, unanimous approval.

### **FINANCIAL ASSISTANT**

Gerald Sutton talked about the highway user funds. It appears they funds will continue to increase over the next few years. These funds were used to pay off the Maryland Avenue loan. We are working hard on the capital budget. The auditors will be here next month. The Lions Club is having a golf tournament in September for the scholarship fund. Commissioner Casey made a motion to sponsor a foursome, 2<sup>nd</sup> Commissioner Hurley, all in favor.

### **HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

There are 2 new signs that are in the Railroad Park as well as new benches and a bike rack. Cathy Schwab thanked David Crist and public works for putting everything in during the hot weather. There was a meeting with Planning and Zoning before their monthly meeting to go over the train station project. They will continue to meet prior to the Planning and Zoning meetings and encourage the public to attend. There will be another Town Chat in September.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

Cary Malkus is no longer working for the town as our Code Enforcement Official and Zoning Administrator. Asst. Clerk Melissa Leonard discussed with the Commissioners having Middle Department Inspection Agency act as our code enforcement. A discussion followed. Commissioner Hurley made a motion to approve Middle Department, 2<sup>nd</sup> Commissioner Hurley, unanimous approval.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Debbie Pfeil from AECOM discussed with the Commissioners the recommended strategies regarding the assessment of the existing Town Hall. They project goal will be to determine the needs of the Town Hall and Police Department with 2 options for consideration with the estimated costs: rebuild the existing town hall or new construction. The project tasks will not exceed \$33,000. President Buckle made a motion to approve the 2 feasibility studies, 2<sup>nd</sup> Commissioner Casey, unanimous approval.

Commissioner Casey made a motion to adopt the on-call technical services contract with AECOM, 2<sup>nd</sup> Commissioner Hurley, unanimous approval.

Debbie also discussed the joint partnership grant with a master plan for the Chicken Bridge Road/Daysprings/Martin Sutton Park area. She asked the Commissioners for permission to submit a conceptual master plan to the Chesapeake Bay Trust for the September grant cycle. A letter of support will be

needed. Commissioner Casey made a motion to proceed, 2<sup>nd</sup> Commissioner Hurley, unanimous approval.

The bids for the Smart Energy Grant energy audit were presented to the Commissioners. A discussion followed. Commissioner made a motion to select Remington Vernick & Beach Engineers to perform the energy audit, 2<sup>nd</sup> Commissioner, approved.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Dr. Mitch Arian was shocked about the parking lot that was put in in front of his office. He would have liked to have had advanced notice. He would like to know what the plan is for the trees being replanted. A discussion followed.

Susan Ricker addressed the Commissioners regarding her concern for the drug problem in Ridgely and the Maryland Heroin Awareness Program.

Denzil Cheek talked about a crosswalk on 480.

Linda Jones updated the Commissioners on her civil issue/property line issue with her neighbor.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Stephanie Berkey  
Clerk-Treasurer