

COMMISSIONERS OF RIDGELY
TOWN MEETING
OCTOBER 3, 2011

The October Commissioners Meeting was held in the Ridgely House on the above date at 7:00pm. In attendance were: Commissioner Linda Epperly-Glover, Commissioner Anthony Casey, Town Administrator Diane Wojcik, Chief of Police Gary Foster and Clerk-Treasurer Stephanie Berkey. Also in attendance were: Jerry Sutton, Joanne Shipley, Dan Divilio, Mike Redgraves, Rick & Cathy Schwab, Jonathan Stadnicki-Verhyen and Martin Sokolich.

Commissioner Epperly-Glover opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance followed by a moment of silence in honor of those serving our country and asked everyone to remember President Mumford's son Michael in his time of need. President Mumford was unable to attend the meeting as he was with his son.

CLERK TREASURER'S REPORT: A motion was made by Commissioner Casey to approve the minutes from the September 19, 2011 meeting. 2nd by Commissioner Epperly-Glover, passed.
Commissioner Casey made a motion to pay the bills, 2nd by Commissioner Casey, passed.
Total General Funds: \$120,701.01, Total Sewer Funds: \$194,304.19, Total Water Funds: \$79,221.55

POLICE REPORT: Chief Foster reported that both vehicles have been received and are waiting on equipment for lights and console. Hopefully they will be on the road within 2 weeks.

Pop Warner has 2 more games and the new no parking signs are in place and people have been compliant.

All Police Personnel have recently completed taser training. Firearms training is being scheduled. Chief Foster created a dangerous dog verification compliance registration form. This form is necessary because of an existing Ordinance (No. 234) related to dangerous dogs and requires them to be registered with the town. The ordinance is online.

A meeting was held with Lee Sutton of the Catholic Church regarding their fall bazaar and 5k Run. It will be handled similar to the way it was handled last year. It is a rain or shine event starting at 8am on November 12, 2011.

W/WW & PUBLIC WORKS REPORT: Attached reports were presented for review.

MUNICIPAL ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT: There was a meeting with Alan Gorsuch and the AZTEC Solar Power Company. Plans are being made to construct an array at the Waste Water Plant. There would be no outlay from the town, AZTEC would take complete control of maintenance and insurance, the price would be locked in for 20 years – after we can buy the system or continue with them. Savings are projected at \$11,000 a year. Diane presented an Executive Action regarding the proposal to enter into a contract which has already been competitively bid and processed. This proposal covers 'waiving of bids from others' because this kind of project has limited sources for such service. Diane requested the Commissioners sign on with this project tonight as it will take 4 to 8 months for all the paperwork, permits and further engineering. This will be a tremendous step for Ridgely. We would be the first municipality in the State to have this "green" electric supply. The Commissioners signed the Executive Action.

The Town is getting ready to process payments by credit card. Because we are involved with credit cards, we are required to adopt an Ordinance adopting an Identity Theft Prevention Program. Ordinance No. 346, adopting an identity theft prevention program, was introduced. We must also adopt

an Ordinance to authorize the imposition of a fee for such convenience. Commissioner Casey made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 345 authorizing the acceptance of credit cards in payment of fees and fines payable to the town and further authorizing the imposition of a fee for such convenience. 2nd by Commissioner Epperly-Glover, passed.

Ordinance No. 344 was introduced. This Ordinance is required to correct an omission in Ordinance no. 325-B, regarding section 136-2, Chapter 136, of the International Building Code.

Diane met with John Neyman of Allied Waste to discuss single stream recycling and the possibility of bringing it to Ridgely. It could save in dumping fees and Diane would like this subject to be considered in the future.

Diane hosted a meeting on September 29th for the Sustainable Community Committee. 12 people attended and provided a lot of good input. Cathy Schwab suggested we create a flyer about the Town and distribute it. This could attract businesses and residents. The committee will work on it.

Diane received the descriptions and bid specifications to advertise for bids for the new HVAC systems. It was decided at the last meeting to replace 2 of them. She would like to advertise this week. Also, she requested permission to transact this purchase without using the MD Energy \$400 as has many prerequisites, including lead testing that is costly. The Commissioners agreed.

The insurance company contacted Diane regarding our bond for the Clerk-Treasurer. The coverage we have will cover Stephanie, we do not need a separate one such as we always had with Carol. Years ago, the bond for anyone handling money was separate from the Officers' coverage. The Charter says, "The Clerk of Ridgely, if required to do so by an affirmative vote of a majority of the Commissioners of Ridgely, shall, before entering upon the duties of his office, execute and deliver to the Commissioners of Ridgely a bond, etc." It is at the Commissioners discretion whether we should pay for another one. It would save us about \$600. The current Public Officials Liability coverage has limits of \$1,000,000 and costs \$1,352. After a brief discussion the Commissioners agreed not to purchase the separate bond for the Clerk-Treasurer.

HISTORIC COMMISSION: Cathy Schwab reported that they are beginning to clean out the caboose and thanked MES for providing the dumpster as a donation. She has also learned more about the sandblasting to be done to the caboose and it will be completely encapsulated and safe for the environment. The Historic Society is working hard on the Ridgely Phone Books and preparing for the upcoming Fall Festival on October 30th at the Railroad Park. They are still looking for kids that would like to earn Service Learning Hours to help at the event. Commissioner Casey said that Public Works will be working on getting the park cleaned up during the month of October, in preparation for the event. He noted that the paving of Central Avenue is going to continue this month and we are going to try to have work completed on Bell Street as well.

TREE COMMISSION: Joanne Shipley reported that they will be planting 10 trees on October 8th and could use some more help. They will be meeting at 8:30am on the corner of Maple and 5th.

OLD BUSINESS

Commissioner Casey discussed the meeting with the County Commissioners regarding the Tech Park. Things are getting better and the County is planning to hire someone to market the park and they are considering changing the designation as "Tech" to "Business". Ken Decker has been very helpful so far.

NEW BUSINESS

Jonathan Stadnicki-Verhyen presented a letter of intent to become a member of the Planning Commission. Commissioner Epperly-Glover made a motion to appoint Jonathan to the Planning Commission, 2nd Commissioner Casey, passed.

Skate park: Tristan Price has volunteered his help to clean up the skate park.

Floating Zone/Easement: Commissioner Epperly-Glover made a motion to approve the float zone/easement. Commissioner Casey, 2nd. Ordinance No. 347 and 348 were passed.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Cathy Schwab asked if the Town could check into how the mosquito spraying is to be conducted. It seems that they go very fast through the town when they spray. We will have David look into this.

Jerry Sutton said the Lions will be having their annual Halloween party on the 31st at 7:00pm. Trick or treating is from 6-8pm.

Commissioner Epperly-Glover said that the fire department is starting up the monthly spaghetti dinner on the first Thursday of the month.

Tonight was Dan Devilio's last meeting reporting on the Town of Ridgely. Congratulations to Dan on his promotion.

Commissioner Casey made a motion to adjourn the meeting, 2nd by Commissioner Epperly-Glover. The meeting was adjourned at 7:40pm. The next meeting will be October 17, 2011 at 7:00pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Stephanie Berkey
Clerk-Treasurer