

**COMMISSIONERS OF RIDGELY  
TOWN MEETING  
JULY 2, 2012**

The July 2012 meeting of the Commissioners of Ridgely was held on the above date in the Ridgely House at 7:00pm. The following were in attendance: President Linda Epperly-Glover, Commissioner Anthony Casey, Commissioner John Hurley, Town Administrator Diane Wojcik, Chief of Police Gary Manos, Clerk-Treasurer Stephanie Berkey, Tree Commission Joanne Shipley, Historical Society Rick & Cathy Schwab, Financial Assistant Jerry Sutton, Laura Burch, Maryanne and Purnell Shortall.

President Epperly-Glover called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence honor of those that serve our country.

Commissioner Casey made a motion to approve the minutes from the June 4, 2012 Commissioners meeting, 2<sup>nd</sup> Commissioner Hurley, approved.

Commissioner Casey made a motion to approve the minutes from the June 12, 2012 Special Budget meeting, 2<sup>nd</sup> Commissioner Hurley, approved.

**CLERK-TREASURER**

Commissioner Casey made a motion to approve paying the bills, 2<sup>nd</sup> Commissioner Hurley, approved.  
Total General Funds (reconciled) - \$296,486.92 Total Sewer Funds (reconciled) - \$203,812.97  
Total Water Funds (reconciled) - \$118,702.75

**PUBLIC WORKS**

Director of Public Works, David Crist was absent from the meeting, but the attached report was submitted. President Epperly-Glover asked if there were any questions regarding the report – there were none.

**POLICE**

Chief of Police Gary Manos submitted the attached report. There will be another saturation patrol later this month. There was a discussion about the vacant officer position. Interviews are ongoing.

**TOWN ADMINISTRATOR**

Town Administrator Diane Wojcik submitted the attached report. The Commissioner signed the PPA license agreement and addendum that has been reviewed by attorneys Jack Hall and Michael Viera. Diane spoke with DPW David Crist regarding the needs of Martin Sutton Park which included repairs to the walking trail, lights, a fence and repairs to the basketball courts. In order to pursue funding estimates are needed and the application is due August 20, 2012. The Commissioners agreed to proceed with the estimates.

Ordinance No. 2012-352 was submitted to the Commissioners. President Epperly-Glover introduced Ordinance No. 2012-352 AN ORDINANCE OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF RIDGELY LIMITING THE CIRCUMSTANCES UNDER WHICH THE TOWN WILL REPAIR AND REPLACE GRINDER PUMPS and read the ordinance out loud.

104/106 Maryland Avenue is once again overgrown. The estimate to clean it up again is \$1,200. The house was placed on the tax sale, but was not purchased. It was discussed that the County is considering having a second tax sale this year due to all of the houses that went unsold. The Commissioners discussed the possibility of purchasing the property if there is to be another tax sale. It was decided to table the decision regarding cutting the property until the next meeting to see if the County is proceeding with a second sale.

## Commissioners Meeting 7/2/12

Lance Corporal Johnny Buckle of the U.S. Marine Corps is coming home from Afghanistan. Barbara Bacon requested that the town do some kind of sign to acknowledge his return. President Epperly-Glover made a motion to make a welcome sign to put on the town signs on 480, 2<sup>nd</sup> Commissioner Casey approved.

### NEW BUSINESS

Purnell and Maryann Shortall wanted to discuss the high water bills at 14 W Railroad. There was a discussion about the rate increases that have occurred over the past 3 years.

### OLD BUSINESS

Commissioner Casey made a motion to purchase the 61 E/One Grinder Pumps from Freemire and Associates and to go with the warranty, 2<sup>nd</sup> Commissioner Hurley, all in favor – approved. These are to replace the Vortex pumps in Lister Estates.

### TREE COMMISSION

Joanne Shipley reported that they are removing 4 dead trees in town and trimming a dangerous tree at the end of August. They are trying to get a grant to plant more trees in the fall.

### HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Cathy Schwab thanked the Commissioners for getting the roof project started on the Railroad Station. The caboose has been sandblasted and is ready for body filler. It will be painted in the fall with the original colors of a brown roof and red train and yellow handles. They are hoping to move it closer to the train station. They have been working on a grant to get more benches, trash cans, bike rack and 2 interpretive signs for \$10,800 and are hopeful that it will be approved. There is no town contribution and they hope to hear something by September. The fall event is scheduled for September 16, 2012 in the Railroad Park.

### PUBLIC COMMENT

Jerry Sutton spoke about the 3 main organizations that contribute to the town – The Fire Company, The Ridgely Lions Club and The Historical Society. The Lions club partnered with Medifast & MES to give out scholarships at the annual awards banquet. He also talked about how much detail goes into planning the budget for the town. Three years ago the town had a deficit of \$280,000 in the general fund and the state made us work hard to reduce it. In two years we have cut it down to \$90,000. Every line item in the budget has been looked at closely. He stressed that we need to start looking 5-10 years down the road at capital funding.

Laura Burck at 205 Caroline Avenue had a water leak and requested an abatement of some of the sewer charges. Commissioner Hurley made a motion to abate 71,000 gallons off of the sewer charges, 2<sup>nd</sup> Commissioner Casey, all in favor, approved. Mrs. Burck also expressed concerns about the pavilion at the park and the bad elements there. Chief Manos indicated that the task force is aware of the problem. We are also looking at putting up more cameras out there.

Commissioner Casey made a motion to adjourn, 2<sup>nd</sup> Commissioner Hurley, the meeting was adjourned at 8:15pm. The next meeting will be August 6, 2012.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Stephanie Berkey, Clerk-Treasurer