

**COMMISSIONERS OF RIDGELY  
COMMISSIONERS MEETING  
OCTOBER 1, 2012**

The Commissioners of Ridgely met on the above date at 7:00 pm in the Ridgely House. The following were in attendance: President Linda Epperly-Glover, Commissioner Anthony Casey, Commissioner John Hurley, Director of Public Works David Crist, Clerk-Treasurer Stephanie Berkey, Chief of Police Gary Manos, Financial Assistant Gerald Sutton, Archie Carroll and Denzel Cheek.

President Epperly-Glover opened the meeting with the pledge of allegiance and a moment of silence in honor of those serving our country.

Commissioner Casey made a motion to approve the minutes of the September 17, 2012 Commissioners Meeting, 2<sup>nd</sup> Commissioner Hurley, approved.

**STAFF REPORTS**

**CLERK/TREASURER**

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

Total General Funds Reconciled:	\$245,555
Total Sewer Funds Reconciled:	\$234,490
Total Water Funds Reconciled:	\$141,875

An estimate of \$1,610 for the General Code update was presented. Commissioner Casey made a motion to proceed with the General Code update, 2<sup>nd</sup> Commissioner Hurley, all in favor, approved.

**DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS**

DPW David Crist presented his report to the Commissioners. The Lister Estates grinder pump upgrade is nearing completion. There are 10 left to be finished and we are going to use Underground Construction for the trenching.

There was a surprise OSHA inspection and we received several citations and are working to correct them.

There was a discussion to increase the gallons per day per EDU from 250 to 300. Increasing the gallons per day would give us a buffer. Commissioner Casey made a motion to increase the gallons per day to 300 per EDU, 2<sup>nd</sup> Commissioner Hurley, all in favor, approved.

There was a discussion about upgrading the water meters in the town. New meters have the ability to be read by a radio and would cut down the time considerably for reading meters by the staff. They also have the ability to detect leaks and to notify the staff so that the resident could be notified if there was a leak that they otherwise might not know about. These meters can track water usage by the hour. David is going to get a price from Neptune.

There was a discussion about the problems that we have had with renting the pavilion in the Martin Sutton Park and increasing the fees for renting the park. The Commissioners agreed that pavilion would only be rented May 1<sup>st</sup> through October 1<sup>st</sup>, otherwise it will be on a first come, first serve basis. The park will only be rented for either Saturday or Sunday – not both. Commissioner Hurley made a motion to increase the deposit to \$100 and the rental fee to \$50, 2<sup>nd</sup> Commissioner Casey, all in favor, approved. The Commissioners would like to look into getting hurricane enclosures for the pavilion to keep people out of the pavilion at night.

The ground breaking for the solar panel project will be October 3, 2012 at 5:30pm.

10/1/12 cont.

### **CHIEF OF POLICE**

Chief Manos presented his report to the Commissioners. Chief Manos proposed a change to Chapter 83-4 of the Ridgely Code regarding unlawful disruptive conduct. There was a discussion about changing the amount of people that constitutes a gathering from 5 to 2. Commissioner Hurley made a motion to proceed with an Ordinance that would make this change. 2<sup>nd</sup> Commissioner Casey, all in favor.

Our new police officer is excited to start and will graduate from the academy on 11/30/12 and will be sworn in on 12/3/12.

There was discussion about making a donation to the Humane Society from the town. Commissioner Casey made a motion to make a \$300 donation to the Caroline County Humane Society, 2<sup>nd</sup> Commissioner Hurley, all in favor – approved.

### **FINANCIAL ASSISTANT**

Jerry Sutton informed the Commissioners that the audit has gone very well – much better than in past years. The auditors are asking the Commissioners to make a decision regarding the EDC loan to Subrena Mason that was made in 2008 and has been defaulted on. There is a balance of \$11,250 on the loan. Commissioner Casey made a motion to write off the loan, 2<sup>nd</sup> Commissioner Hurley, all in favor – approved.

Jerry met with Mary Lasher at the train station regarding the grant. He is hoping that the new roof will be finished this week. The Commissioners agreed to have Cary Malkus inspect the job when the work is complete before paying the final bill. There is still \$52,000 in grant funding to use on the building.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

Commissioner Casey made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 2012-354 eliminating the position of Town Manager. 2<sup>nd</sup> Commissioner Hurley, unanimous approval, passed.

Commissioner Casey made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 2012-355 imposing a fee for marking and remarking of the location of the town's underground utility lines. 2<sup>nd</sup> Commissioner Hurley, unanimous approval, passed.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

The County is having a 2<sup>nd</sup> tax sale of the properties that did not sell in the original tax sale. There was a discussion about possibly purchasing the Hopkins property, but the Commissioners agreed not to proceed at this time, but did agree to continue to cut the bamboo at the property.

### **HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

Jerry thanked the Public Works Department for how nice the parks looked for the fall festival and for the jousting tournament.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Archie Carroll inquired about what the train station building is going to be used for. The Commissioners said that the plan is to have it be a public meeting room and bathroom, as the grant requires.

Commissioner Casey made a motion to adjourn the meeting, 2<sup>nd</sup> Commissioner Hurley, the meeting was adjourned at 7:50pm. The next meeting will be November 5, 2012.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Stephanie Berkey, Clerk-Treasurer