

**COMMISSIONERS OF RIDGELY
TOWN MEETING
NOVEMBER 5, 2012**

The November 2012 meeting of the Commissioners of Ridgely was held on the above date in the Ridgely House. The following were in attendance: President Linda Jo Epperly-Glover, Commissioner Anthony Casey, Commissioner John Hurley, Clerk-Treasurer Stephanie Berkey, Director of Public Works David Crist, Chief of Police Gary Manos, Financial Assistant Gerald Sutton, Tree Commission Joanne Shipley, Times Record Dustin Holt, John Buckle and Mary Clark.

President Epperly-Glover opened the meeting with the pledge of allegiance and a moment of silence for the victims of Hurricane Sandy.

Commissioner Casey made a motion to approve the minutes of the October 1, 2012 Commissioners Meeting, 2nd Commissioner Hurley, approved.

STAFF REPORTS

CLERK-TREASURER

Commissioner Casey made a motion to pay the bills, 2nd Commissioner Hurley approved. Reconciled balances of General Funds \$166,517.26, Sewer Funds \$234,514.70, Water Funds \$141,890.74.

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS

DPW David Crist presented his report to the Commissioners. President Epperly-Glover thanked Public Works for scraping the leaves off of the streets. She has received many positive compliments from residents.

There were no big issues as a result of Hurricane Sandy. We had 10.2” of rain and we lost 43 days holding capacity in the lagoons as a result.

The new leaf vac is scheduled to arrive by November 14, 2012.

David is trying to schedule a meeting with HD Supply regarding new water meters. A new radio read system could save the town over a weeks’ worth of work for the town.

There was a discussion regarding big events that are held in town. We need to work on establishing better communication and policies and an application process. The Commissioners agreed that an application needs to be made with date deadlines.

The ribbon cutting ceremony for the solar panels at the WWTP will be November 9, 2012 at 10:00am.

CHIEF OF POLICE

Chief Gary Manos presented his report to the Commissioners. All officers are up-to-date on training. There were no big problems with the car show. Chief Manos agrees that there needs to be an application process for the large events in town and that for future events where alcohol is allowed, it should be confined to one area.

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There were no issues during Hurricane Sandy, but we would like to purchase some cots for the essential employees (Police & Public Works) that are required to be on duty during emergencies. Commissioner Hurley indicated that Emergency Services may have a grant for that.

Philip Trinks is graduating from the Police Academy at the end of the month. He will be sworn in on December 3rd and will be training with Sgt. Creason.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANT

Jerry Sutton said that the auditors were pleased with our progress of segregation of duties and checks and balances. We continue to learn a lot from the audit process. The deficit was cut 34% from \$94,754 to \$62,610. Now that the audit is complete we are going to start work on a budget revision. The Commissioners thanked Jerry for his help and were pleased with the deficit.

HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Jerry Sutton reported that the new Christmas ornament is available and has the Methodist Church on it this year. They are available at the town hall or the pharmacy.

The blue spruce was planted near the town clock in memory of Nancy Gearhart.

TREE COMMISSION

Joanne Shipley reported that the commission planted 7 trees with the grant money from DNR. They cut down the dead tree at 210 First Street. The arborist inspected the tree at 5th and Central and it is buckling the town sidewalk. It is up to State Highway to replace the sidewalks.

OLD BUSINESS

President Epperly-Glover introduced Ordinance No. 2012-356 amending chapter 83-4, unlawful disruptive conduct, of the Ridgely Code.

NEW BUSINESS

We have received 3 bids for upgrading the old phone system. Commissioner Hurley made a motion to accept the bid from Country Telephone & Communication, 2nd Commissioner Casey, all in favor, approved.

There was a discussion about changing the website to a site that is able to be maintained on site instead of off-premises. We received a proposal from Amber Spense of esuredesign.com.

Commissioner Casey made a motion to accept the bid, 2nd Commissioner Hurley, approved.

Mr. Rampmeyer has completed book 12 of the Ridgely History Books. Medifast is no longer interested in printing the books for him. He received several prices from other printers. Staples was the least expensive at \$10.60 a book. The Commissioners agreed to go with Staples and to charge \$12.00 for the books.

The Commissioners agreed to donate \$100 to Marty Gangemi's Fund in his memory.

The tent sign that was for out in front of the town hall was destroyed in a storm. The Commissioners agreed to purchase another sign for the town hall.

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PUBLIC COMMENT

Jerry Sutton showed us the new Ridgley Christmas Ornament.

John Buckle thanked the town, fire department, Medifast and Dave's Place for the welcome home for his son from Afghanistan. He also was asked if Dollar General were to come into town, would they be required to put up a privacy fence/buffer. The Commissioners believed that would be the case, but it would be a question for planning and zoning.

Commissioner Casey made a motion to adjourn, 2nd Commissioner Hurley, the meeting was adjourned at 7:45pm. The next meeting will be December 3, 2012.

Respectfully Submitted,
Stephanie Berkey
Clerk-Treasurer