

**COMMISSIONERS OF RIDGELY**  
**AUGUST 4, 2014**  
**TOWN MEETING**

The Commissioners of Ridgely met on the above date at 7:00pm in the Ridgely House for the August 2014 Town Meeting. The following were in attendance: President John Hurley, Commissioner L. John Buckle, Commissioner Anthony Casey, Clerk-Treasurer Stephanie Berkey, Director of Public Works David Crist, Chief of Police Gary Manos, Financial Assistant Gerald Sutton, Dustin Holt, Jason Harvey, Denzil Cheek, Archie Carroll, Joe Anderson, Patricia Puckett, Norris Embert SHA and Roger Harvey.

President Hurley opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioner Buckle made a motion to approve the minutes of the July 7, 2014 meeting, 2<sup>nd</sup> Commissioner Casey, approved.

**STAFF REPORTS**

**CLERK-TREASURER**

Commissioner Buckle made a motion to approve paying the bills, 2<sup>nd</sup> Commissioner Casey, approved. Clerk-Treasurer Stephanie Berkey presented her report to the Commissioners.

Total General Funds Reconciled	\$462,999.71
Total Sewer Funds Reconciled	\$207,910.48
Total Water Funds Reconciled	\$ 90,799.81

**DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS**

Director of Public Works David Crist presented his report to the Commissioners. Public Works is trying to get caught up. The new tractor can cut the grass in the park in 2 hours and is working well. Commissioner Casey asked if the grass at Martin Sutton Park can be mowed later in the week with the start of soccer season.

**CHIEF OF POLICE**

Chief Gary Manos presented his report to the Commissioners. Calls for service gave the police a busy month. There is an alert for counterfeit one hundred dollar bills in the area.

**RVFD**

Chief Utz was out of town. President Hurley indicated that they will be upgrading the pad in front of the fire department.

**FINANCIAL ASSISTANT**

Gerald Sutton gave his report to the Commissioners and an update on the end of the fiscal year. The preliminary audit went well and there will be a 60 day look back period for July and August, but things are looking very good. There was an update on our status as a “sustainable community” and the potential funding avenues we are going to look into.

**HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

Cathy and Rick Schwab were unable to attend the meeting but asked that we announce that there will be a meeting that is open to the public concerning the restoration of the Ridgely Train Station, the status of the grants, the latest design, etc. on August 27, 2014 at 6:00pm in the Town Hall.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

There was a meeting of the Parks Committee. Little League has agreed to turn over use of the field at Martin Sutton Park for soccer and lacrosse. There will need to be an agreement between the town and the organizations regarding the use and terms. There was talk as to what to do with the current buildings that are at the site and potentially tearing them down. Little League would like to have a light at the senior league field, which is part of the master plan of the Cowbarn Park. Commissioner Casey made a motion to turn the fields over to the soccer and lacrosse teams, 2<sup>nd</sup> Commissioner Buckle, approved.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Henry Property at 12124 Park Avenue Extended re: water bill. Nobody was present to discuss.

District Engineer Norris Embert with State Highway spoke re: Sidewalk Retrofit on Central Avenue. They have not showed up yet in our town and are still in Chesapeake City. They hope to be here in about 3 weeks and the project is expected to take about 3 months. They will send flyers to the residents again as they get closer to starting the project. This project will make the sidewalks ADA compliant.

Jason Harvey of 12 W 1<sup>st</sup> Street requested that the town remove a town tree on his property because of the hazards that it presents to his home. The roots are growing into his foundation. Mr. Harvey also made a complaint about Mr. Hopkins' property and the growth that is coming into his lawn. Commissioner Casey made a motion to remove the tree, 2<sup>nd</sup> Commissioner Buckle, approved.

Archie Carroll spoke re: Cowbarn. There was a developer that was interested but the deal has fallen through because of the impact fees. He is going to list the property so that it can be split up and sold. He believes it would benefit the town to purchase the barn and the 1.8 acres. The property line would not interfere with the sewer reserve area. It could be the last chance for the town to preserve the barn. He believes the barn would make an excellent community center. He would be willing to take a mortgage for the greatest part of the purchase. Please consider this and let him know. He also wanted to discuss the impact fees. He believes the fees are too high.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Patricia Puckett requested that someone look at the area in front of the barbershop on Central Avenue. There are holes and she would like them fixed. A discussion followed and State Highway would need to be consulted.

Denzil Cheek said that the Martin Sutton Park flag needs to have the light fixed.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:47pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Stephanie Berkey, Clerk-Treasurer