

**COMMISSIONERS OF RIDGELY
JANUARY 5, 2015
TOWN MEETING**

The Commissioners of Ridgely met on the above date in the Ridgely House at 7:00 pm for the January town meeting. The following were in attendance: President John Hurley, Commissioner John Buckle, Commissioner Anthony Casey, Clerk-Treasurer Stephanie Berkey, Director of Public Works David Crist, Chief of Police Gary Manos, Assistant Clerk-Treasurer Melissa Leonard, Financial Assistant Gerald Sutton, Officer Keith Collison, Cathy & Rick Schwab, Jim Williams & Kenny Kinsell of Freemire & Associates, Dustin Holt, Mark Kottwitz, Charles Dean, Robert Martin, Daniel Lockhart, Ginger Lockhart, Kathleen Mann Lilian and Steve Lone, and Christine Eckrich.

President Hurley called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioner Buckle made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 1, 2014 town meeting, 2nd Commissioner Casey, approved.

STAFF REPORTS

CLERK-TREASURER

Commissioner Buckle made a motion to approve paying the bills, 2nd Commissioner Casey, approved.

Total General Funds Reconciled	\$610,923.49
Total Sewer Funds Reconciled	\$266,657.04
Total Water Funds Reconciled	\$130,063.24

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS

Director of Public Works David Crist presented his report to the Commissioners. Leaf pick up is done. This winter they will be taking down the buildings at Martin Sutton Park. They will get with the Lions Club about that. There was a discussion about the area in front of All About Hair and how to make it better. They discussed possibly removing the trees and putting millings in the area. Commissioner Casey proposed making it an actual parking lot after removing the trees with the millings or stones. David will check with State Highway before proceeding.

CHIEF OF POLICE

Chief Manos presented his report to the Commissioners. There was a robbery in December at Connolly's Market. Year-end numbers show that crime in Ridgely is down by 25%.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANT

Gerald Sutton spoke to the Commissioners about the budget revisions and the numbers for December. We are on target with the budget.

RVFD

Not present

HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Cathy Schwab discussed the winners of the Christmas decorating contest. Many local businesses and organizations have contributed to the prizes. Cathy thanked the town hall for putting the Ridgely Chat on the water bill. Ridgely Chat is where long-time residents come to discuss what Ridgely was like in years past. Old Time Ridgely Days will be Saturday May 2, 2015. This will be the 8th year for the event.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business

NEW BUSINESS

President Hurley introduced Ordinance No. 2015-365, “an ordinance to re-appropriate funds and adjust revenue estimates in accordance with events that necessitate changes in the budget adopted for fiscal year beginning July 1, 2014 and ending June 30, 2015.”

The results of the MEA Energy Audit of the Town Hall were presented to the Commissioners. The smart energy grant the town received will be used to help make some of the suggested improvements on the town hall. There was a discussion about where to start in the improvements. The Commissioners agreed that we will begin with the insulation recommendations and begin getting quotes.

Robin and Robert Martin of 137 Walnut were present to dispute their invoice for the grinder pump repairs at their residence. Mr. Martin addressed the Commissioners his concerns. A discussion followed. Asst. Clerk-Treasurer Melissa Leonard explained the billing and warranty process. Freemire and Associates addressed the Commission. They explained the process of how they handle calls on the grinder pumps and exactly how the pumps work. Moving forward the bill will come directly from Freemire & Associates to the resident, instead of going through the town. It was decided that when a service call is required Freemire will contact public works to be present to verify if there is neglect.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Daniel Lockhart updated the Commissioners on his charity walk “Danny’s Walk for Wishes” to be held on April 18, 2015 at Martin Sutton Park at 10 am. It will benefit the Make a Wish Foundation. He has asked the Lions Club to participate, the Knights of Columbus will be making funnel cake. “The Cheaters” will be playing at the event.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Stephanie Berkey
Clerk-Treasurer