

**JANUARY 9, 2023
TOWN MEETING**



The Commissioners of Ridgely met on the above date at 6:00 pm at the town hall for the January 2023 town meeting. The following were in attendance: President Anthony Casey, Commissioner John Hurley, Commissioner John Buckle, Clerk-Treasurer Stephanie Berkey, Director of Public Works David Crist, Chief Jeff Eckrich, Zoning Administrator Melissa Leonard, Financial Assistant Gerald Sutton, Christine Eckrich and Andy Hrobar.

Commissioner Hurley made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 5, 2022 town meeting, seconded by Commissioner Buckle, all in favor, approved.

STAFF REPORTS

CLERK-TREASURER

Commissioner Hurley made a motion to approve paying the bills, seconded by Commissioner Buckle, all in favor, approved.

Total general funds reconciled \$529,021.62, total sewer funds reconciled \$46,295.53, total water funds reconciled \$37,915.69, total ARPA funds reconciled \$1,239,876.88.

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS

Dave Crist discussed the Winter Festival. It went well and we learned a lot for our first year. We are planning to do the festival again on December 9, 2023 with the rain date the following Saturday. Public Works will be taking down Christmas decorations during the month of January.

CHIEF OF POLICE

Chief Eckrich gave his end of the year report (attached). He discussed the recent reform laws and said that Ridgely is in compliance with all of the reform laws.

ZONING ADMINISTRATOR

Melissa Leonard said that rental inspection letters are being mailed out. Commissioner Hurley asked about changing the town code to include homes undergoing a renovation to be included in the sprinkler mandates. Melissa will bring this to planning and zoning to see about updating the codes.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANT

Gerald Sutton discussed the preliminary financial report from the auditors. FY22 went well and there was an increase to the positive fund balance. Water and Sewer funds regressed some. We need to see if the tech park fees for the new projects will help. We will be working on the FY23 budget revision in January.

HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Gerald Sutton said that the historical society had a booth at the Winter Festival and they did very well.

PUBLIC COMMENT

David Crist said that we have been working with Rauch Engineering for the state MDE application for sewer lines and a water tower.

President Casey said that he went to MACO last week and will be attending the MML legislative reception later this week and hopes to talk to the new administration. He also thanked the staff for all of their hard work for the Winter Festival.

William Zaruba said that he and his wife loved the Winter Festival and the Christmas light display. He would love to see an archway at the Cowbarn end of the park.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:20 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Stephanie L. Berkey, CMC
Clerk-Treasurer