

**COMMISSIONERS OF RIDGELY
NOVEMBER 5, 2018
TOWN MEETING MINUTES**



The Commissioners of Ridgely met on the above date at 7:00 pm in the Town Hall for the November 2018 Town Meeting. The following were in attendance: President Leonard John Buckle, Commissioner Anthony Casey, Commissioner John Hurley, Clerk-Treasurer Stephanie Berkey, Director of Public Works David Crist, Chief of Police Gary Manos, Assistant Clerk-Treasurer Melissa Leonard, Financial Assistant Gerald Sutton, Herb Geary TGM Group, LLC., Bill Taylor, Hal Davis MDIA, Carolyn and Jeff Garrett, Joe Anderson, Lucille Ball, Bill & Connie Zaruba, Zellie and Martin Collison, Officer Ross Harper, Mike Lesniowski & John Gooden.

President Buckle opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

President Buckle asked to change the order of the agenda to allow for Herb Geary of TGM Group, LLC to speak first. Herb addressed the Commissioners and town as to the financial audit of FY18. The financial statement for FY18 is an unmodified opinion which is the best that a municipality can receive. There was an increase to the positive fund balance. The town did a great job on the budgeting. He congratulated the town on another great year.

Commissioner Hurley made a motion to approve the minutes of the October 1, 2018 Town Meeting, 2nd Commissioner Casey, approved.

STAFF REPORTS

CLERK-TREASURER

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

Total General Funds Reconciled \$265,527.43

Total Sewer Funds Reconciled \$320,984.51

Total Water Funds Reconciled \$181,137.75

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS

DPW David Crist submitted his report to the Commissioners (attached). North Park Avenue is going to be paved soon. The weather has created delays in the paving. The street sweeper should be delivered soon. We are waiting for Delmarva Power to mark the power lines in Lister Estates. They are holding up the tree planting. As soon as they do the marking, the trees are ready to be dug up. They have not returned phone calls. The flag pole crank at Martin Sutton Park will be repaired later this week.

CHIEF OF POLICE

Chief Manos submitted his report to the Commissioners (attached). The body cameras are in and we are in the process of creating the policy for the cameras (that must conform to the state) and BDK is assisting in the technical set up.

RVFD

Not Present

HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Jerry Sutton reported that the Train Station was used as a hospitality center for the car show. Mr. Petty even signed autographs in the building.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

NEW BUSINESS

Zellie and Martin Collison spoke to the Commissioners about their plans to purchase the Cowbarn property and to make it into an event venue. The Commissioners welcomed them to Ridgely.

Caroline North Little League was represented by Bill Taylor. There was a discussion about the lease agreement that is up for renewal. They discussed the article in the lease regarding if they are to sublease the property. A discussion followed regarding if people are being allowed to use the fields and if they have been turned away. They discussed article 12 regarding subletting and travel ball teams using the field. They discussed the need for the park to be locked when not in use and the problems with having it unlocked with access to the Wastewater Treatment Plant. It was also discussed to have the town take over the maintenance of the park. They discussed future plans to expand the fields. The Commissioners asked to have a special meeting with the league and the parks board to further discuss the issue and lease.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mike Liznowski, the owner of the Ridgely Airpark, introduced himself. He spoke of his future plans to develop the property into a true airpark. He would like to put 20 "Hanger Homes" on the residential parcel. These houses would be in the low \$400,000 range. David Crist indicated that the pump station would have to be upgraded, which would be very expensive. A discussion followed. He requested a consideration for a tax credit for the properties. The Commissioners indicated he should request to be put on the December agenda, so that we can do research and consult with the town attorney, who helped with this issue in the past.

Joe Anderson discussed the tour of the shore and the Ridgely Car show. Everything went well. There will be a meeting soon to go over the final numbers. Wednesdays and Sundays there is a group of people gathering to play tennis at Martin Sutton Park. He encouraged people to come join.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:49

Respectfully Submitted,
Stephanie Berkey, CMC
Clerk-Treasurer