

COMMISSIONERS OF RIDGELY
DECEMBER 2, 2019
TOWN MEETING



Summary of the December 2, 2019 closed session:

DATE: December 2, 2019

TIME: 6:34 pm

PLACE: Town Hall

PURPOSE: To discuss a personnel matter involving a specific individual over whom the Commissioners have jurisdiction and to consult with staff, consultants, or other individuals about pending or potential litigation.

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: Md. Code Ann., General Provision Article §3-305(b): (1) "To discuss a personnel matter involving a specific individual over whom the Commissioners have jurisdiction; (8) "To consult with staff, consultants, or other individuals about pending or potential litigation."

VOTE TO MEET IN CLOSED SESSION: In favor: President Casey, Commissioner Hurley, Commissioner Buckle; Opposed: none.

TOPICS DISCUSSED:

- A personnel matter involving specific individuals over whom the Commissioners have jurisdiction
- Discussion of current litigation involving the town.

ATTENDING: President Anthony Casey, Commissioner John Hurley, Commissioner Leonard John Buckle, Clerk-Treasurer Stephanie Berkey, Director of Public Works David Crist, Assistant Clerk-Treasurer Melissa Leonard.

ACTION TAKEN:

- The Commissioners agreed to close the town hall on December 4, 2019 so that staff could attend court for the pending litigation.

The Commissioners of Ridgely met on the above date at 7:00 pm in the Town Hall for the December 2019 Town Meeting. The following were in attendance: President Anthony Casey, Commissioner John Hurley, Commissioner Leonard John Buckle, Clerk-Treasurer Stephanie Berkey, Director of Public Works David Crist, Chief of Police Gary Manos, Assistant Clerk-Treasurer Melissa Leonard, Financial Assistant Gerald Sutton, Cathy Schwab, Rick Schwab, Joe Anderson, John Gooden, Rob Crimmins, Judi Crimmins, Benjamin J. Wong, Scott Gillis, Mike Schultz, Chad Dean,

Debbie Bowden, Bruce Pelly, Lucy Ball, Debbie Bowden, Sgt. Gordon Geesey and Officer Ross Harper.

President Casey opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioner Hurley made a motion to approve the minutes of the November 4, 2019 meeting, 2nd Commissioner Buckle, approved.

STAFF REPORTS

CLERK-TREASURER

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

Total General Funds Reconciled \$236,071.56

Total Sewer Funds Reconciled \$140,837.81

Total Water Funds Reconciled \$43,643.58

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS

David Crist presented his report to the Commissioners. President Casey asked about enforcing no parking in front of the train station. Chief Manos and Sgt. Geesey informed him that in order to legally enforce the no parking, signs must be installed. David Crist indicated that State Highway would have to install the signs, not the town.

CHIEF OF POLICE

Chief Gary Manos presented his report to the Commissioners.

ZONING ADMINISTRATOR

Melissa Leonard invited the Commissioners to attend the December 18th planning and zoning meeting where they will be discussing the zoning ordinance.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANT

Gerald Sutton told the Commissioners that the audit is in the final stages and we hope that TGM Group will be here in January to present the report. He discussed the local income tax and piggy back taxes and why we receive the larger payments at the end of the fiscal year.

STATE'S ATTORNEY

Chief Manos received an email message from State's Attorney Joe Riley indicating that he would not be at the meeting tonight.

HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Cathy Schwab commented how beautiful the town looks. Created in Caroline was held at the train station and went well. RHS will continue with the 9th year of the Christmas Home and Business Decorating Contest. December 18th will be the day they pick the winners. There will be a free raffle for 2 bikes after the Christmas parade on December 7th. It will be at the train station before and after the parade.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

NEW BUSINESS

Rob Crimmins of the United States Parachute Association talked to the Commissioners about a drop zone at the Ridgely Airpark. He presented a packet of benefits to the town for the Commissioners to consider.

John Gooden from the Ridgely Airpark introduced himself and discussed his plans for the airport. Chief Manos asked if there would be camping and partying at the airport the evening before a jump. A discussion followed. He also discussed his desire to try to get his taxes lowered and to be able to have town water and sewer at the airpark. A discussion followed. Debbie Bowden from Caroline County Economic Development discussed that perhaps there is a way for economic development can help and explore the options that he would have.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Joe Anderson reported on the Ridgely Car Show Foundation that they gave \$76,000 to 13 charities.

Gerald Sutton told everyone that the Ridgely Lions hung the lights across the streets.

Melissa Leonard spoke on behalf of the Caroline Cougars Cheer requesting a donation. President Casey made a motion to give \$500, 2nd Commissioner Hurley, approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:42 pm.

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