

COMMISSIONERS OF RIDGELY
MARCH 2, 2020
TOWN MEETING



The Commissioners of Ridgely met on the above date at 7:00 pm in the town hall for the March 2020 town meeting. The following were in attendance: President Anthony Casey, Commissioner John Hurley, Commissioner Leonard Buckle, Clerk-Treasurer Stephanie Berkey, Director of Public Works David Crist, Chief of Police Gary Manos, Zoning Administrator Melissa Leonard, Financial Assistant Gerald Sutton, Cathy & Rick Schwab, Joe Anderson, Lucy Ball, Joe Riley, Berl Lovelace, Darlene Lovelace, Loretta Daniels, Eastern Shore Divaz, John Smith & Shelley Smith.

President Casey opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioner Hurley made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 3, 2020 town 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 \$434,016.44

Total Sewer Funds Reconciled \$136,763.33

Total Water Funds Reconciled \$28,797.56

The State of Maryland Department of Assessments and Taxation has issued the 2020 Constant Yield Tax Rate Certification for Ridgely at .5495. Commissioner Hurley made a motion to set the tax rate for FY21 at the Constant Yield, 2nd Commissioner Buckle all in favor. Commissioner Hurley made a motion to set the Personal Property Tax Rate at 1.275, 2nd Commissioner Buckle all in favor.

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS

David Crist presented his report to the Commissioners. He discussed the ongoing Hanover Foods Tax Court Case. They are filing an appeal of the court's ruling. Our town attorney has prepared a letter to send to the Klamon property at 203 Sunset Boulevard regarding the Consent Order for the code violations at the property. The letter indicates the intent to proceed with demolishing the building on the premises as authorized by the Consent Order. Commissioner Hurley made a motion to send the letter, 2nd Commissioner Buckle, all in favor.

ZONING ADMINISTRATOR

Planning and Zoning is still working on the changes to the Zoning Ordinance including the code for commercial vehicles in town.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANT

Gerald Sutton talked about the Constant Yield Tax Rate and how Ridgely presently has the best tax rate in Caroline County for a town that has a police department.

STATE'S ATTORNEY

Nothing to report.

HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Cathy Schwab congratulated Joe Anderson for being named Caroline County's Most Beautiful Volunteer. Tours of the train station are going to be given March through September from 1-3 pm on the first Saturday of the month.

OLD BUSINESS

Commissioner Hurley made a motion to pass Ordinance No. 2020-383 FY20 Budget Revision, 2nd Commissioner Buckle, all in favor. The motion was passed.

NEW BUSINESS

Loretta Daniels from the Eastern Shore Divas Social Bike Club introduced herself to the Commissioners. They are a social club that will be doing charitable work in the town and county. They have an Easter Egg Hunt planned for April 4, 2020 at Martin Sutton Park.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Joe Anderson thanked Rick & Cathy Schwab for the nomination of Caroline's Most Beautiful Volunteer.

John Smith addressed the Commissioners of his displeasure with their decision at the February 2020 Town Meeting to not abate his late fees on his water bill. The Commissioners did not change their decision.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:24 pm.

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