

**COMMISSIONERS OF RIDGELY
MARCH 20, 2024
SPECIAL MEETING**



The Commissioners of Ridgely met on the above date at 12:00 pm in the town hall meeting room for a special meeting. The following were in attendance: President John Hurley, Commissioner Leonard John Buckle, Town Attorney Patrick Thomas, Clerk-Treasurer Stephanie Berkey, Director of Operations David Crist, Assistant Clerk-Treasurer Melissa Leonard. Attending via Zoom meetings: Lakia Pierce.

President Hurley opened the meeting.

Town Attorney Patrick Thomas explained that the Commissioners were meeting to review and consider signing the short-term agreement for law enforcement services between the Commissioners of Ridgely, Caroline County Sheriff Donald L. Baker, Jr., and the Commissioners of Caroline County. The County Commissioners signed the agreement on March 19, 2024, at their meeting.

Commissioner Buckle made a motion to sign the agreement, seconded by President Hurley. The motion was passed, and the agreement signed.

Lakia Pierce asked how long the agreement will be in effect. Patrick Thomas said that there is no specified time limit.

There were no further questions or comments.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:04 pm.

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

AGREEMENT FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT SERVICES

THIS AGREEMENT, effective as of the 1st, day of April, 2024, is by and between **COMMISSIONERS OF RIDGELY**, a body corporate and politic and a municipal corporation existing under the laws of the State of Maryland within the boundaries of Caroline County, Maryland, (hereinafter referred to as the "Town"), **CAROLINE COUNTY SHERIFF DONALD L. BAKER, JR.**, a State constitutionally elected official (hereinafter referred to as "Sheriff"), and **COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF CAROLINE COUNTY, MARYLAND**, a body corporate and politic and a political subdivision of the State of Maryland (hereinafter referred to as the "County").

WHEREAS, the Town desires to create an agreement with the Sheriff and County for the provision of law enforcement services by the Sheriff for the Town; and

WHEREAS, the Sheriff is willing to provide such services under the terms and conditions hereof; and

WHEREAS, the County is willing to provide such support services as specifically provided for herein.

NOW, THEREFORE, the parties agree as follows:

1. The Sheriff, pursuant to the Rules and Regulations pertaining to the Provision of Contracted Law Enforcement and Public Safety Services, a copy of which is attached as Exhibit "A," and in consideration of the promises of the Town, does hereby agree to detail on an overtime-based assignment to the Town uniformed Sheriff's deputies on a predetermined schedule and as may be available. The contracted deputies will work thirty-five (35) hours per week, consisting of one (1) shift per working day or as otherwise directed or needed. After hours and on days off, the Sheriff's Office, through normal patrol operations, will handle calls for service on the same basis and under the same conditions, restrictions, and availability as provided in non-municipal areas of Caroline County. The Sheriff shall provide, to the best of his ability, personnel to meet this thirty-five (35) hour minimum through normal patrol operations; provided, however, that all obligations of the Sheriff under this paragraph (1) shall be subject to employee availability.
2. Services under this Agreement shall commence on April 1, 2024 and shall continue on an indefinite term until terminated in accordance herewith. This Agreement may be terminated at any time by any party with thirty (30) days prior written notice to the other parties. Because the County is a local government entity (and funds the Sheriff), it may not enter into multi-year agreements (agreements that require expenditures beyond the current fiscal year) without either doing so as the issuance of debt, with accompanying legislation or by including a non-appropriations clause in a contract or