

**COMMISSIONERS OF RIDGELY
MARCH 6, 2023
TOWN MEETING**



The Commissioners of Ridgely met on the above date at 6:00 PM in the town hall for the March 2023 town meeting. The following were in attendance: President Anthony Casey, Commissioner John Hurley, Commissioner John Buckle, Clerk-Treasurer Stephanie Berkey, Chief of Police Jeff Eckrich, Zoning Administrator Melissa Leonard, Financial Assistant Gerald Sutton, Domingo Llamas, Amber Llamas, Zach Powell, Ian Rupert, Rick & Cathy Schwab, Janey Phillips, Tyler Terry, CASA of Caroline Victor, William C. Flamer, Norma Pinkney, Blair Carmean, Bill & Connie Zaruba, Rodney Dobson.

President Casey opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioner Buckle made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 6, 2023 vote to go into closed session, February 6, 2023 closed session and February 6, 2023 town meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hurley, all in favor, approved.

STAFF REPORTS

CLERK-TREASURER

Commissioner Buckle made a motion to approve paying the bills, 2nd Commissioner Hurley, all in favor, approved. Total general funds reconciled \$333,784.50, total sewer funds reconciled \$46,737.54, total water funds reconciled \$38,277.69. The tax rate discussion will be postponed until the April 2023 town meeting.

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS

Not present.

CHIEF OF POLICE

Chief Eckrich is looking into a portable speed camera and will do a survey around the school area to see if it is warranted.

ZONING ADMINISTRATOR

Nothing to report.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANT

Gerald Sutton said that a lot of work has gone into the budget revision ordinance for FY23 and thanked the staff for their hard work. The revision is unique to Ridgely and helps to keep us on track.

HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Cathy and Rick Schwab discussed the electric panels in the Railroad Park. They are hoping to use the art council or NCHS students to put panels on the backs that would have artwork on them. This will most likely happen next school year. They would also like to have an HVAC cover at the train station. The sign next to the train station needs repairs or replacement.

Rodney Dobson invited everyone to attend Hannah Henry Day on April 8th from 1-4pm. He hopes the Commissioners can attend.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

NEW BUSINESS

President Casey introduced Ordinance No. 2023-391 Chapter 75 Building Construction.

President Casey introduced Ordinance No. 2023-392 FY23 Budget Revision.

Amy Horne of CASA discussed the 2023 Pinwheels for Prevention Campaign. April is Child Abuse Prevention Month, and they are seeking sponsorships. Commissioner Buckle made a motion to be a champion sponsor, 2nd Commissioner Hurley, all in favor, approved.

Blair Carmean of the Chicken Bridge Tax Ditch Association thanked the Commissioners for their continued support and requested the same amount for the FY24 budget.

Zach Powell of Caroline North Little League said that on September 10, 2023 they will be hosting the District All-Star Tournament. They would like to add a fourth little league field by moving the t-ball fields at no cost to the town. They also have a private donor that is willing to install lights on one field. Commissioner Hurley said that the park is not zoned for that. The league is working on a proposal with the town to have the town cut the park.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Cathy Schwab said that Hannah Henry Day will be celebrated on Hannah Henry Way.

Tyler Terry works at Landcraft Growers on route 480. He said that they would like to donate some plants to the town.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:34 pm.

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