

COMMISSIONERS OF RIDGELY

JUNE 3, 2019

TOWN MEETING



*Summary of the May 24, 2019 closed session:*

*DATE: May 24, 2019*

*TIME: 2:06 PM*

*PLACE: Town Hall*

*PURPOSE: To consult with and obtain legal advice and recommendations from the Town Attorney and Special Counsel regarding a personnel matter involving a specific individual over whom the Commissioners have jurisdiction and potential litigation associated therewith.*

*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;" (7) "To consult with the Town Attorney and Special Counsel to obtain legal advice;" (8) "To consult with staff, consultants, or other individuals about pending or potential litigation."*

*VOTE TO MEET IN CLOSED SESSION: Unanimous*

*TOPICS DISCUSSED:*

- *A personnel matter involving a specific individual over whom the Commissioners have jurisdiction*
- *Legal advice and recommendations from the Town Attorney and the Special Counsel for the Town regarding the personnel matter and potential litigation associated therewith*
- *Findings and recommendations of the Town Attorney and the Special Counsel for the Town regarding the independent investigation into Chief Manos.*

*ATTENDING: President Anthony Casey, Commissioner John Hurley, Clerk-Treasurer Stephanie Berkey, Assistant Clerk-Treasurer Melissa Leonard, Town Attorney Patrick Thomas and Special Counsel for the Town Clifford B. Glover, III.*

*ACTION TAKEN:*

*The Commissioners unanimously voted to take no further action against Chief Manos in connection with the events of September 15, 2018 based on the findings and recommendations of the Special Counsel and recommendations from the Town Attorney. The matter is considered closed and there will be no further commenting on the matter.*

*Commissioner Hurley made a motion to adjourn the closed session part of the meeting, 2<sup>nd</sup> President Casey, approved. The closed session was adjourned at 3:27pm. End of summary.*

The Commissioners of Ridgely met on the above date at 7:00 pm in the Town Hall for the June 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, Assistant Clerk-Treasurer/Zoning Administrator Melissa Leonard, Town Attorney Patrick Thomas, Officer Ross Harper, Officer Jeff Eckrich, Financial Assistant Gerald Sutton, Joe Anderson, Lucy Ball, Al Witkofsky, Sandy Higdon, Steve Higdon & Joe Riley.

President Casey opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioner Hurley made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 29, 2019 Executive Session, April 29, 2019 Closed Executive Session, May 6, 2019 Town Meeting, 2<sup>nd</sup> Commissioner Buckle, approved.

STAFF REPORTS

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

Total General Funds Reconciled \$302,316.28, Total Sewer Funds Reconciled \$184,811.39, Total Water Funds Reconciled \$110,988.52.

#### DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS

David Crist presented his report to the Commissioners. The Town received a letter from an attorney representing Guy Murphy and the request that he had to have the town put a street light in front of his business. A discussion followed. The Commissioners asked David Crist to find out how much it would cost and we will go from there.

#### CHIEF OF POLICE

Officer Ross Harper presented the report to the Commissioners.

#### FINANCIAL ASSISTANT

Jerry Sutton had nothing to report. Preliminary audit begins June 17<sup>th</sup>.

#### ZONING ADMINISTRATOR

Melissa Leonard stated that grass letters, maintenance issues and untagged vehicles are being addressed. There have been many complaints regarding the pool on 302 Maryland Avenue. The Health Department has been contacted.

#### STATE'S ATTORNEY

Joe Riley discussed the trials in Ridgely that involved conviction.

#### HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Not present.

#### OLD BUSINESS

Commissioner Hurley made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 2019-382 FY20 Budget, 2<sup>nd</sup> Commissioner Buckle, all in favor, approved.

#### NEW BUSINESS

Ross Harper, representing the Ridgely Lions Club, addressed the Commissioners. He thanked everyone for the help and support of the Commissioners and the Staff of the Town for their help with the Strawberry Festival.

#### PUBLIC COMMENT

Al Witkofsky on North Central discussed the 4 rose bushes by the train station that are infected with mites. They are spread easily with lawn equipment. Every rose in Ridgely is in jeopardy because of these roses. The town needs to look into removing the roses.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:08 pm

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