

**COMMISSIONERS OF RIDGELY
AUGUST 7, 2023
TOWN MEETING**



The Commissioners of Ridgely were scheduled to meet on August 7, 2023, at 6:00 pm in the town hall. Due to unforeseen circumstances, Commissioners Buckle and Hurley were unable to attend the meeting at the last minute. There was no quorum, but Commissioner Casey was present and indicated that he would have an informational only meeting with department heads speaking and explained to the audience that since there was no quorum, no official decisions were to be made. The following were present: Commissioner Anthony Casey, Director of Operations David Crist, Clerk-Treasurer Stephanie Berkey, Chief of Police Jeff Eckrich, Zoning Administrator Melissa Leonard, Financial Assistant Gerald Sutton, Gerald Gott, Rick & Cathy Schwab, Carla Mosley, Norma Pinkney, Leroy Harris, Christine Eckrich and Sandra Pitts.

STAFF REPORTS

CLERK-TREASURER

Total general funds reconciled \$180,762.18, total sewer funds reconciled \$47,623.51, total water funds \$39,003.29, total ARPA funds reconciled \$853,369.26.

DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS

David Crist discussed that the Lister Estates grinder pump service agreement was up for renewal. It was originally agreed that the town would cover the service agreement on the original homeowners and that when a property transferred, the new owner would assume coverage. As a courtesy over the past few years, the town has continued to pick up the cost of the entire neighborhood. The current renewal has increased to \$22,000 for one year.

All planned paving has been completed. We will reapply white stop bars in another month once the oil from the paving settles.

Regarding East Belle Street, it appears half of the current road is within the MDOT right of way. At the next meeting, we will need to decide about conducting a survey of the land.

The town hall roofing grant project has a signed contract and is moving forward. The telephone exchange building is awaiting some signed documents for the CCHS about paying any amount over the original \$9,000.

After years of putting this off, we are going to hire a 4th person for public works. It will be an entry level position.

CHIEF OF POLICE

Chief Eckrich thanked everyone that helped at National Night Out.

ZONING ADMINISTRATOR

Nothing to report.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANT

Gerald Sutton said that the FY23 audit is ongoing and from what he has seen, we should end the year with a positive fund balance increase. The auditors will return in September to complete the audit.

HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Cathy Schwab said that they had 12 visitors to the train station for the August open house.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

New business items were tabled until the September 2023 town meeting when there would be a quorum.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:06 pm.

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