

COMMISSIONERS OF RIDGELY
SEPTEMBER 7, 2022
TOWN MEETING



The Commissioners of Ridgely met on the above date at 6:00 pm in the Town Hall for the September 2022 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, Chief of Police Jeff Eckrich, Financial Assistant Gerald Sutton, Donna Eveland, Joe Anderson, Blair Carmean, Norma Pinkney.

President Casey opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioner Buckle made a motion to approve the minutes of the August 1, 2022, town meeting, seconded by Commissioner Hurley, all in favor, approved.

STAFF REPORTS

CLERK-TREASURER

Commissioner Buckle made a motion to approve paying the bills, seconded by Commissioner Hurley, all in favor, approved. Total general funds reconciled \$343,572.28, total sewer funds reconciled \$9,296.11, total water funds reconciled \$8,582.42, total ARPA funds reconciled \$499,426.00. So far, we have raised \$16,095 for the Winter Festival. The Chamber of Commerce is asking for a sponsorship. Previous years we have done the \$750 level. Commissioner Hurley made a motion to renew the sponsorship at the \$750 level, seconded by Commissioner Buckle, all in favor, approved.

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS

David Crist said that the purchase of the new backhoe (using ARPA funding) is delayed. The manufacturer is hoping to have inventory by January 2023. We have looked into purchasing a scissor lift, but due to inventory issues we would not be able to get until 2024. Everything for the LPPI grant for Martin Sutton Park has been ordered. We are waiting for everything to arrive and then the backfilling of the tennis court will begin. Line painting for the parking lots is still on backorder.

CHIEF OF POLICE

Chief Eckrich indicated that the swearing in of Officer Dalton DeCrispino will be in October. They received a \$13,000 grant for a license plate reader and a \$41,000 grant for police accountability that will be used for the body cameras and the storage. They are looking into a chip that would auto start the camera when guns or tasers are removed from the holster. The Ridgely Airport will be hosting races again on October 22, 2022. They will be billed from the police department for services.

ZONING ADMINISTRATOR

Melissa Leonard was not present. David Crist said that the Sunrise Avenue building project is still in the works and that Caroline County currently has the stormwater management plan.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANT

Gerald Sutton said that the fiscal year 2022 audit will begin next week.

HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Gerald Sutton said that the historical society is planning to be a vendor in the winter festival. The train station tours are done for the season and will begin again in May 2023.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Blair Carmean from Caroline Tennis Association thanked the town for supporting their summer camp. It was very successful.

Norma Pinkney questioned what she thought was the lack of advertising for the new meeting time. She was told that the agendas are posted online the week before the meeting and the time is always listed. The meetings usually are on the first Monday of the month at 6:00 pm, but due to the Labor Day holiday, this meeting was scheduled for the 7th.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:16 pm.

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