#### COMMISSIONERS OF RIDGELY JANUARY 7, 2013 TOWN MEETING

The Commissioners of Ridgely met on the above date at 7:00pm in the Ridgely House. The following were in attendance: President Linda Jo Epperly-Glover, Commissioner Anthony Casey, Commissioner John Hurley, Clerk-Treasurer Stephanie Berkey, Director of Public Works David Crist, Chief of Police Gary Manos, Sgt. Stephen Creason, Assistant Clerk-Treasurer Melissa Leonard, Financial Assistant Gerald Sutton, Rick & Cathy Schwab and Dustin Holt.

President Epperly-Glover opened the meeting with the pledge of allegiance and a moment of silence for our troops.

Commissioner Casey made a motion to approve the minutes of the 12/3/12 meeting, 2<sup>nd</sup> Commissioner Hurley, approved.

# STAFF REPORTS CLERK TREASURER

Commissioner Casey made a motion to pay bills, 2<sup>nd</sup> Commissioner Hurley, approved. Total General Funds Reconciled \$371,868.03 Total Sewer Funds Reconciled \$80,527.11 Total Water Funds Reconciled \$166,561.83

## DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS

David Crist presented his report to the Commissioners. The meeting on December 11<sup>th</sup> for the Maryland DNR Watershed Assistance program went well. We gained a lot of new contacts, including our regional watershed restoration specialist. She is going to review our grant application that was denied for Maryland Avenue to see if we can resubmit it. The next class will be January 16<sup>th</sup> and the town offices will be closed so that the office staff can attend. We have met with FEMA representatives regarding reimbursement for damages and expenses for Hurricane Sandy. They are pleased with our progress so far and we are expecting to reclaim some funds. The results from the DNR community parks and playground grant are expected in April.

The new public works truck is expected to be here within a week.

The public works position will be advertised again in early February with a start date in early March. We have all of the applications from the previous listing that were turned in and will consider them as well as the new applicants.

#### **CHIEF OF POLICE**

Chief Manos presented his report to the Commissioners. We have had several burglaries in the past few months. One arrest has been made in connection with the burglaries. Ridgely Police met with Ridgely Elementary School staff and PTA regarding school safety. The meeting went well and the school is going to work closely with the police department to improve upon drills and procedures if an event were to happen in Ridgely.

Cathy Schwab said that she likes the police reports where the stats are listed. Perhaps it will be helpful to have the stats on the website.

President Epperly-Glover commended the Chief for the work that the police have been doing. She has heard many positive comments about the work the police department has been doing with the school system.

## FINANCIAL ASSISTANT

Jerry Sutton informed the Commissioners that we have a Certificate of Deposit that has come due with Provident State Bank for \$11,473.39. The Commissioners agreed to have the Clerk-Treasurer, Stephanie Berkey, cash in the cd and put it into the Provident State Bank general fund checking account to use as a down payment on the new public works vehicle. A motion to this effect was made by Commissioner Casey, 2<sup>nd</sup> Commissioner Hurley, unanimous approval. The Historical Society is going to take a look to see if the grant from the Maryland Heritage Group can be used for the outside of the train station. We have 2 years to complete this project.

# HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Cathy Schwab reported that the tree dedication for Nancy Gearhart went well. It was held at the live nativity and Nancy's daughter Abigail was present for the dedication.

January 16<sup>th</sup> will be the luncheon to honor Mr. Rampmeyer. The Commissioners agreed to do a proclamation for Mr. Rampmeyer.

The Historical Society is planning on doing an open air art show in the Railroad Park on June 1<sup>st</sup>. Rick Schwab has been working inside of the train station, while removing the panels he uncovered an additional ticket window, indicating that at one time there were 2 windows and 2 waiting rooms.

The caboose windows and cupola are finished. The caboose needs a final coat of paint and lettering will go on in the spring.

They received a MOU for the Rails to Trails grant that will allow for more trash cans, signs and benches.

Cathy asked if the Commissioners would write a letter to Provident State Bank to request that they put events being held in the Railroad Park on their sign. When the sign went in originally there was a "gentlemen's agreement" to do this, but of late this is not the case. The historical society would like to see the bank more involved in the community.

The Christmas light display winners are online and online at the Times Record.

# **OLD BUSINESS**

Ordinance No. 2012-357 – Commissioner Casey made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 2012-357 increasing the interest rate on payments for water and sewer service received after the due date; to discontinue sending late notices; and to provide for discontinuation of service for nonpayment without notice. 2<sup>nd</sup> Commissioner Hurley, unanimous approval. The ordinance was passed.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

President Epperly-Glover introduced Ordinance No. 2013-358 an ordinance to reappropriate funds and adjust revenue estimates in accordance with events that necessitate changes in the budget adopted for fiscal year beginning July 1, 2012 and ending June 30, 2013.

President Epperly-Glover read a recommendation from the Planning Commission to appoint Dale Mumford to the commission. President Epperly-Glover made a motion to appoint Dale Mumford to the Planning Commission, 2<sup>nd</sup> Commissioner Hurley, approved.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Cathy Schwab asked the Commissioners to come up with a "vision" for the town to put on the website.

President Epperly-Glover read a thank you from the Caroline County Humane Society for the donation from the town.

Commissioner Casey made a motion to adjourn the meeting, 2<sup>nd</sup> Commissioner Hurley, the meeting was adjourned at 7:47pm. The next meeting will be February 4, 2013 at 7:00pm.

Respectfully Submitted, Stephanie Berkey Clerk-Treasurer