

**COMMISSIONERS OF RIDGELY
AUGUST 1, 2016
TOWN MEETING**

The Commissioners of Ridgely met on the above date at 7:00 pm for the August Town Meeting. The following were in attendance: President Anthony Casey, Commissioner John Hurley, Commissioner Leonard Buckle, Clerk-Treasurer Stephanie Berkey, Director of Public Works David Crist, Chief of Police Gary Manos, Sgt. Gordon Geesey, Assistant Clerk-Treasurer Melissa Leonard, Financial Assistant Gerald Sutton, Joe Zebleckis, Mike Miller AECOM, Diane Wojcik, George Cohey, Brittney Cooper, and Joe Anderson.

President Casey opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioner Buckle made a motion to approve the minutes of both the July 11, 2016 town meeting and executive session minutes, 2nd Commissioner Hurley, unanimous approval.

**STAFF REPORTS
CLERK-TREASURER**

Commissioner Buckle made a motion to approve paying the bills, 2nd Commissioner Hurley, unanimous approval. The Commissioners signed the LGIP Account authorized signatures page for the new fiscal year. There was a discussion regarding the police account at Queenstown Bank. Commissioner Buckle made a motion to close the account, 2nd Commissioner Hurley, unanimous approval.

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS

Director of Public Works David Crist presented his report to the Commissioners. There was a discussion about millings at the Cowbarn Park. The little league lease has the little league responsible for the upkeep. David has met with 2 different companies for the playground improvements at Martin Sutton Park and is waiting on a third. The estimates should be available soon. The road paving is complete and went well. There was a discussion about Lister Estates and the trees being trimmed after the home owners' association was told not to touch the town trees. The forest office has been contacted regarding this issue. If DNR were to come and do an inspection there is no documentation and the cuts were not done properly. This could cause the town to lose our license. The stop bars on Walnut will be painted soon. It has come to his attention that Ed Hopkins is *not* on the "do not spray list" with the County. When we get the true line right of way details on the property it will be cut and sprayed.

CHIEF OF POLICE

Chief Manos presented his report to the Commissioners. The new tasers have arrived. Officer Christopher will be certified to teach taser training. There have been several complaints of problems at Lister Estates and the police have set up night time surveillance. There was a discussion about installing a call box in front of the town hall that will be available 24 hours.

RVFD

Not present.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANT

Gerald Sutton spoke to the Commissioners. We are getting ready for the auditors to come back. Revenue figures are up and the numbers are looking good for what was budgeted.

HISTORICAL SOCIETY

SHA has called and we have contingent approval to proceed with the advertising for bids.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business

NEW BUSINESS

President Casey introduced Ordinance No. 2016-370 Deferred Payment Plan for Parks and Recreation/Open Space Development and Maintenance Fees.

Mike from AECOM and Joe Zeblekis from Brandywine Design Guild wanted to discuss the proposal for the town hall redesign. There was a discussion about the phase 1 part of the project and the need to have the report completed to the guidelines in the contract so that we can apply for USDA funding.

There was a discussion of 106 Maryland Avenue. The property has been on the tax sale for several years and charges continue to accrue to the town for maintenance of the bamboo. There was a discussion of the town purchasing the property off of the tax sale. Commissioner Buckle made a motion to purchase the properties located at 106 Maryland Avenue, 2nd Commissioner Hurley, all in favor, approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Diane Wojick spoke about the sustainable community designation. She wanted to know if the town was taking advantage of the program. The Commissioners assured her that we have been using the designation to obtain funding to repair the town hall.

The Meeting was adjourned at 7:34 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Stephanie Berkey, CMC
Clerk-Treasurer