

**RESOLUTION #2023-08**

**AMENDMENT OF THE CAROLINE COUNTY  
COMPREHENSIVE WATER AND SEWERAGE PLAN  
TOWN OF RIDGELY WATER SYSTEM UPGRADES**

**WHEREAS**, the County Commissioners of Caroline County, Maryland (the “County Commissioners”) are empowered by Environment Article 9, Subtitle 5, of the Annotated Code of Maryland to adopt and amend the Caroline County Comprehensive Water and Sewerage Plan (the “Water and Sewerage Plan”); and

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Ridgely (the “Town”) proposes to upgrade municipal water infrastructure in an area served by the Ridgely municipal water system, including the construction of a new 300,000-gallon water tower, new water treatment facility, new well and new water main (the “Project”);

**WHEREAS**, the Town is seeking funding to support the Project cost and those funders require the Project be included in the Water and Sewerage Plan; and

**WHEREAS**, the Project supports the goals of the Water and Sewerage Plan to “protect the general health, safety and welfare of the people of Caroline County through the provision of adequate water and sewerage facilities,” and to “ensure that all municipal, industrial and individual water supply and wastewater systems are designed and constructed to acceptable standards.”

**WHEREAS**, in accordance with State and local law requirements, the proposed amendment has been submitted to the Caroline County Planning Commission for review for consistency with planning goals and policies for the area, in particular the Caroline County Water and Sewerage Plan and Comprehensive Plan, and the Planning Commission has provided a positive recommendation; and

**WHEREAS**, the County Commissioners held a duly advertised public hearing for the proposed amendment on May 23, 2023.

**NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF CAROLINE COUNTY, that the Caroline County Comprehensive Water and Sewerage Plan is hereby amended as follows:**

1) The Plan’s Water Chapter inventory of “Immediate, Five- and Ten-Year Priorities for Water Development” is updated to include the Project as indicated in the following table:

Immediate, Five- and Ten-Year Priorities for Water Development				
Sewer Service Area	Description	Funder/Cost	Priority	Projected Schedule
Election District 7 - Ridgely				
a. Ridgely	Construction of new 300,000-gallon water tower, new water treatment facility, new well and new water main (to connect new components with existing system) in order to support fire suppression and municipal capacity needs and create system redundancy for safety and maintenance.	The Town is seeking funding from State and federal sources to support the project costs: - construction of new water tower: \$4,665,415.00 - construction of treatment plant: \$245,121.00 - construction of new well: \$133,248.00 - construction of new water main: \$378,924.00	Immediate	2023 - 2025

Source: Town of Ridgely, Maryland Department of Environment, March 2023.

2) The Ridgely Election District section of the Comprehensive Water and Sewerage Plan’s Water chapter is updated with the following text:

**3.4.8. Election District No.7 (Ridgely)**

The Town Ridgely water system currently serves a population of 1,868 via 747connections with an average daily demand of 167,000 gallons. The Town currently operates two active production wells, #2 and #3, drawing from the Piney Point Aquifer at a capacity of 108,000 and 144,000 gallons per day respectively. The water quality in the aquifer is generally good. Each well has a depth of 310-350 feet, with 6” diameter. The wells operate 6-12 hours per day, depending on the time of year. The water is treated with chlorine prior to entering the tower.

A Water Infrastructure Study was completed for the Town in 2007 and resulted in the recommendation of an additional elevated water storage tank with at least 500,000 gallons holding capacity. The system is permitted to withdraw an annual daily average of 200,000 gpd and a maximum of 300,000 gpd. In 2006 and 2007, usage averaged about 140,000 gpd, 70 percent of the system’s permitted capacity. The system’s current daily flow average of 106,000 gpd coupled with the committed water allocation of 54,000 gpd represent an 80% withdrawal

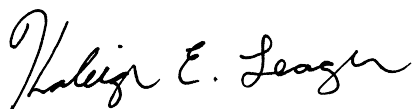
of the water tower's capacity of 200,000 gallons per day. An additional 120,000 gpd is needed for the Town's fire reserve flow needs, which indicates a potential water tower storage deficit. Sufficient water storage volume must be provided to allow for fire protection, emergency shut down reserve and equalization by well pumps (required storage tank volumes are calculated by combining these three elements of water demand). A 2021 assessment of the existing water tower, built in 1984, indicated it is in urgent need of maintenance and rehabilitation. The Town has been unable to complete this maintenance because taking the tower offline would impair potable water supply to the citizens; the Town does not have an adequate back-up or reserved capacity storage option to be activated when necessary maintenance is required on the existing tower.

In 2023, to resolve this and the above-mentioned capacity issues, the Town plans to add an additional 300,000-gallon water tower to create the needed redundancy for maintenance and safety improvements, and allow for fire protection, emergency shut down reserve and equalization by well pumps.

An additional well and new treatment facility are also planned as part of the Town's water system improvements. The addition of one new well will serve the planned new water tower, serve as a back-up for the current wells, and meet the overtaxed current system demand. The system's GAP permit will be amended to accommodate the additional new well and higher withdrawal capacity. A new water main will be constructed to connect the new water system components into the Town's existing water system. Further studies and water modeling will determine the best construction path and connection to the existing town system.

**ADOPTED/EFFECTIVE:** May 23, 2023

**ATTEST:**



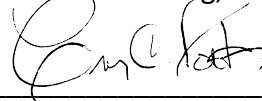
Kaleigh Leager, Executive Assistant

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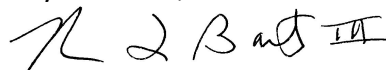
**COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF  
CAROLINE COUNTY, MARYLAND**



J. Travis Breeding, President



Larry C. Porter, Vice President



N. Franklin Bartz, Commissioner