

**BOROUGH OF PARK RIDGE**  
**MAYOR AND COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING**  
**WORK SESSION**

**September 1, 2011**  
**7:15 P.M.**

Present: Council members; Viola, Hopper, Misciagna, Kilmartin, Kane (via telephone initially), Council President Maguire (via telephone), and Mayor Ruschman

Absent: None

Also Present: Robert Mancinelli, Borough Attorney  
Colleen Ennis, CFO  
Bill Beattie, Director of Operations  
Kelley O'Donnell, Borough Clerk/Administrator  
George Mehm, Board of Public Works  
John Pouletsos, Board of Public Works

**Mayor Ruschman read the compliance statement earlier as required by the Open Public Meeting Act, P.L. 1975, Chapter 231.**

**Prior to this evenings meeting Eve Mancuso's engineering report had been distributed to the Mayor and Council for review.**

Mayor Ruschman advised those present that the purpose of the meeting was to review the areas in the borough affected by the hurricane and to discuss actions that needed to be taken to repair and/or replace the damage.

Agenda distributed with locations and cost estimates for repair and replacement distributed.

K. O'Donnell wanted to thank Dave Vozza and his staff for their efforts above and beyond that of a risk manager this past weekend. Mediation efforts began on Sunday, August 28<sup>th</sup> once the water had receded and because of that the damage in the Borough Hall was minimized.

K. O'Donnell reviewed with those present the damage in the Borough Hall, actions taken and course of action moving forward.

B. Beattie reviewed the damage to the recreation facilities; Davies Field turf, Sulak fields, Rotary Park playground.

E. Mancuso's report explained the bank stabilization work needed along the Pascack Brook and retaining wall needed along Mill Brook.

Council discussion on likelihood of future flooding.

G. Mehm advised that since the development of the Palisades Mall in Nyack, NY the borough has seen a significant increase in the volume of water with rain and storm events.

- Council discussion on possible measures that could be taken to minimize or eliminate future flooding.
  - Consensus was that it was a timely process with DEP permitting and cost prohibitive

**Councilmember Kane arrived at 7:38 p.m.**

C. Ennis advised the Council that they needed to decide which of the affected areas were considered an emergency and could be exempt from public bidding.

- Council President Maguire feels the entire list as presented and noted below is an emergency.
  - R. Mancinelli stated that B. Beattie as Director of Operations would be the contact person and the one to make the recommendation.
    - He further stated that if the Director of Operations makes the determination then the Borough is exempt from public bidding.
- Council asked B. Beattie if he felt the areas noted were an emergency.
  - B. Beattie confirmed that for the health, safety and welfare of the residents the designated areas were an emergency.
- R. Mancinelli stated that a report has to be submitted to the state afterwards.

Mayor Ruschman asks for a vote from the Council authorizing the repair and replacement of the Public Facilities and areas noted below:

<b>Pascack Brook and Mill Brook</b>	de-snagging and emergency tree removal	
	Retaining walls and bank stabilization	
	Backfill of pedestrian bridge footings	\$525,000
	DEP permitting	\$ 50,000
<b>Gravel parking lot and Healy Lane</b>	– pavement has lifted, grading and additional gravel necessary	\$ 50,000
<b>Public Parks and Recreation – Davies field</b>		
	Estimate to repair/replace substrate and relay carpet	\$ 75,000
	Drainage needs to be cleaned out	\$ 25,000
<b>Walking path along Sulak fields</b>		\$ 75,000
<b>Sulak Fields</b>	(redress and re-clay, concession stand)	\$ 50,000
<b>Rotary Park/Memorial Field playground</b>		\$ 40,000
<b>Municipal Facilities – Including Library</b>	- Rapid Recovery has performed the mediation necessary.	
	Repair and replacement include cleaning, sanitizing and sealing.	
	Sheetrock and painting necessary.	
	Carpeting to be reinstalled and/or replaced throughout the lower level.	\$ 60,000
<b>Pistol Range</b>	- No apparent structural damage, minimal contents	
<b>Two vehicles damaged as a result of the hurricane</b>	– PRFD Ladder and Water utility truck	\$ 10,000
<b>Personnel Costs – overtime, etc</b>		<b>\$100,000</b>
<b>TOTAL ESTIMATED COSTS</b>		<b>\$1,060,000</b>

Motion was made by Council President Maguire and seconded by Councilmember Misciagna  
Councilmember Kilmartin – yes, Councilmember Viola - yes, Councilmember Hopper –  
yes, Councilmember Kane – yes, Councilmember Misciagna – Yes, Council President  
Maguire – yes

G. Mehm advised those present that the overtime from the Utility employees would be covered  
by the Utilities. Damage to facilities, equipment and vehicles would go through the insurances.

K. O'Donnell explained the flood policy deductibles.

- C. Ennis advised those present that the Borough does not have additional funds to cover  
the expenses of the storm.
- C. Ennis explained the two methods of funding
  - Special Emergency – Resolution could be adopted 9/13 – 3 year repayment
  - Capital Bond Ordinance – Since many of the items are capital
    - 5% down payment would be needed and repayment would be over the  
term of its useful life
  - Determination would be needed for the 9/13 meeting
    - C. Ennis also advised that any overage could be cancelled at the end of the  
year
- Councilmember Kane advised that his recommendation would be for Special Emergency  
note
  - Would not recommend adding to the capital debt
- C. Ennis advised that she needs to do it sooner than later and needs a commitment from  
the governing body
  - B. Beattie advised that we should have firm numbers for the 9/13 meeting

Mayor Ruschman calls for a vote authorizing C. Ennis to prepare a **Special Emergency  
Resolution** for the 9/13 meeting

Motion was made by Councilmember Viola and seconded by Council President Maguire  
Councilmember Kilmartin – yes, Councilmember Viola - yes, Councilmember Hopper –  
yes, Councilmember Kane – yes, Councilmember Misciagna – Yes, Council President  
Maguire – yes

Mayor Ruschman calls for a vote authorizing **Bill Beattie as Director of Operations** to make  
the determination on Emergency repairs

Motion was made by Council President Maguire and seconded by Councilmember Kane  
Councilmember Kilmartin – yes, Councilmember Viola - yes, Councilmember Hopper –  
yes, Councilmember Kane – yes, Councilmember Misciagna – Yes, Council President  
Maguire – yes

Councilmember Kane stated as a long term plan he would recommend the Borough to actively  
pursue and identify the watershed area. Would like to see Mill Pond dredged, streams cleared.  
He would recommend the Borough authorize Eve Mancuso to begin working on this project.

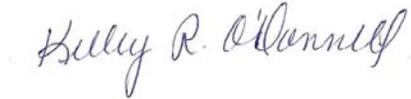
Councilmember Misciagna discussed with those present the efforts underway with the Pascack Valley consortium in identifying problem areas and working together with the local, county and state agencies to address this problem.

G. Mehm in closing suggested that the Mayor and Council recognize those employees, volunteers and emergency responders for the outstanding job that was done.

Mayor Ruschman advised that he had already sent letters out.

Councilman Misciagna agrees that it should be done formally.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kelley R. O'Donnell".

Kelley R. O'Donnell, RMC  
Borough Clerk/Administrator