

**Township of Nutley  
Board of Commissioners  
Emergency Meeting  
Meeting Minutes  
Sunday, October 28, 2012  
1:00 P.M.**

An emergency meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Township of Nutley was held in the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor Commission Chambers Room and called to order. Notification was e-mailed to the Nutley Sun and Herald News on Sunday, October 28, 2012. A copy of this notice has been posted on the Nutley Town Hall bulletin and township website and a copy is on file in the Municipal Clerk's Office.

**OPEN PUBLIC MEETING STATEMENT: Read by Municipal Clerk Rosario**

Evelyn Rosario, Municipal Clerk, read the following statement: Pursuant to the requirements of the Open Public Meeting Law (Chapter 231, P.L.1975), notice of this emergency meeting was e-mailed to the Nutley Sun and the Herald News on Sunday, October 28, 2012. A copy of this notice has been posted on the Nutley Town Hall bulletin and township website and a copy is on file in the Municipal Clerk's Office.

**ROLL CALL:**

Commissioner Rogers	- Present
Commissioner Tucci	- Absent/Excused
Commissioner Evans	- Present
Commissioner Scarpelli	- Present
Mayor Petracco	- Present

Mayor Petracco addressed the public concerning the anticipated storm. Mayor Petracco has been receiving several updates from the Office of the Governor, the storm is coming, it's not going out to sea, the eye of the storm will be over Toms River, causing the northern part of the storm to hit our area. Mayor Petracco had a conversation with both chiefs this morning, Chief Holland informed the Mayor that most likely the power will be off, it's more likely that it will be off than on. Mayor Petracco thanked everyone for coming today, and that it's refreshing to see how committed everyone is to this township.

Mr. Thomas Nicolette – Nutley Office of Emergency – Commented that township is doing very well with the coordination efforts concerning this storm. The coordination amongst the departments, Red Cross and various agencies that have been assisting the township has been tenfold. The township is about to go through what the national weather service says is an absolute nightmare, and we are for the most part prepared for it. Mr. Nicolette continued and stated that starting tomorrow at 8:00 A.M. one person from each department will be needed at the Department of Public Safety as an emergency operation center will be activated. The employees will be assigned to a telephone line for response to incoming calls, there will be different shifts so that the center is fully covered. Discussions continued concerning the operational set-up of the emergency operation center.

Mr. Russell Lasovick, Superintendent of Schools – Schools are officially closed tomorrow and Tuesday, the message has been sent and the school website has been updated with school closure information.

Mr. Harry Kirk, General Supervisor- Parks & Public Property – Commented that the municipality is decent shape, 2 tree companies have been hired as the township has two less employees in the tree area department due to illness and sick leave. Public Works will assist the Department of Parks & Public Property with any assistance they may need.

Commissioner Evans – Commented that residents that require an electrician for repairs due to storm damages (furnace, hot water heater, etc.) must obtain the proper permits from the Code Enforcement Department.

Mr. Frank DeMaio- Recreation Department – Commented that all recreational activities have been cancelled through Tuesday. He will arrange to have an employee available to assist at the emergency operation center. He will be available at all times.

John Thomas, Essex County Supervisor, American Red Cross Northern Region – Commented that at the last meeting with the State Police and it was stated that they are not going to support any municipal shelters as regional shelters are being opened, The Codey Arena will be the regional shelter for Essex County. There is a plan set for the relocation of Nutley residents to the Codey Arena. Discussions concerning the regional shelter for Essex County was held.

Deputy Fire Chief Paul Cafone – Commented that Fire Departments shifts will be increased. There are a limited amount of generators available to the residents, they are for medical purposes only. Our mutual aide agreement with surrounding municipalities will not go in affect unless there is a major incident. Belleville will be our second source of fuel along with the First Aid Squad.

Fire Chief Nicolette – Commented that the back-up support with the volunteers is very strong. He has a meeting this afternoon with the assistant chiefs in order to discuss and coordinate sufficient support. They will work closely with the Fire Department and Police Department throughout the storm.

Police Chief John Holland – Commented that the township has had a couple of days to prepare. The Police Department man power has been adjusted accordingly in order to have sufficient personnel to ensure the safety and protect the public. Communication wise, the public safety building is backed-up by generators. Beginning tomorrow morning temporary stop signs will be installed at the locations where traffic lights normally go out during severe weather conditions. Captain Strumolo will be in charge of the Field Operations, Special Law Enforcement Officers have been called in and will be available.

Mr. Mike Luizzi –Superintendent Department of Public Works – Commented that the Department of Public Works is prepared and have all the necessary machinery in place and readily available for immediate use. Crews were sent out today to pick up leaf bags that have been left outside, there are a lot of leaves in the streets which may cause more flooding than usual. The Department of Public Works is as ready as they can be.

Discussions concerning alerts that will be sent to the residents was held. Alerts will be prepared, reviewed sent to the residents accordingly. The messages should be direct and to the point, addressing all necessary points of information.

Annemarie Nicolette – Asked if the residents have the need to go to a shelter should they call the operations center or should they attempt to drive themselves. Mr. Nicolette commented that they should contact the emergency operation center prior to making an attempt to drive.

Kathy Rempusheski, Shelter Coordinator – Commented that she would like to clarify the need of shelter. Mr. Nicolette commented that each call will be handled accordingly, as the calls come in, they will reach out to Ms. Rempusheski for direction and relocation.

Mayor Petracco – Commented that he finds it difficult to have the residents in need of shelter sent to the Codey Arena verses having the shelter within the municipality. Discussions were held concerning the regionalization of the American Red Cross Northern Region.

Captain John Hund – Fire Department – Commented that he is under the understanding that the State Police are only going to support regional centers, if the township wants to continue to have the center in town they may not receive the assistance needed as support is being provided to the regionalized centers.

Commissioner Evans – Commented that the Township is not completely clear concerning the regionalization of the American Red Cross Northern Region.

Mr. Mike Rossi – Nutley Emergency Squad – Commented that all of their vehicles are fueled, all of the generators are all ready, they have extra gas cans. They will have extra crew members on duty.

Captain John Hund – Fire Department – Commented that he just received information that all state offices will be closed tomorrow, New Jersey Transit and the Path Trains will be shutting down.

Sam Carella – Assistant to the Mayor – Commented that the reverse 911 will be utilized in addition to any other communication.

Commissioner Evans – Commented that the more communication that is transmitted the better it will be.

Mayor Petracco asked Mr. Nicolette to brief the Board and all emergency personnel concerning this storm. Meetings will be held Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday at 2:00 P.M.

Deputy Fire Chief Paul Cafone – Are phone calls going to be directly set-up in the emergency center or will the calls be transferred from the department to the center. Mr. Nicolette responded that telephones will be set-up accordingly at the center so that calls will be picked up at the center.

Discussion between Jason Kirk- Information Technology and Thomas Nicolette- Nutley Office of Emergency Management concerning the step-up of the telephone lines in the emergency operation center.

Mayor Petracco asked that everyone get some rest and thanked Thomas Nicolette for all of efforts and dedication to the Township of Nutley. Mayor Petracco thanked everyone for all of their support.

Motion to adjourn by Commissioner Scarpelli and seconded by Commissioner Rogers. All “Ayes.”

Meeting adjourned at 2:13 P.M.