

**Township of Nutley
Board of Commissioners
Emergency Meeting
Meeting Minutes
Monday, October 29, 2012
2:00 P.M.**

An emergency meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Township of Nutley was held in the 3rd 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	- Present
Commissioner Evans	- Present
Commissioner Scarpelli	- Present
Mayor Petracco	- Present

The following resolutions were duly introduced and adopted:

Resolution No. 273-12

WHEREAS, an emergency has arisen with respect to the Emergency Response to Hurricane Sandy Storm Damage on October 28-31, 2012;

WHEREAS, manpower and supplies were expended to respond to said emergency and now need to be replenished;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Commissioners of the Township of Nutley, in the County of Essex, New Jersey, that an emergency is hereby declared to exist which will not permit for the advertisement for public bids, subject to the verification of funds by the chief financial officer of the Township of Nutley.

Introduced by Commissioner Evans, seconded by Commissioner Tucci. All "Ayes" on a roll call vote.

Resolution No. 274-12

WHEREAS, the potential impact of "Hurricane Sandy" may cause damage to property and could result in disruption of gas and electrical service within the Township.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of the Township of Nutley, County of Essex, that permit fees issued to repair damages including gas and electrical service resulting from the "Hurricane Sandy" is hereby waived.

Introduced by Commissioner Evans, seconded by Commissioner Rogers. All "Ayes" on a roll call vote.

At this point in the meeting Mayor Petracco asked Mr. Thomas Nicolette – Nutley Office of Emergency to come forward and provide a briefing.

Mr. Thomas Nicolette – Nutley Office of Emergency – Commented that presently the Township has not received a large number of calls, the number of calls they have handled thus far is a decent number, it is higher than average for a regular day. They have been able to get themselves established and let information flow to departments, such as road closures and down trees, etc. They have been able to solve problems quickly. There are a couple of Public Service issues that are underlying, it's taking them a bit longer to arrive to dispatched locations due to the weather conditions. As of right now the situation we are waiting for the storm to get worse, the storm will get very bad by this evening. The emergency operation center is functioning and operating, the center will continue operating throughout the storm.

Commissioner Scarpelli – Commented that Public Works is available and ready, they have deployed barricades and stop signs in case they are needed at intersections where an issue may arise.

Mike Luzzi – Superintendent Department of Public Works – Commented that he has viewed the Passaic River area, the river is extremely high, he expects extreme flooding, especially on River Road. The Department of Public Works will do the best they can, a crew will be readily available 24 hours.

Commissioner Rogers – Commented that the Department of Public Affairs will have nurses on call and or on site. Communications on the website should be clear and posted immediately. The more communication the public is provided the better informed they will be.

Commissioner Scarpelli – Asked Mr. Nicolette if the information on the website and press releases are going through the information officer. Mr. Nicolette responded and stated that when it comes to emergency matters John Hund is the public information officer, he will work with Sam Carella and Jason Kirk to review and post accordingly. Information that requires to be posted should be sent directly to his e-mail at tnicolette@nutleynj.org.

Commissioner Evans – Commented that Code Enforcement is ready to operate Accordingly. There may be delays concerning the dispatching of work crews and utility companies due to the storm. Safety is a priority.

Commissioner Tucci – Commented that the areas where tress and limbs are down, the Department of Parks and Public Property is ready to operate. A staging area at Glotzbach Park has been set-up with a crane, a bucket truck along with a full crew in case there is need for additional equipment. The services of Trusty Tree Service has been retained in the event that additional assistance is needed. Commissioner Tucci asked that everyone stay away from down electrical wires, trees and limbs, safety is a priority. Harry Kirk and Frank DeMaio will be on call along with Parks employees to assist at the emergency operation center.

Mayor Petracco – Commented that he has spoken to R. Lasovick, Superintendent of Schools concerning the possibility of postponing Halloween due to the weather conditions. Once a decision is reached concerning Halloween the public will be informed.

Deputy Fire Chief Paul Cafone – Commented that there is flooding in the area of 1 River Road known as Arbor Hills, the area will be further reviewed to determine entrance into that area in case of an emergency.

Kathy Rempusheski – Shelter Coordinator – Commented that a decision has been made concerning shelter. This evening if a resident calls in need of shelter they will be directed to the Department of Public Affairs, tomorrow 44 Park Avenue will be an evacuation center. The Township of Lyndhurst has been contacted, they will assist Nutley with shelter in their municipality should there be a need.

Mayor Petracco asked that we reach out to family and friends and ask them to refrain from going near high water areas.

Mr. Thomas Nicolette – Nutley Office of Emergency – Commented that the under a state of emergency the municipality can enforce unnecessary travel.

Commissioner Tucci – Commented that all parks are officially closed. Signs are in the process of being posted.

In Conclusion, Mayor Petracco asked that everyone stay safe, he thanked everyone for their cooperation.

The Board asked for clarification concerning communications to residents. Mr. Nicolette stated that the information should be e-mailed to him directly, he will then arrange for the electronic communication to be sent the residents.

Motion to adjourn by Commissioner Scarpelli, seconded by Commissioner Rogers. All “Ayes” on a roll call vote. Meeting adjourned at 2:23 P.M.