

September 12, 2011
5:30 p.m.
2354 State Route 434
Apalachin, New York

Special Meeting of the Owego Town Board

Present: Supervisor Donald Castellucci, Jr.
Council: Dean Morgan, Barbara Roberts, Lynne Davis

Absent: Councilman Wayne Moulton

Supervisor Castellucci called the Meeting to order.

Supervisor Castellucci expressed his appreciation and thanks to all who have assisted with the flood damage. He further stated that the Town of Owego was in a State of Emergency. He noted that the storm had subsided between 5:30 a.m. and 6:00 a.m. this morning.

Several media notices have been released, however the Town has no control over whether the media publicizes them. He noted that WEBO was the Official Radio Station for the Town, broadcasting on 1330 AM and 107.9 FM.

Supervisor Castellucci's report on September 10 contained the following information:

- Town of Owego Municipal Water Customers were on a Boil Water Advisory.
- Update on closed Town Roads.
- The Hickories park is closed until April 2012.
- Availability of dry ice and water.
- Eric Johnson providing two tankers for water.
- Revised State of Emergency.
- Town Court closed for the week.
- Tioga County Family Court possible use of Town Hall Meeting Room.
- Media packet delivered by Scott Vasisko and his Park's Department employees.
- Opening of County Emergency Operations Center.
- Town Hotline is extension 330 and is manned during town hall regular hours. Residents can leave messages after 4:30 p.m.
- A dedicated email address has been established on the Town Hall Website.
- Clean up kits should be available shortly.

Mike Zimmer, Town Clerk, requested that the Town Hall Parking lights have the timer changed to accommodate voters and election inspectors after dusk.

Supervisor Castellucci concluded his comments by stating that a generator that should have been purchased four years ago will be a priority.

Councilman Morgan read a list of various town roads that have substantial damage:

- Woods Road off Sulphur Springs
- Sanford Road - Bridge is out
- Fox Road
- Degroat Road
- Rhodes Road near Anderson Road
- Wade Hollow Road
- Haus Road
- McHenry Road
- Marshland Road was closed.

Morgan continued his report with the following:

- Updated on the various Public Safety Meetings he has attended.
- Hepatitis B and Tetanus shots for those dealing with flood damage will be provided.
- NYS Law prohibiting open burning is in effect.
- The Primary Election is scheduled for Tuesday, September 13, 2011.
- Clean up kits, meals, dry ice and water will be available shortly.
- FEMA disaster declaration is pending at this time.
- Family Court is going to access the building and will use it this week while displaced.
- A curfew is declared from 9:00 p.m. until 6:00 a.m.
- A boil water advisory is in effect until the Tioga County Health Department declares otherwise.
- DEC open burning laws for the Town of Owego are still in effect.
- The election primary is still on.
- Clean up kits should be available shortly.

Loretta Sullivan, Tioga County Legislator, provided an update from the County.

Michael Danaher questioned when the power might be restored.

Mick Trivisonno, Director of Utilities stated that he was told it could be two weeks before the power would be restored to parts of Apalachin.

Councilman Morgan stated that a boil water advisory is in effect. The Tioga County Health Department will be responsible for lifting it.

Dan Martin, State Route 17c, questioned the removal of flood debris. Mark Clark, Highway Superintendent will pick up flood debris only.

Jeff Parker, Sewer Plant Operator, stated that the Owego Treatment Plant was ok, however, the generator for the Apalachin Plant was underwater. It has yet to be determined whether it is serviceable or needs to be replaced.

Both Jeff Parker and Mick Trivisonno, Director of Utilities, offered detailed information on generators, pumpstations, electrical boxes & transformers. Trivisonno stated that just for starters

the town was looking at 1.5 million dollars in damages to the Utilities Department.

Debra Standinger, Planning & Zoning Administrator, stated that along with Ron Schmidt, Building Inspector and Code Enforcement Officer, approximately 400 properties in the Town will be referred to FEMA due to the damage sustained by the flood.

Scott Vasisko, Parks Maintenance Supervisor, stated that he needed direction from the Board regarding Pavilion Rental and Camping refunds.

Vasisko also reported on damage at other town parks. He stated that the original Hickories entrance bridge was totally washed out. The temporary bridge is still under water. The older restrooms have six to seven feet of water inside. The newest restroom built on the hill has about a foot of water. He noted that every area in the park is under water. All the park vehicles and equipment including the garbage truck are under water.

Loretta Sullivan, Tioga County Legislator, stated that all of the County offices on Court Street are closed. Most of the County Departments have make shift offices at the Health and Human Services building on Route 38.

Councilman Roberts stated that MRE meals, dry ice and water is available at all the fire stations.

Mark Clark, Highway Superintendent, stated that 84 Lumber on Route 434 has gone out of business, however, contact has been made to temporarily rent the buildings for housing the Highway Department and possibly the Parks Department during the interim.

Motion by Morgan, the meeting was adjourned at 7:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael E. Zimmer
Town Clerk