

(The following is not a verbatim transcript of comments or discussion that occurred during the meeting, but rather a summarization intended for general informational purposes. All motions and votes are the official records).

FLOOD COMMITTEE

A meeting of the Flood Committee was held on Tuesday, September 17, 2013 in the Council Chambers, City Hall, Cranston, Rhode Island.

CALL MEETING TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 P.M. by the Chair.

Present: Councilman Paul H. Archetto, Chair
Councilman Michael W. Favicchio
Michael Behm
Nicholas Capobianco
Amy Sinyei
Brian Dupont
Council President John E. Lanni, Jr.
Kenneth Mason, Director of Public Works

Absent: Senator Frank S. Lombardi
Councilman Richard D. Santamaria, Jr.
Representative Joseph McNamara
Matt Papino

MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING:

On motion by Council President Lanni, seconded by Councilman Archetto, it was voted to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the last meeting and they stand approved as recorded. Motion passed unanimously.

Chair indicated that due to the Secretary being on vacation and the City Clerk having a conflict, this meeting will be officially recorded.

Chair stated that Mr. Papino, a member of this Committee, has communicated that he cannot attend meetings on Tuesday evenings and at the end of this meeting, the Committee will discuss possibly changing the meeting dates.

CORRESPONDENCE:

OLD BUSINESS:

- **Discussion regarding letters to Congressional and Senatorial Delegation.**
No discussion was held.
- **Fletcher Ave. construction of the drain pipe.**

Chair stated that this will be discussed at the end of the docket when Fletcher Ave. project is discussed.

PUBLIC HEARING/NEW BUSINESS:

Sept 2, 2013 Providence Journal Article “Bulk of Flood Damage Occurred in Cranston”
Report from Administration: What areas most severely hit:
Oaklawn Avenue Park Avenue at Budlong Road

Mr. Mason stated that on September 1, there was a tremendous rainstorm. Roads, such as Wellington Ave., Garden Hills Dr., Fernbrook Dr., Miles St., Tallman and Baldino, Lake St. and Larkspur and Warren Ave., were severely damaged and several manholes collapsed.

Mr. Mason addressed the Oaklawn Ave. drainage issue and stated that Oaklawn and Dean Parkway are State roads. The catch basins and drainage network are owned and operated by the State. The bike path is also owned by the State. On the West side of the bike path and Cranston St. and Wedge, it reverts back to the City drain system. The City has done its investigation of our portion of the drainage system West of the bike path and found no issues with our drainage system. There is no blockages. What is happening is we are having these mega micro-burst storms, which overwhelm our system.

Council President Lanni asked if the City has checked with the State to see when the last time was they checked these drain systems. **Mr. Mason** stated that we have and they are pretty non-committal about it, but they have been out cleaning their drain systems after the fact.

Chair asked if there were any State personnel at the scene when the flooding occurred or after at the Oaklawn Ave. flooded area. **Mr. Mason** stated, not that he is aware of. **Chair** asked if the City did an investigation of the State drainage system as to the cause of the flooding. **Mr. Mason** stated, no, the problem in this area is a drainage issue.

Fletcher Avenue Project – Report of project details and visual presentation
by Ken Mason, Public Works Director

Mr. Mason presented plans of the project as it is currently proposed and stated that the cost for this proposed project is approximately \$15 to \$20 million. He indicated that not all the people that need to sign off on have signed off, but DEM will let us at least submit the application without all the signatures and they can start working on doing their due diligence.

NEW BUSINESS:

Chair asked that “Flood Insurance Affordability in reference to National level” be added to the next meeting’s agenda and Mr. Dupont will send the Chair information regarding this.

The Committee unanimously agreed to change the meeting date from Tuesdays to Wednesdays due to Mr. Papino not being able to attend on Tuesday evenings.

The next Flood Committee meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 16th at 6:30 p.m.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rosalba Zanni".

Rosalba Zanni

Assistant City Clerk/Clerk of Committee

(from audio recording)