

*(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 Wednesday, March 16, 2016 in the Council Chambers, City Hall, Cranston, Rhode Island.

### **CALL MEETING TO ORDER:**

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 p.m. by the Chair.

Present: Councilman Paul H. Archetto, Chair  
Council Minority Leader Michael W. Favicchio (appeared at 6:42 p.m.)  
Council President John E. Lanni, Jr.  
Kenneth Mason, Director of Public Works  
Matthew Papino  
Nicholas Capobianco  
Marty Madden.

Absent: Councilman Mario Aceto  
Representative Robert Jacquard  
Sarah Kales Lee

Also Present: Rosalba Zanni, Assistant City Clerk/Clerk of Committees

### **MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING:**

On motion by Council President Lanni, seconded by Mr. Capobianco, 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** asked Mr. Madden, newly appointed member of the Committee, to introduce himself to the Committee.

### **CORRESPONDENCE:**

## OLD BUSINESS:

- *Status of Fletcher Ave. Flood Wall – Buyout status and the funding (Chair)*

**Mr. Mason** stated that the wall is not going to be built. As to the buyout, there are twelve residential properties, which are eligible for buyout. Commercial properties are not eligible. The Planning Department held an informational meeting and only three of the properties signed off on the willingness to participate in the buyout program. Assuming FEMA will approve this, FEMA would pay for 75% and the City would pay 25% of the cost for the buyout. As to the other nine who opted not to participate in the buyout, they could chose to participate at a later time, if they decide to.

**Mr. Papino** questioned the status of the Amanda Ct. properties as to the buyout. Mr. Mason stated that ten properties have been demolished on Amanda and two have been demolished on Amanda, Clay and Warren. Two properties have been taken over and should be coming down soon. He suggested that Mr. Papino contact Mr. Lapolla, Planning Director, since he will have more information regarding this. Mr. Papino asked if Mr. Lapolla could be asked to appear at the next meeting of this Committee to address this. Chair asked that Mr. Lapolla be asked to attend the next Committee meeting.

**Mr. Capobianco** asked if there is any bond money that is available to sue for the buyouts. Mr. Mason stated that he believes it is used for the City's matching share.

## PUBLIC HEARING/NEW BUSINESS:

- *Discussion regarding letters sent to the Cranston Delegation regarding State's responsibility of cleaning catch basins in the City and schedule of when they are done (Chair)*

**Chair** asked if these letters have been sent out. Mr. Mason stated, no. He did draft a letter and he recommends that it be sent out under the Flood Committee's letterhead. Mr. Mason provided Committee members with a copy of this draft of the letter for the members to review.

**Chair** suggested that language be added in this letter asking for DOT to provide the City with a schedule of when the drains will be cleaned. He asked that this letter be sent out on the Flood Committee's letterhead with the Committee Members' names on it.

**Mr. Papino** asked if there is a priority list of flooded areas as to cleaning of catch basins. Mr. Mason stated, yes, absolutely.

**Chair** asked that this letter be sent to RIDOT and all State Representatives and Senators.

**Chair** stated that this Committee will not meet during the months of April, May and June due to budget hearings. The next meeting will be held on June 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m.

The meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Rosalba Zanni". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Rosalba Zanni  
Assistant City Clerk/Clerk of Committees



CITY OF CRANSTON

Ex. # 1 Sub: \_\_\_\_\_

Flood Comm 3/16/16

By: Kenneth Mason

Re: catch basin maintenance

October 21, 2015

Representative.  
Cranston, RI 02910

Re: RIDOT catch basin maintenance in the City of Cranston

Dear

The City of Cranston experiences significant flooding of roadways and properties during high intensity rain events. Our DPW staff exerts significant time and money to maintain city owned catch basins and drainage structures throughout the City, however continuously encounters difficulty with the drainage system either completely owned by the state RIDOT or interconnected with City drainage systems. Examples of these include Oaklawn Avenue (Route 5), and Reservoir Avenue (Route 2) at the intersection of Park Avenue.

It is the opinion of the City, that RIDOT has not been maintaining the drainage systems on state roads and has exacerbated the impacts of flooding in the City. The Flood Committee hereby requests that you assist the City in requesting the State maintain their drainage system, including annual cleaning of catch basins on state roads.

Sincerely,

Flood Committee Chairman  
City of Cranston