

## SPECIAL MEETING – CITY COUNCIL

-OCTOBER 28, 2005-

A Special meeting of the Cranston City Council was held on FRIDAY, October 28, 2005 in the Cranston High School East Cafeteria, 899 Park Ave., Cranston, Rhode Island.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M. by Council President Garabedian. Roll Call showed the following members present: Councilmen Pisaturo, Fung, Council Member Fogarty, Council Member Bucci, Councilmen Lanni, Barone and Council President Garabedian –7.

Absent: Councilman Livingston and Council Vice-President McFarland -2.

Also Present: Mayor Stephen Laffey; Paul Grimes, Director of Administration; Michael Glucksman, City Solicitor; Evan Kirshenbaum, Assistant City Solicitor; Marco Schiappa, Director of Public Works; Kerry Anderson, Building Official; Acting Fire Chief James Gumbly.

-OCTOBER 28, 2005-

The City Clerk read the following:

**CITY OF CRANSTON  
RHODE ISLAND**

**NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING  
OF THE CITY COUNCIL**

In Accordance with Section 3.07 of the Home Rule Charter and, Section 2.04.06 of the City Code, I hereby call a special meeting of the City Council to be held on

Friday, October 28, 2005 at 6:30 p.m.  
Cranston High School East Cafeteria  
899 Park Ave.  
Cranston, RI. 02910

This will be an informational meeting for victims of the recent flooding in the City of Cranston.

Representatives will be on hand from various City Departments including the Mayor's Office, Community Development, Claims/Insurance Risk, Public Works, Inspections, as well as the Cranston Community Action Program to provide information and assistance with

- **Procedures for filing and processing of claims**
- **Resources and assistance currently available from or through the City of Cranston**

And I hereby request the City Clerk to notify all Council members of the Call of the special meeting.

Executed at Cranston, Rhode Island, this 25<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2005.

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/s/ Aram G. Garabedian, Council President

Individuals requesting interpreter services for the hearing-impaired must notify the Office of the City Clerk at 461-1000 Ext. 3197 seventy-two (72) hours in advance of the hearing date."

-OCTOBER 28, 2005-

## CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that a true copy of the attached Call of a special meeting of the City Council to be held on Friday, October 28, 2005 at 6:30 P.M. in the Cranston High School East Cafeteria, 899 Park Ave., Cranston, R.I. was delivered via electronic mail on the 25<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2005 and regular mail, postage prepaid to the addresses listed below.

Council President Aram G. Garabedian  
173 Belvedere Dr.  
Cranston, RI 02920  
[Blissproperties@BDOL.com](mailto:Blissproperties@BDOL.com)

Council Member Maria A. Bucci  
50 Lee St.  
Cranston, RI 02920  
[MarBC4@aol.com](mailto:MarBC4@aol.com)

Council Member Cynthia M. Fogarty  
60 Ausdale Rd.  
Cranston, RI 02910  
[Fogarty1@msn.com](mailto:Fogarty1@msn.com)

Councilman Allan W. Fung  
252F Mayfield Ave.  
Cranston, RI 02920  
[alfung@cox.net](mailto:alfung@cox.net)

Councilman Terence Livingston  
28 Tucker Ave.  
Cranston, RI 02905  
[Telesq@yahoo.com](mailto:Telesq@yahoo.com)

Councilman Jeffrey P. Barone  
16 Samuel Court  
Cranston, RI  
[Jeffreyb22@cox.net](mailto:Jeffreyb22@cox.net)

Councilwoman Paula McFarland  
100 Pomham St.  
Cranston, RI 02910  
[pmcfarland@prodigy.net](mailto:pmcfarland@prodigy.net)

Councilman Michael S. Pisaturo  
17 Warren Ct.  
Cranston, RI 02920  
[mpisaturo@cranstonri.org](mailto:mpisaturo@cranstonri.org)

Councilman John E. Lanni, Jr.  
111 Woodview Dr.  
Cranston, RI 02920  
[jlanni@peterpanbus.com](mailto:jlanni@peterpanbus.com)

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/s/ Rosalba Zanni, Assistant City Clerk

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Council President Garabedian stated that Council Vice-President McFarland is out of town and cannot be present this evening.

Council President Garabedian announced that the following individuals were present this evening to answer any questions from the public:

- W. Michael Sullivan, Director of Department of Environmental Management
- Al Storti, Director of Community Development and his Assistant, Stephanie Susi
- Joanne McGunagle, Director of CCAP and Joanne Gregoroy, Executive Director of Social Services
- Robert Warren, Executive Director of RI Emergency Management
- Peter Mezei, CPA of Lefkowitz, Garfinkel, Champi & DeRienzo
- Representative Robert Jacquard
- Representative James Davey
- Representative Stephen Ucci
- Larry Macera, State of RI Emergency Coordinator
- Walter Skorupski from the City of Cranston Engineering Department
- Dan Gauvin of Veolia Water

Council President Garabedian introduced the Mayor. Mayor Laffey welcomed and thanked everyone who is in attendance this evening and stated how sorry he is for what happened to the homes of the people affected by the flood. He also stated that he thinks it is good that everyone is here this evening because there are various City Departments represented that can answer questions from the public following the meeting. Certainly, people can file a claim through the City, if they would like.

Acting Fire Chief Gumbly appeared to speak and stated that if anyone has questions regarding FEMA, they can call the Fire Department at 780-4024 and he will return the calls. He also stated that FEMA did a survey the other day and they have not reported back to the City yet.

City Solicitor Glucksman appeared to speak and explained how the Insurance Risk Commission operates. He stated that after this meeting, he will be distributing copies of claims forms if anyone would like to file a claim, which will then be referred to the Insurance Risk Commission. He noted to the members of the public present, that this is the best way to get their matter before the City. He also stated that the person to call is the Claims Examiner, Anna Marino, at 780-3208 or the Chair of Insurance Risk Commission, Councilman Pisaturo at 946-0857. All Council members will be available to answer questions, and their phone numbers and e-mail addresses are listed on the City's website.

Robert Warren, Executive Director of RI Emergency Management, appeared to speak and stated that what his agency has done is contacted FEMA and requested a preliminary management assessment. FEMA has gone through the State. What they have done is look into public assistance of municipalities and individual homeowners. Hopefully, he will hear from FEMA by Monday and forward the findings to the Governor and hope to get a declaration from the President.

Al Storti, Director of Community Development, appeared to speak of how his department can assist the people effected by the flood. He stated that his department provides 0 % interest-free loans. The loan would be paid back at the time of sale of home. This program is income eligible. He stated that his office is located at 1090 Cranston St., hours are 8:30 to 4:30 and the phone number is 461-1000 Ext. 7226. Councilman Lanni asked what is income eligibility. Mr. Storti stated that he has handouts setting the guidelines.

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Marco Schiappa, City of Cranston Director of Public Works, appeared to speak and stated that the Public Works Department has been looking at the sewer pump stations and this report will go back to the Insurance Risk Commission. His department has gone out with FEMA a few days ago to tour the City effected by the flood. His contact number is 780-3175.

Council President Garabedian stated that he contacted Mayor Macera from the Town of Johnston and he will be meeting with him regarding the Pocasset River to address the flooding problem at Fletcher Ave. and together with the State, Federal Government and the local municipalities, these problems can be addressed.

Kerry Anderson, City of Cranston Building Official, appeared to speak and extended his apologies of what everyone has been through during the recent flood. He stated that what his department can offer the public is a chance to see where they live. His department has a flood plan map that people are welcomed to go look at. He will be available after the meeting to answer questions regarding structures, permitting, Building Code issues and Contractors. Right now, there is a moratorium on building permit fees. His contact number is 780-6012.

Joanne McGunagle, Director of CCAP, appeared to speak and stated that her agency last week, asked the State if they could free up more money and today they said they could. She stated that her agency provides boiler replacement or repair program, based on income eligibility. The Health Center is available for any health issues. Her agency is located at 310 Doric Ave. and the phone number is 467-9610.

Peter Mezei, CPA, appeared to speak and stated that the most important thing he can suggest is you have to be able to prove it in order to receive any kind of tax benefit. To prove it, is to prove what the item was worth before and after the loss.

Councilman Barone asked Councilman Pisaturo to address the process of the Insurance Risk Commission. Councilman Pisaturo stated that the Commission has started to meet yesterday in processing some of the claims and he plans to hold meetings once a week. Those meetings are in Executive Session, but it is his intention to move as quickly as possible. The next meeting will be on Tuesday at 5:00 P.M. in Executive Session.

Representative Stephen Ucci appeared to speak and questioned that there might be a six month limitation to filing a claim. Assistant City Solicitor Kirshenbaum stated that he will check into this.

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 P.M.

Maria Medeiros Wall  
City Clerk

Rosalba Zanni  
Assistant City Clerk/Clerk of Committees