

VILLAGE OF NORTH UTICA

801 S. Clark St., North Utica, IL 61373
Special Emergency Meeting of the Board of Trustees
1:30 p.m. on December 29, 2015
www.utica-il.gov

AGENDA

I. Call to Order.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Roll Call.

IV. President's Report:

1. Consideration and Possible Action on a Resolution Declaring a State of Emergency in the Village of North Utica.

2. Consideration and Possible Action on an Ordinance Granting emergency Powers to the Village President.

3. Consideration and Possible Action on an Ordinance for Authorization of Reimbursement from Available State and Federal Funds as allowed by Law.

V. Discussion of Flooding Issues and Status as Pertains to Village Affairs.

VI. Adjournment.

Posted: 12-29-2015

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MINUTES

At 1:37 pm the Special Meeting of the Village Board of Trustees was called to Order by Village President Matt Jereb who then led the Pledge of Allegiance. Village Clerk Laurie Gbur called the roll. Present at the meeting were Trustees John Schweickert, Dave Stewart, Ron Pawlak, Joe Bernardoni, John Pappas and Kevin Stewart. Also Present were Village Attorney Herb Klein and Village Engineer Kevin Heitz.

Mayor Jereb stated that the Special Meeting was being held to provide an update to the Village Board and the Community about the Illinois River flood projections. Due to storm Goliath, there is a potential for flooding within the following 48 to 72 hours. Mayor Jereb, along with Utica Fire Protection District were tracking the storm and following projections. Village Engineer Kevin Heitz stated that everyone is keeping a close eye on flooding possibilities by looking at information posted on rivergages.com as well as the National Weather Service. Projections do include rainfall and are updated approx. every 12 hours at 11 am and 11 pm. It was projected that the level would reach 462.5 by noon on December 30, 2015.

Heitz then stated that the Village has contracted with a company to put together data by aerial topography that will show elevations. This will enable us to further determine what elevation and water level puts flood water into the Village. Currently we think that 463 would require voluntary evacuation and 464 would require mandatory evacuation, but until we can look at the data, we are not sure what that number is.

Trustee Schweickert asked if more rain was in the forecast.

Heitz answered that approx. 1" of precipitation was anticipated the next day, however the 7 day period following that should be somewhat dry.

Mr. Joe Plankenhorn, owner of Clark St. Studio, stated that he has followed the flooding elevations for several years. Something may have changed because that number seems to be different now.

Heitz stated that the numbers of 463 and 464 have come from the data compiled from several flood events that impacted the Village. He also agreed that something has changed. The aerial topography should show the answer to that question and once we get that data, we can work with other agencies to form an action plan.

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Mayor Jereb said that he remains cautiously optimistic and if we were able to get through the next 24 – 48 hours, hopefully we will get into dry weather. He also stated that we would not be moving the Village Hall yet.

It was then motioned by Trustee Schweickert, seconded by Trustee D. Stewart to approve Resolution R15-10 Declaring a State of Emergency that would allow the Mayor to take action if needed. This is a requirement to obtain assistance and funding if it becomes necessary and available.

6 Yes
Motion Carried

It was then motioned by Trustee Pawlak, seconded by Trustee Pappas to approve Ordinance 2015-36 granting emergency powers to the Village President in the event flooding would occur.

6 Yes
Motion Carried

It was then motioned by Trustee D. Stewart, seconded by Trustee Schweickert to approve Ordinance 2015-37 authorizing the Village to obtain reimbursement if it becomes available after a flooding event.

6 Yes
Motion Carried

Comments:

Mr. Plankenhorn then stated that he had begun just picking things up from the floor and putting them up a bit higher just in case. He was not moving anything out of the property but wanted to pick them up in the event that something changes and the projections of the Illinois River would rise. He also reminded everyone that maintaining heat is a good idea at this time of the year anyway, but during a flood event it is imperative. He also stated that the pumps need to keep functioning and remain active in the Village sewer lagoon. Engineer Heitz agreed.

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Ms. Sandy Grubar, owner of the Village Greenhouse Liquor Store, thanked Mayor Jereb and the Village Board for holding the informational meeting to keep everyone updated.

Mayor Jereb then thanked everyone for attending the Special Meeting and reminded them that Utica remains 'open for business' and that if something changes we would do our best to get the word out and keep everyone informed.

With no additional business, it was motioned by Village Trustee Schweickert, seconded by Trustee Pawlak to adjourn the meeting at 1:57 pm.

All in favor

Motion Carried

Respectfully submitted,

Laurie A. Gbur
Village Clerk