

**MINUTES OF THE
WATERTOWN CITY COUNCIL
Emergency Meeting Friday, March 4, 2011**

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, the emergency meeting of the Watertown City Council was called to order at 5:00 p.m. on Friday, March 4, 2011 by Mayor KJ McDonald in the Watertown City Hall Council Chambers.

Upon roll call the following Council Members were present: Mayor KJ McDonald, Stephen Crowder, Nicholas Hoese, Rick Mann and Michael Walters.

The following staff members were present: City Administrator Luke Fischer, Finance Director/Clerk-Treasurer Steven Wallner and, Public Works Supt. Doug Kammerer.

3. NEW/OLD BUSINESS

Administrator Fischer presented the Council with the most recent flood forecast from the National Weather Service which was released on Thursday, March 3, 2011. The forecast shows a 70 percent chance that the flooding this spring will be the same as 2010 and a 50% chance that the flood will crest at 18 feet. This forecast is conservative in that it assumes no additional precipitation and an ideal thaw.

Fischer reviewed the flood plan and presented materials and equipment needs for both the Action Phase and Phase I of the flood plan. Staff prepared these needs based on the forecast from the National Weather Service.

The needs presented for the Action Phase included equipment, four trash pumps, totaling \$5,713.92 and materials: sand, bags and plastic sheeting, totaling \$9,436.80.

The needs presented for Phase I included: barriers, sand, bags, clay, plastic sheeting and estimated labor totaling \$79,254.50.

Fischer presented information on obtaining flood insurance on the wastewater treatment facility. The premium would be approximately \$3,000 and provide \$500,000 coverage on the structure and \$500,000 coverage on the contents.

Mayor McDonald recommended that the Council approve a resolution declaring a state of emergency.

The Council discussed what would be the best and most efficient way to distribute sand bags to those residents who would need or desire them. The Council also discussed who should pay for the materials. The Council directed staff to survey homeowners and businesses to see who would use the materials and who would pay for the materials. Staff will prepare a script and seek Council approval of the script.

The Council discussed the need for flood insurance for the wastewater treatment facility. Council Member Walters moved to approve application for flood insurance. The motion was seconded by Council Member Hoese. Motion approved unanimously.

Fischer recommended that the Council approve a lease agreement with Darwin Roy to store two fire vehicles in his workshop during the flood and asked that the Council give staff the authority to execute the lease agreement. Walters moved to approve the lease agreement with Darwin Roy for \$100 per seven days and authorize staff to execute the agreement. The motion was seconded by Council Member Crowder. Motion approved unanimously.

The Council discussed purchasing four 4 inch trash pumps and hoses. Crowder moved to approve the purchase of four 4 inch trash pumps and hoses. The motion was seconded by Walters. Motion approved unanimously.

The Council discussed the initial purchase of sand and bags. Crowder moved to approve the initial purchase of ten thousand bags and sand. Council Member Hoese seconded the motion. Motion approved unanimously.

The Council agreed that a decision on a levy to protect the wastewater treatment facility would be made before the water reaches the 14 foot level.

Fischer presented Resolution 2011-03-04-1 Declaring a State of Emergency to the Council. Mayor McDonald moved to approve Resolution 2011-03-04-1 Declaring a State of Emergency. The motion was seconded by Council Member Mann. Motion approved unanimously.

McDonald stressed that the Council and staff needs to have a unified voice and message relating to the flood and the preparations for the flood. The Mayor will be the primary spokesman for the Council.

4. **ADJOURNMENT**

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 6:58 PM.

ATTEST:

Steven Wallner
City Clerk-Treasurer

Kenneth J. McDonald
Mayor