

The Emergency meeting of the Harbor Commission of the Borough of Atlantic Highlands was held Thursday November 1, 2012 at Borough Hall, 100 First Avenue, Atlantic Highlands, New Jersey.

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M. with the following roll call:

PRESENT: Commissioner Jacob Hoffmann, Commissioner Albert Thompson, Commissioner Frank McDonald, Commissioner Walter Curry, Commissioner Helen Marchetti, Commissioner Roy Dellosso, Commissioner Jane Frotton

ABSENT: None

Also present were Attorney Bernard Reilly, Adam Hubeny, Administrator, Harbor Manager, John Amici and Michelle Clark, recording Secretary

Commissioner Frotton announced that Notice of this Emergency of the Harbor commission of the Borough of Atlantic Highlands was called, pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 10:4-9 and the Open Public Meetings Law. Notice of this meeting will be forwarded to the Asbury Park Press and the Two River Times when the return of power and phone services will permit. In addition copies of this notice were posted on the bulletin board in the Borough Hall and filed in the Office of the Municipal Clerk on the aforementioned date. The need for this emergency meeting could not reasonably have been foreseen at a time when adequate notice could have been provided.

This meeting will be limited to the discussion of the Commission's actions to be taken with respect to the recovery, restoration and rebuilding of services lost.

Commissioner Frotton made the following statement:

"As you know, the Borough, and more particular the Harbor, took a hard hit by Hurricane Sandy whose tropical storm winds and water surge devastated the harbor. The entire Borough and most of Monmouth County are still without power tonight.

Prior to the storm, the harbor staff worked aggressively to remove many items along the promenade and the parking lot and the yard crew removed over 70 boats in three days by working 12 hour shifts.

We have had harbor crews working around the clock starting on Sunday and they have done an outstanding job in preparing the Harbor for this storm and helping our customers. Unfortunately, we were simply unable to remove all of the boats that were in the harbor. Although some people called a week or so in advance of the storm, those who started calling on Thursday and Friday were placed on a waiting list for removal. The storm winds began on Sunday evening and boat removal operations ceased due to the safety concern for our staff.

The Commission has begun working with emergency responders by getting the harbor secure. We have our local police, the National Guard, the Sheriffs and Prosecutor's Office working 24 hours cooperating with our local Police Chief and Harbor Manager. By way of emergency declaration by the OEM Coordinator and the Mayor, we

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have restricted access to the Harbor. This has been done for the sole purpose of safety and to protect the boat owner's property.

The Harbor Commission has agreed to a single contractor recovering or salvaging the boats in the harbor. Miller Towing and Salvage will be the exclusive operator of the recovery efforts. We ask that you cooperate with Miller's Towing and Salvage and provide them with the necessary information they will need in order to get your boat recovered. Miller's Towing and Salvage has already begun recovery efforts. A few boats have already been righted and operations will continue seven days a week.

We also ask that you comply with our declaration and stay out of the harbor until it is made safe.

John and Carol have been relocated to Borough Hall and they will continue to provide the same excellent service that they have provided in the past. The phone number remains the same, 732-291-1670. The extension numbers have changed. Carol can be reached at 3404 and John is at extension 3413."

We will take questions from the public, but I ask that you stand, state your name and address and your boat slip. We will do our best to answer your question. "

Commissioner Thompson offered a motion to have all questions directed to Commissioner Frotton, Administrator Hubeny and Harbor Manager Amici, seconded by Commissioner Dellosso and upon roll call was unanimously carried.

Administrator Hubeny and Harbor Manager Amici addressed boat owners regarding efforts to date regarding keeping property and the importance of contacting insurance companies. Mr. Hubeny introduced Richard White OEM who has been hired to assist Harbor Manager Amici with FEMA, etc., and he also complimented Mr. Osborne and his crew for the excellent work they have been accomplishing.

Administrator Hubeny and Attorney Reilly led a discussion on using only one contractor for the response, retrieval and restoration/ recovery project which will make the project much easier.

Commissioner Hoffmann offered a motion to execute a contract with Miller Towing and Salvage, seconded by Commissioner Dellosso and upon roll call was unanimously carried.

Commissioner Frotton asked if anyone from the public cared to address the Commission. The following individuals addressed the Commission on the following issues:  
Robert Kmak, Franks Pier Slip 59, David Monar, Pier 3 Slip 25 , Al Zalata Pier 2 Slip9  
Dennis Ziemba mooring T-5, Brian Gillian, mooring N-5, James Kastner Pier 3 slip 39,  
Lou Mellilo Pier 5 slip 35, Anthony Setaro mooring ZZ1, Charles Parker mooring W-5,

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Mike Duda Asbury Avenue, Luanne Rathemacher mooring RF-11, Richard Brecher Pier 3 Slip-24, Tom Buban, Atlantic Star, etc.

Issues discussed were: how boats in the water will be removed, is there transportation to boats still in the water, contract signing with Miller Towing, what determines a boat to be salvaged, replacement of jack stands, were pictures taken of boats, access to the Yacht Club building, process to retrieve sunken vessels in a timely manner, deposits for 2013 contracts what will happen if no new boat is acquired, and also if boats have been destroyed what will happen to winter storage contracts that are paid in full.

Luanne Rathemacher, mooring RF-11 asked about contract deposits being due on December 1st.

Commissioner Frotton responded by saying deposits are expected to be made by December 1st. Adjustments may be considered in the future and we expect to be in operation on April 1st.

Mr. Hubeny and Mr. Amici spoke of safety issues. Only boat owners will be allowed to enter the yard with proper identification. A structural Engineer has been hired to assess all buildings and an electrical inspection is scheduled. Mr. Amici will send e-mail updates to customers when new information is received.

There being no further business to come before the meeting Commissioner Marchetti offered a motion to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Thompson and upon roll call was unanimously carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:17 PM.

Michelle Clark  
Secretary













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