

Village of Rapids City  
Committee of the Whole Meeting to discuss:  
2019 Flooding  
March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2019

President Mire called the meeting of the Committee of the Whole to order at 7:50pm.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call: Clark, Fowler, Rankin, Robertson, Mire

Absent: Schneider, Fiems

Others Present: Ryan Bump, Missy Housenga, Mrs. McCoy, Hanna Prigge, Hannah Herraman, Deb & Corey Fulton, Bob DeBlaey, Doug DeBlaey, Dan Kehl, Ryan Goss, Willi & Diane Raabe, Jan Spier, Jennifer & Jordan Sutton, Donna & Dan Adamowich, Dave Perely, Don Carey entered at 7:17pm.

President Mire called this Emergency Committee of the Whole Meeting to order to discuss 2019 flooding. Discussion took place concerning the impact of flooding to residents and Village maintained utilities. Currently, flood projections are at a 22% chance of the type of flood that occurred in 1965 where waters reached 17'9", which would possibly leave approximately 3 ½ foot of water over 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue; a 55% chance of the type of flood that occurred in 1993 and 2001 where flood waters covered 2'6" of 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue. The Village's first priority is to prevent sewage back-ups, by protecting the sewer lift station on 14<sup>th</sup> Street. Ten Hesco Barriers are currently in the Village's possession will be placed around the lift station, creating a 19' barrier for protection from the waters. Mire thanked the Rock Island District National Flood Fight Material Center for the donation of the ten barriers we currently have. An additional ten Hesco Barriers were purchased at the cost of \$4190.00 to be utilized as needed. \$5000.00 was approved at the Regular Board Meeting held on March 12<sup>th</sup>, 2019 for flood preparations.

Rankin informed everyone the Village is working with the Army Corps of Engineers, Illinois Emergency Management Agency and the National Weather Service. Rankin explained once flood waters reach 13'6" a sand bagging area will be set up and available for use, manhole will be sealed and covered. Once waters reach 14'6" roads will be closed off, contact media as to prevent gawkers. If waters were to be predicted to reach 16' home owners will be contacted and manholes would be sealed and covered on 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue A as a precautionary measure. All plans are subject to change as predictions change. Public Works Director Ryan Bump asked all residents to make sure sump pumps are not tied into the sewer system, further asking that floor drains be plugged and/or covered and finally, to verify sewer cleanouts in yards are sealed and not broken.

Mire did note he saw the Hyatt House in East Moline is offering a discounted rate for displaced citizens affected by the flood.

Mire asked the Board to consider an additional \$5000.00 allowance in case additional supplies are needed for flood preparations, bringing the total flood preparation allowance to \$10,000.00. Robertson motioned to amend the motion made at the March 12<sup>th</sup>, 2019 Regular Board Meeting to allow a total of \$10,000.00 to use for flood preparations. Clark seconded. All present voted yes. Motion carries.

Robertson motioned at anytime flood waters reach 16' then President Mire can make whatever purchases are necessary to protect city and private property, terminating this authority once flood waters recede 16'. Fowler seconded. All present voted yes.

Funding from FEMA would not become available until the County and Governor of Illinois were to declare a State of Emergency.

Mire opened discussion to all present at the meeting.

Questions have been asked by residents if they needed flood insurance. Mire stated he could not give advice on this matter.

Flooding is projected to occur April 15<sup>th</sup> through May 6<sup>th</sup>.

The National Weather Service's website will be linked on the Village's website and Facebook page to help gage water levels.

Currently, sand and bags are available at the Public Works Building and once we get closer to the flooding event another station will be set up by the Post Office.

Police will be conducting extra patrols during the flooding.

If flooding occurs on 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue residents will need to park on a side street and walk to their homes.

Rapids City Fire Protection District Fire Chief Carey gave kudos to the Board for their advanced planning. Once sand bags are filled the Department does have the equipment to help move the bag to where they need to go.

Rankin noted once a voluntary sand bagging preparation event has been planned the Red Cross can be contacted and will attend providing a coffee and snacks for those who help.

Mire thanked everyone that attended and reminded everyone that staff can answer any questions you may have.

Having no further business to conduct at this time, Rankin motioned to adjourn this Committee of the Whole Meeting, Fowler seconded. The motion passed, President Mire adjourned by consensus of the Board at 7:22pm.

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Clerk