

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE RAMAPO TOWN BOARD HELD
ON DECEMBER 30, 2011**

The Town Board of the Town of Ramapo convened in **Special Session** on Friday, December 30, 2011 in the Edwin Wallace Auditorium of Ramapo Town Hall, 237 Route 59, Suffern, New York 10901.

Supervisor Christopher P. St. Lawrence called the meeting to order and **Deputy Town Clerk, Maureen Pehush** called the roll. The following board members were present and answered to their names:

Present:	Supervisor	Christopher P. St. Lawrence
	Councilwoman	Frances M. Hunter
	Councilman	Daniel Friedman
	Councilman	Yitzchok Ullman
	Councilman	Patrick J. Withers
	Deputy Town Attorney	Alan Berman
	Deputy Town Clerk	Maureen Pehush

Councilman Withers led the assembled group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

SUPERVISOR ST. LAWRENCE announced today's meeting would be Councilwoman Hunter's last Town Board meeting. He thanked her for twenty-three years of service to the Town and to Rockland County as a Police Commissioner, Councilwoman and Deputy Supervisor, as well as, having been a Principal and Educator in the public school system.

OPEN PERIOD FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The following persons addressed the Town Board this morning;

1. **Roy Tschudy** – 16 Lonergan Drive, Suffern, NY – Thanks to Councilwoman Hunter for her years of service; thanks for phase 1 relief to Squire's Gate residences; questioned if there was a template for determination of loss for tax relief; extends Happy New Year wishes
2. **Richard Karpp** – 88 Lonergan Drive, Suffern, NY – advises no houses have yet to be declared condemned, but are deemed inhabitable; expresses concern for future and calls for no more studies; extends Happy New Year wishes
3. **Mr. Gonzalez** – 56 Lonergan Drive, Suffern, NY – Thanks to Town Board for their work and efforts; advises he is living in fear that the river can no longer sustain light rain storms; requests river clean up; extends Happy New Year wishes

CLOSE OPEN PERIOD FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The following resolution was **moved by Councilman Withers, seconded by Councilman Friedman** and adopted by all board members:

RESOLUTION NO. 2011 – 724

RESOLVED by the Town Board of the Town of Ramapo that the Open Period for Public Participation held this morning, December 30, 2011, be hereby **closed at 10:20 AM.**

ADOPTION OF ASSESSMENT RELIEF FOR FLOOD VICTIMS OF HURRICANE IRENE & TROPICAL STORM LEE

The following resolution was **moved by Councilman Withers, seconded by Councilman Friedman** and adopted by all board members:

RESOLUTION NO. 2011 – 725

WHEREAS, New York has adopted the Hurricane Irene and Tropical Storm Lee Assessment Relief Act, by which certain local municipalities may provide tax relief to owners of properties that were “catastrophically impacted” by the above storms , and

WHEREAS, said legislation allows heavily damaged property to be reassessed on the 2011 assessment roll based upon its post-storm condition, and

WHEREAS, the Town is eligible to exercise the assessment provisions of the above act by adoption of a resolution,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Town Board of the Town of Ramapo that pursuant to the Hurricane Irene and Tropical Storm Lee Assessment Relief Act, the Town hereby adopts the provisions of the above act to properties within the Town of Ramapo.

COUNCIL MEMBERS’ COMMENTS

Councilman Withers – requests the Town join in legal action against owner of Arden Damn; expresses the importance of the plight of homeowners to himself and to the entire Board

Councilman Friedman – advises the Town of Ramapo is first municipality to adopt the provisions of the Governor’s bill for relief to Town residents; congratulates Supervisor St. Lawrence for Governor’s recognition of his work and initiatives for the people of the Town of Ramapo

SUPERVISOR’S REPORT

Supervisor St. Lawrence – commends Governor for initiative of relief bill; addresses all concerns raised by residents and advises Assessor Scott Shedler, Mike Rielly and the Department of Public Works are available after the meeting to assist and answer questions; requests Deputy Town Attorney, Alan Berman, to prepare preliminary findings for the Town to join in legal suit against Arden Damn owners.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Town Board moved into Executive Session at **10:21 AM** and returned to the Town Board Meeting held this morning at **11:30 AM**.

ADJOURNMENT

The following resolution was **moved by Councilman Withers, seconded by Councilman Friedman** and adopted by all board members:

RESOLUTION NO. 2011 – 726

RESOLVED by the Town Board of the Town of Ramapo that the Special Meeting of the Ramapo Town Board held this morning, December 30, 2011, be hereby **adjourned** at **11:31 AM**.

Respectfully submitted,

Maureen Pehush
Deputy Town Clerk