

**SPECIAL MEETING  
MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 26, 2022**

The following are the Minutes from a Special Meeting of the Pompton Lakes Mayor and Council that was held on January 26, 2022 beginning at 7:00pm in the Municipal Building, 25 Lenox Avenue, Pompton Lakes, NJ.

Mayor Michael Serra read the Open Public Meeting Law Statement of Compliance.

A roll call indicated that the following members were present: Mayor Michael Serra, Council President Jennifer Polidori, Councilmen William Baig, Bobby Cruz, Erik DeLine, Ekamon Venin, and Councilwoman Maria Kent.

Also present were Mark Semeraro, Borough Attorney, Kevin Boyle, Borough Administrator and Elizabeth Brandsness, Municipal Clerk.

Motion moved by Councilwoman Polidori, second by Councilwoman Kent to open the Meeting to the public. All voted in favor of the motion.

No one from the public wished to make comments.

Motion moved by Councilman Venin, second by Councilman Cruz, to close the Meeting to the public. All voted in favor of the motion.

Mayor Serra stated Lauren Venin, Flood Advisory Board Chair would provide a presentation for the River Work Action Plan.

Ms. Venin provided a brief history as to the number of years the Flood Advisory Board has monitored the rivers and stated past flooding events that occurred in the streams and rivers initiated mitigation efforts. Ms. Venin stated the plan is a summary of recommendations for river work and further flood mitigation projects within Pompton Lakes.

Ms. Venin reported on areas within Pequannock River, Ramapo River and the Wanaque River that have debris blockages and obstructions. A mapping of the rivers identified key areas to maintain and recommendations as to the high priority areas that require immediate attention.

Ms. Venin stated her concerns with the staging and the transition of heavy equipment/machinery when desilting and disengaging the rivers. An alternate approach was presented that included assistance from the Department of Public Works and after lengthy discussions (safety issues and manpower) the Mayor and Council determined the contractor would continue to remove the debris from the rivers.

Ms. Venin stated the Flood Advisory Board would continue to conduct river hazardous assessments and report the status of their findings to the Mayor and Council.

Mayor Serra stated Congressional representation would be changing and he would continue to reach out to local and State officials in an effort to address river mitigation and flooding issues. Mayor Serra also commented on the flood gates and stated the trees on the dam are scheduled to be removed in the near future. The Governing Body discussed the operation of the gates and the need for public outreach programs alerting new residents of the flood warning system.

Mayor Serra and Councilmembers thanked Ms. Venin for their presentation and the Flood Advisory Board for all their continued efforts in addressing flood concerns within Pompton Lakes. Mayor Serra stated the Borough Engineer would be notified as to the areas of concern that were noted during the presentation.

Motion moved by Councilman DeLine, second by Councilman Polidori to adjourn the Meeting at 7:25pm. All voted in favor of the motion.

**ATTEST:**

**APPROVED:**

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**ELIZABETH BRANDSNESS, RMC  
MUNICIPAL CLERK**

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**MAYOR MICHAEL SERRA**