

Rohr commends teamwork during recent snowstorm: Letter

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(Photo: Alex H. Wagner/Poughkeepsie Journal)

We in local government took the time to analyze our response in the wake of Winter Storm Stella.

Without exception, we are grateful to our dedicated highway and public works departments, our emergency responders, Dutchess County Executive Marcus Molinaro and the Dutchess County Emergency Operations Center.

Because government in New York state is designed along the concept of home rule, allowing for an independent approach to decisions, it was reassuring during this potentially dangerous weather event to have a system in place that provided a coordinated and organized approach to an emergency.

This system is the Dutchess County Department of Emergency Response.

With news of the impending storm, conference calls began between municipal leaders and Dutchess County leadership. The calls were organized and productive, identifying the procedures that would be implemented, our responsibilities, and the resources and support available.

We understood from the get-go when the state of emergency would be imposed and what this would mean to our residents.

The conference calls continued throughout the weather event, keeping everyone apprised of our options, and how to effectively ask for help from the Emergency Operations Center, New York state or Dutchess County's Department of Public Works.

We are grateful for the planning and leadership provided to us by Dutchess County Executive Marcus Molinaro during this event. When different layers of government work together, residents benefit — and events like Stella make this very clear.

Aileen Rohr

Hyde Park Town Supervisor

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