



# The Star-Ledger

## Bridgeton News

### MHA hoping for FEMA

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MILLVILLE - The Millville Housing Authority is seeking aid from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to make up a portion of the \$20,000 to \$25,000 in costs incurred during this winter's three heavy snowstorms.

The MHA plans to join with the City of Millville in its own application to FEMA. City officials have stated a snowstorm on Dec. 19 cost the municipal government \$74,844.55 in salt, overtime hours and private contractors. A pair of similar storms on Feb. 5-6 and Feb. 9-10 was estimated to cost the city \$70,000.

"We can't find a reason not to apply - the storms were unprecedented in recent history - and we can hopefully make some of that money back," said MHA Executive Director Paul Dice on Tuesday. "This will actually be the first time the (MHA) would seek funds from FEMA."

Millville Public Works Commissioner Dale Finch was present at the MHA meeting Tuesday stating FEMA could potentially reimburse 75 percent of the snow removal costs.

"But that cost is often inflated because of the cost of equipment," said Finch. "Communities in Salem County are also trying to recoup costs from the Dec. 19 storm, and if they can get it so can we. It shouldn't be a problem."

According to Dice, the MHA spent \$1,000 on each of its seven housing developments during each of the three storms. He added the authority's only piece of heavy equipment for snow removal is a single front-end loader.

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