



Meeting Minutes

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Bogota held on Thursday, November 10, 2016, in the Bogota Council Chambers at 7:30PM.

Salute to the Flag was led by

Roll Call: Mayor Kelemen and Council members Connors, Gates-Ferris, Miranda, Mitchell, and Napolitano were present. Councilwoman Fede was absent. Other Attendees included Borough Administrator Scarpa, Borough Attorney Bossong, and CFO DiMaria.

The notice requirements of the Open Public Meetings Law have been satisfied as notice was sent to two newspapers and posted on the Borough Hall bulletin board on October 25, 2016.

The following Resolutions on the Consent Agenda were approved:

- 16-19 Payment of Claims
- 16-163 Approving CY2016 Corrective Action Plan
- 16-164 Endorsing CD Grant for Road Resurfacing
- 16-165 Endorsing CD Grant for Senior Bus Driver
- 16-166 Endorsing CD Grant for Project Success
- 16-167 Award Bid for DPW Building to Javier Construction
- 16-168 Approval to submit Grant Application and Execute a Grant Contract with the NJ DOT for Transportation Alternatives Program for Streetscape Improvements on West Main Street
- 16-169 Appointing a Coordinator for the Borough's Emergency Telephone System
- 16-170 Settlement for Tax Appeal: Stone view LLC – 26 East Fort Lee Road
- 16-171 Settlement for Tax Appeal: Longview Apartments LLC – 61 East Main Street
- 16-172 Budget Transfers – November 2016
- 16-173 Authorize Job & Job to determine / approve Field Changes for 297 Palisade Ave Project.
- 16-174 Adopting Personnel Policies and Procedures
- 16-175 Refund duplicate tax payment to Block 70 Lot 14.

Public Hearing and Adoption of the following Bond Ordinance occurred:

#1488 Bond Ordinance - \$300,000 Various Improvements to Public Buildings and Facilities

The following Minutes were Approved:

Minutes for 10/6/16

Reports

Mayor Kelemen congratulated Councilwoman Ferris, Mary Ellen Murphy, and David Macfarlane on winning Council seats in the General Election. He thanked the Recreation Committee, Councilman Miranda, Administrator Scarpa, all involved Council members and the Clerk for their efforts in making the Fall Festival a great success. He reminded everyone about the Mayor's Walk on November 19th to promote Bogota as a Stigma Free Zone. He announced that the Church of God would like to provide Food Baskets to needy residents for Thanksgiving. He requested that people attend the Veterans' Day Service at the VFW at 8:00pm on Veterans' Day. He wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Councilwoman Gates-Ferris thanked Council President Mitchell and Councilman Connors for the time they gave to the town as Council members.

Councilwoman Gates-Ferris had no report.

Councilman Miranda: Recreation – He thanked the Recreation Committee for their work on the Fall Festival. He thanked Councilwoman Gates-Ferris, the DPW workers, and Mr. Scarpa for their contributions to the festival. The Recreation Committee is working on getting a blue line in support of Police Officers.

Council President Mitchell: Police – He said that the vests and guns are now here. The Police are continuing the Active Shooter training. He reminded everyone that a new police officer was hired, Matthew Luciano.

Senior Citizens – He reported that the back hallway down to library door has been painted.

Councilman Connors: Fire Department- He attended the Fire Department meeting where Volunteer Night was discussed. He reported that the Chief selection meeting will be held on December 7 at 7:00pm in the Senior Center. He said that Firehouse 2 has a very old truck.

Recreation – He attended the Recreation Committee meeting and requested approval of a Youth Club to go under the Recreation umbrella. He said that registrations were started and 70 to 80 children expressed interest.

Councilman Napolitano: Construction/

Planning/Zoning – He reported that the Grant Writer said that the town has a good chance of getting the grant to improve the schools, parks, sidewalks etc. He spoke about the Midtown Bridge bid and the need for drainage work on West Fort Lee Road first.

Finance – he reported that the audit is done, and there is an increase in Surplus.

Administrator Scarpa reported that the Fire Department must provide a quote and a FEMA number by Friday in order to submit a grant application. The information should be emailed to the Administrator. He said that the storefront on East Fort Lee Road has been restored and repaired. He reported that 203 Queen Anne Road may be demolished, and Bradley Bake Shop will be opening next to Master Pizza. He said that Department Heads will be receiving a Budget Memo for the 2017 request. Renovations are almost complete. The Police Department will be getting new flooring, and the painting in the Police Department is done. The Police will have an Open House. New garbage and recycling cans can be found outside Borough Hall. Fences were fixed by the fields, and bleachers were installed. Shred Day was a success. The Street Sign installation is completed. There was drainage work done in several locations in town including 3rd Place and Park Place. Students from Bogota Jr./Sr. High School will paint the mail box that collects old U.S. flags.

Borough Attorney Bossong reported that there are only 5 tax appeals left to settle.

Motion was made by Council President Mitchell, seconded by Councilman Miranda, to open the meeting up to Citizen Remarks. Motion carried.

Lisa Kohles questioned a surveyor she saw at Olsen Park.

Connie Carpenter questioned Green Acres and the Safe Route to Schools Grant. She questioned the audit and the surplus.

Michele Rugar asked for the time of the Mayor's Walk and of the VFW service. She asked why real estate was considered a closed session item.

Responses: The Mayor's Walk will be at 10:00am. The Safe Route to Schools Grant will save the Board of Education a large amount of money. Court Sense is looking at the property. The town is not involved.

Mayor Kelemen requested that the people spreading rumors should stop. He said that if all members of the Council work together, we will have success. If there is fighting and false rumors spread, the town will fall apart.

CFO DiMaria pointed out where the surplus of over \$1,000,000 could be found in the 2015 Audit.

Motion was made by Council President Mitchell, seconded by Councilman Miranda, to go into closed session. Motion Carried. Closed session was expected to last about 40 minutes. Resolution 16-175C was added to the agenda at 8:55pm.

When the Regular meeting reconvened, motion was made by Councilman Connors, seconded by Councilman Mitchell, to approve the following Resolution with Councilwoman Gates-Ferris voting No:

16-176 Authorization of Contract Extension with Joseph Scarpa as Borough Administrator

Motion to adjourn was made by Council President Mitchell, seconded by Councilman Connors. Motion carried, and the meeting adjourned at 9:58pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Borough Clerk Jeanne Cook.