



Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Bogota, held at the Bogota Council Chambers, 375 Larch Avenue, Bogota, NJ, on Thursday, June 28, 2018 at 7:30pm.

Salute to the Flag was led by Councilman Macfarlane.

Mayor Kelemen asked everyone to remain standing and bow their heads in a moment of silence for Joseph Burns, a resident who was very active in fighting for Civil Rights and a very successful long distance runner. He was one of the first runners in the New York City Marathon and was a member of the Harlem based NY Pioneer Club – the first inter-racial track and field organization in the region.

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 December 23, 2017..

Roll Call: Mayor Kelemen and Councilmembers Fede, Macfarlane, Miranda, and Napolitano were present. Councilwomen Gates-Ferris and Murphy were absent. Also attending were Borough Attorney Bossong, Borough Administrator Scarpa, Borough Auditor Wielkotz, and CFO Herr.

Motion was made by Councilman Napolitano, seconded by Councilwoman Fede, to open the meeting up for Citizen Remarks. Motion carried.

Connie Carpenter asked if the June 18 date was correct on Resolution 18-096. She also asked what would be purchased. She also asked about Holy Name EMS. She said that two people were charged by the Holy Name ambulance. She asked when the introduced budget will be on the website and also the AFS. She questioned the CAP ordinance. She asked that they reconsider the resource officer for the schools.

Michele Rugar mentioned that the resolution to introduce the budget and the resolution to hire Greg Bock as CFO were not on the website. She requested that the message concerning disposal of plastic bags be changed to dropping them off at a store. She commented on the more attractive layout for the River Development project and asked if the impact on the school system and services has been taken into consideration. She asked that the five minute rule be followed for Council members as well.

Motion to close Citizen Comments was made by Councilman Napolitano, seconded by Councilman Miranda. Motion carried.

Borough Administrator Scarpa reminded everyone that Holy Name EMS answered 70% of the calls when the Volunteer First Aid Squad was still in service, and people were billed. If they had no insurance, it was written off. He said that residents could call him if they have concerns about a bill. The medical expenses have stayed the same in the budget. The Holy Name EMS answers calls in 5 to 9 minutes as opposed to 20 to 30 minutes from the volunteer first aid. He also said that plastic bags gummed up the machines. He said that the bags could be used as garbage bags. Councilman Miranda said that he had to use the ambulance once for a family member and when he called, Holy Name arrived before the volunteer ambulance. He had to pay Holy Name for the service. Councilwoman Fede said that she does not like to see plastic bags thrown away. She is collecting the plastic bags to get a free Trex bench for the town. She would like to collect plastic bags on Shred Day as well. Mayor Kelemen reminded everyone that no one from the Board of Education came to the meetings about the proposed Fort Lee Road development until the Mayor reached out to the President of the Board of Education. He said that he cares about the schools, so he asked the Superintendent if there would be a problem, and the Superintendent said that it was not an issue. The Mayor said that it was a matter of life and death to choose Holy Name EMS. The First Aid Squad was given a year to straighten out and did nothing. The Council voted unanimously to hire Holy Name EMS. He said that anyone can call him with a question about billing. Councilman Napolitano said that the developer said that most of the children for the schools would be from affordable housing units. He said that we love children and hope they make a positive impact. He also said that this new development will provide some tax relief and community enhancements for recreation. Councilman Miranda commented that school enrollment decreased 10% in the last 7 years. He said that instead of worrying about more children coming, we should be worried about having decent parks and fields and recreation activities for all the children.

Jay Mahoney and Patty Petrosino were unable to attend the meeting to receive recognition for their years of service to the town. Ms. Petrosino will try to attend the July 19, 2018 meeting.

Motion was made by Councilman Macfarlane, seconded by Councilman Napolitano to open the meeting to a Public Hearing on Park Improvement through the Bergen County Trust Fund Municipal Program. Motion carried.

Administrator Scarpa explained that the Bogota share would be \$18,265 for a Spaceball L. Cubed Climbing Station. There were no Public Comments.

Motion was made by Councilman Miranda, seconded by Councilman Napolitano, to close the Public Hearing. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Councilman Napolitano, seconded by Councilman Miranda, to approve the following Resolution. Motion carried.:

18-096 Bergen County Trust Fund Application: Municipal Endorsing Resolution

The following Resolutions on the Consent Agenda were approved:

PC18-07 Payment of Claims

18-097 Cancel Low Escrow Balance for Block 91, Lot 2

18-098 Refund Abandoned Property Escrow to Cyprexx Services for Block 77, Lot 40

18-099 Issue Liquor licenses for 2018 -2019

18-100 Authorizing Renewal of Agreement with Holy Name EMS

18-101 Tax Redemption for Block 106, Lot 3

18-102 Tax Redemption for Block 25, Lot 11

18-103 Approve Hiring Camp Counselors for Summer Camp Program

18-104 Authorization to Cancel the Trust Reserve and transfer the balance to the Current Fund

18-105 Retirement of Sgt. Jonathan Misskerg from the Bogota PD and Authorizing Retirement Payout

Motion was made by Councilman Napolitano, seconded by Councilwoman Fede, to approve the following resolution. Motion carried.

Motion carried.

18-106 Introduction of the Budget

The Public Hearing on the Budget will take place on August 16, 2018.

Motion was made by Councilman Napolitano, seconded by Councilman Miranda, to approve the following Resolution. Motion carried.

18-107 Authorizing Appointment of Greg Bock from Battaglia Associates as Chief Financial Officer and Battaglia Associates for Financial Services

Mayor Kelemen thanked Ray Herr for coming to the Borough's aid in time of need.

The Following Ordinance was introduced:

#1515 CAP Ordinance

The Public Hearing on Ordinance #1515 will take place at the July 19, 2018 meeting.

Public Hearing and adoption of the Following Ordinance took place:

#1514 An Ordinance Amending Schedule VII of chapter 7-3.6 Entitled "Time Limit Parking" – to Establish an Exception for Active Borough Volunteers

Approval: Motion was made by Councilman Napolitano, seconded by Councilman Miranda, to approve the Minutes of 6/7/18. Motion carried.

Discussion: Last year, Teaneck went out to bid for repairing Fort Lee Road and estimated Bogota's portion. They have repaired a portion of Fort Lee Road in Bogota from Queen Anne road to Crestview Place, and Bogota will pay Teaneck for the repair.

Reports

Councilman Miranda: Recreation – He reported that the summer camp started on June 25, 2018. He said that school is out now, and U-gals softball looks great. He said that the DPW is helping to maintain the fields. He announced that a soccer program is happening on our fields, and Ridgefield Park Soccer uses Bogota fields. St. Joseph's basketball is on. He would like to make sure that we have many activities for children to keep children safe this summer and throughout the year.

Councilwoman Fede: Finance – She reported that she was part of the budget meeting and the Police Negotiations. She thanked the Mayor for the opportunity to be part of Police negotiations because it was rewarding and a learning experience. She announced that she attended the School Academic awards and was happy to see so many bright scholars. She said that Mike Lucas gave a \$25,000 scholarship.

Environmental Commission – She reported that the Commission did not have quorum for its meeting. She would like to move forward on the Ceative team which had been discussed. She would like to discuss the bamboo issue at a future council meeting.

She said that the ash trees should come down, and the State approved a \$10,000 grant for tree maintenance.

Rescue Squad –She announced that she will be marching in the 4th of July parade in Ridgefield Park. She reported that the crosswalks on Queen Anne Road need to be painted.

Councilman Napolitano: Buildings and Grounds – He announced that the ribbon cutting ceremony for the DPW building will take place after Fort Lee Road is paved. He reported that the DPW cleaned out the catch basin on the back field which helped to reduce the flooding their.

BACSA – He said that BACSA sponsored project graduation night out for high school students. They went to an Escape Room. BACSA is looking for events to keep children out of trouble and away from temptation of drugs. He wanted to thank Pauline McDonell and her volunteers for the great job they are doing.

Senior Citizens – He said that the Senior Advisory Board meetings were suspended for the summer, so the Seniors gave the Borough Administrator a list of demands.

Infrastructure – He said they are working on the application for Safe Routes to School Grant. We received cooperation from Steen School. They did tallies for us. He, Joe Scarpa, and the engineer took a walk around the school to see improvements to get students in and out of school. They are talking about getting blinking signs for traffic and improving the sidewalks. An application for the Transportation Alternative is in the works.

The majority of the grant money is supposed to be going to municipalities. The Pascack Valley Cooperative roadwork is going out to bid.

Planning & Zoning – He reported that site improvements were presented by RCB Urban Renewal for 4 buildings instead of 5 to open up the waterfront. He said that the charging station that the town received a grant for might be able to be put there. He said that the developer bragged that Bogota was a great town to work with from the police, fire, building, everyone in Borough Hall. The developer is working on the flooding problem. There is a new sign at the stop light that lights up. There is a new railroad sign now that the railroad crossing has been redone.

Councilman Macfarlane: Board of Education – He said that parking improvements are continuing. At the last meeting, an agenda item was dropped about hiring a resource officer. It was said that the school does not have money for a resource officer. The Board of Education is exploring sharing an SRO. The Mayor appointed a committee to discuss it. Councilman Miranda pointed out that proper procedure needs to be followed. Too many roomers are going around. The town would be responsible for \$250,000 of taxpayer money. Administrator Scarpa said that a large budget item needs to be considered a year before it is put in place because it has to be put into the budget.

Mayor Kelemen said that he received a letter from Mrs. Kohles. The Safe Route to School grant is in the works. He said that the Mayor's breakfast with the Steen School third graders and their teachers went very well. He received great letters from the students. The Police Chief gave the students a tour of the police station. He said that Pastor Olsen is retiring from Trinity Lutheran Church, and Sgt. Missberg is retiring from the Bogota Police Department. He wishes them both well on their retirements. Shred Day will be held on June 30, 2018. The Bogota High School graduation was very well done. He presented a plaque to Ms. Ciccone at Steen School on her retirement. He reported that the Planning and Zoning Board meeting was well attended and it was nice to see everyone in favor of the new project. He was very

proud of the Planning and Zoning Board and on our professionals and governing body members for a job well done on the Riverfront Development. He will be receiving pictures from the developer to be put up around town for everyone to see. He commended Nick Barese on his great work. He said that the bus stop on Beechwood Avenue is being moved. He wished the Fire and Rescue and Councilwoman Fede good luck on the 4th of July. He said that the BACSA event was great. He thanked Pauline McDonnell and Councilman Napolitano for their work with BACSA. The bids are being advertised for a new fire engine. Renovations at the West Shore Avenue firehouse and Central Avenue Firehouse are needed. The Mayor suggested tearing down the Central Avenue firehouse and selling the land. Then build a large firehouse where the West Shore Avenue firehouse is now. Central Avenue and West Shore Avenue both need a lot of money to be repaired. One new unit may be the better way to go. He would like research to be done to see if one combined house at West Shore Avenue would be better.

Administrator Scarpa announced that the Sgt. Test is scheduled for September 6th, and recreation day camp started. He said that JIF issued a Cyber Risk Management plan concerning computer security. He spoke with Bogota's IT professional and Detective Liriano about this security matter. He reported that the Holy Name Ambulance service will run from July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019. JIF required training was completed by department heads. The fire engine bid will be advertised July 1, 2018 and opened August 23rd. The Borough Hall fire escapes will be repaired. Shred Day is June 30th. Leonia Avenue Phase 3 and Phase 4 will be combined. The Pascack Valley cooperative for roadwork for Maplewood Avenue, East Broad Street, and a portion of Larch Avenue will be going out to bid soon. ID cards will be issued to all employees.

The Borough Attorney said that some clean-up will have to be done at the next meeting on the redeveloper's agreement. The finance company has some additional language to be added to the agreement. Also the community benefit payment needs to be adjusted. The payments for each agreement will increase since it divided by 4 instead of 5 buildings. The developer is hoping to apply for permits within the next 30 to 45 days.

Borough Attorney Bossong also reported that the NJ Supreme Court made a change in the rules for rice notices. If the intent is to discuss certain Personnel matters in open session, there will be no need for a rice notice. A new bill is going through the legislature to make changes to the OPMA and OPRA laws (Senate Bill 106). One change is that subcommittee meetings will be OPRA'd and must be advertised. Minutes will be needed as well as adequate notice. No private communication such as texts and emails concerning agenda items can take place. Citizen remarks can be limited to agenda items.

Councilman Napolitano said that Recognition was given to Councilwoman Fede and Bogota for the rededication of the mid-town bridge. County Engineer Femia showed slides of the rededication.

Motion was made by Councilman Macfarlane seconded by Councilman Miranda, to go into closed session. Motion carried so Resolution 18-107C was added to the agenda at 9:02pm.

The open session reconvened at 9:10pm. Labor Attorney Giblin explained the memorandum of agreement which had been negotiated for the last few months.

Motion was made by Councilman Miranda, seconded by Councilwoman Fede, to approve the memorandum of agreement and to have Labor Attorney Giblin add it to the recent contract.

Motion was made by Councilman Macfarlane seconded by Councilman Napolitano, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried and the meeting ended at 9:40pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Borough Clerk Jeanne Cook.