

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Bogota held on Thursday, September 19, 2013, in the Council Chambers of Borough Hall at 7:30 PM

Salute to the Flag was led by Councilwoman Uceta

Roll Call: Mayor McHale, Council members Uceta, Jackson, Nunez, Konigsberg, and Burdiez were present; Councilman Robbins was present telephonically

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 January 3, 2013

The following items on the consent agenda were approved:

Resolutions:

13-167 Advertise bid #13-04 for automated payroll services

13-168 Authorize BCCD agreement - 2013 road program, Chestnut, Cypress, Fairview Avenues for \$100,000

13-169 NJDOT advised that Bogota receives an allotment for Leonia Avenue

Approvals:

Fire Department accepts William A. Mora as member

The following minutes were approved:

August 15 (Councilman Nunez abstained) and September 5

The following resolution was adopted and Councilman Nunez questioned several items listed on the PC: 13-10

The following ordinance was adopted:

#1432 Application for a long term tax exemption and a financial agreement between the Borough of Bogota and 297 Palisades Urban Renewal Company, LLC, pursuant to the long term tax exemption law NJSA 40A:20-1 et seq. with annual service charge payments pursuant to the financial agreement.

There was a two hour discussion on the advantages and/or disadvantages concerning the above pilot and how much the borough will benefit. Members in favor of it were: Councilmembers Uceta, Jackson, Konigsberg and Robbins; Councilmembers who opposed to this were: Councilmen Nunez and Burdiez who voiced such concerns as school and services' expense outweighing revenue, conflicts of interest and inexperienced individuals in negotiation procedures, and analysis of pertinent data impacting future taxes. Residents who participated by requesting more information and explanations were: Michael Doss, Daniele Fede and Nick Zampetti. Councilman Nunez will contact the Attorney General and County Prosecutor for further consultation on this matter.

A public hearing on the following ordinance took place and the ordinance was adopted:  
#1433 Rules and regulations for allowing dogs in public parks

Councilman Jackson read the rules and the following residents expressed their opinions. Daniele Fede wants the dogs on leash and on the walking track only; Nick Zampetti wants no commercial venture entertained; Jodie Kellar Jackson feels dogs should enjoy the privileges of dogs walking; Councilman Robbins wants signs posted in the parks; Councilman Nunez objected to the vote of Councilman Jackson who has a dog business.

Discussion concerning overnight parking on Dunn Avenue took place, but no decision was reached.

Mayor McHale read a letter in which the BCUA will award environmental awareness challenge grants to three Bogota Public schools on October 4, 2013 at 10:00 AM at Bergen Community College, and he invited council members to attend.

#### Committee Reports

Councilman Konigsberg said the Library Board will host a "food for fines" program, and donate food to St. Joseph's food pantry.

Councilman Uceta advised that the new gazebo will be dedicated to the memory of Donald Viviano and the band shell to the memory of Joseph Noto.

Council President Jackson said the First Aid building suffers leaking problems; school students should practice emergency evacuation exercises; the police communications tower was out of power, but Motorola agreed to repair it; FEMA moneys are expected.

Councilman Nunez advised that the Senior Citizen Committee met and are displeased with the rumors that the Council had plans to take over their Center; the bus is in poor condition as it leaks and a new bus is needed; the voting district at the high school is inconvenient and should be moved to Hose Co. #2 – the County rejected it as a handicapped access building; Evelyn Stawicki advised that the grant for constructing the senior citizen center cannot be transferred to another entity since the grant was obtained specifically for a Senior Citizens Center – to use the center, the Senior Citizen Advisory Board grants permission.

Councilman Burdiaz advised the Board of Health flu clinic took place September 17<sup>th</sup>.

Administrator Greiner advised the Queen Anne Road property has been cleared by the DPW and a lien will be placed on the property; A grant for the senior bus will be obtained from the NJ Transit.

Mayor McHale advised that the Leonia Avenue project will receive NJDOT funding.

Citizen Remarks

Evelyn Stawicki advised that Council cannot establish their dais in the Senior Citizen Center since the grant was designated for only the seniors.

Rose Gasiewicz doesn't overnight parking on Cypress Ave. between Queen Anne Road and Palisade Avenue

Oliver Cooper asked if Dunn Avenue will have overnight parking.

Nick Zampetti asked why a detective was attending the meeting and Mayor McHale replied it is a precaution in case of any unforeseen incident; with the overflow crowd, the meeting could be ended and re-scheduled so all can attend.

Motion was made to extend the meeting past 10:00 PM which was approved and carried.

Michael Doss requested that more information be collected for 297 Palisade Avenue abatement, which is in the best interest of the taxpayers; an analysis of the exercise equipment should be more transparent.

Chuck Martini felt there is a violation of the Open Public Meetings Act by not allowing all of the public to attend the meeting this date; Attorney Monaghan disagreed and read part of the Act.

The following resolution was adopted:  
13-166A Closed Session

Motion to adjourn made by Councilman Konigsberg, seconded by Councilwoman Uceta;  
Motion approved and carried; meeting ended at 10:45 PM