

Minutes of the Regular meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Bogota held on Thursday, April 21, 2016 in the Council Chambers at Borough Hall at 7:30PM.

Salute to the Flag was led by Councilwoman Fede

Mayor Kelemen requested a moment of silence after the flag salute in memory of Mary Brophy, wife of former Mayor Eugene Brophy and mother of former Police Captain Michael Brophy.

Roll Call: Mayor Kelemen and Council members Connors, Fede, Gates-Ferris, Miranda, Mitchell, and Napolitano were present. Also present were 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 December 23, 2016.

Spokesmen for PSE&G explained the reason for River Road being closed in both directions by Elm Avenue. Administrator Scarpa noted that PSE&G was giving the Borough a \$10,000 escrow. Motion was made by Councilman Connors, seconded by Councilman Miranda, to allow Comments and Questions relating to the PSE&G activity. Motion carried.

Bruce Bonaventuro stated that the road closing is having a negative effect on his business at Boxcar Bagel.

Nancy Sierra requested instructions on what to do if there is an explosion.

Mayor Kelemen will call the County since River Road is a County Road.

The following Resolutions on the Consent Agenda were approved:

- PC 16-08 Payment of Claims
- 16-066 Chief Maye Contract
- 16-067 Community Garden
- 16-068 Change order # 8 for Renovations and Improvements to DPW facility to Goksu Construction
- 16-069 Tax Sale Redemption to Christiana Trust for block 15-019, Lot 3
- 16-070 Tax Sale Redemption to Cristiana Trust for Block 14, Lot 3
- 16-071 Tax Sale Redemption to Tower for Block 1, Lot 7.01
- 16-072 Refund for Tax Overpayment for Block 43, Lot 22
- 16-073 Tax Judgement refund for Bogota Royale Inv.
- 16-074 Tax Sale Redemption for Block 94, Lot 1
- 16-075 Earth Day Resolution
- 16-076 Extend Current Solid Waste Service Agreement with BCUA
- 16-077 Authorizing the Entering of a Shared Services Agreement with Bergen County
- 16-078 Bogota 2015 Tonnage Grant Resolution
- 16-079 Authorize Bogota Environmental Commission to Utilize a Portion of 246 River Road, Block72.01 Lot 1 to Establish a Community Garden

The following Approvals were made:

Gary Rothschild has been qualified as a driver for Hose Company #2.

Joseph DeMauro Jr. has been accepted as a member of Engine #1.

Discussion took place concerning hiring part time dispatchers which are needed.

Councilman Mitchell explained the "Brothers before others" program. The exterior wall of the Bogota Police Department will be painted.

Public Hearing on the 2016 Budget took place. Motion was made by Councilman Mitchell, seconded by Councilman Connors, to open the meeting for public comments related to the 2016 Budget. Motion carried.

Nicholas Zampetti questioned the amount to be paid to Regina Tasca and the amount for litigation. He said that liabilities can be sold as an asset.

Motion was made by Councilman Mitchell, seconded by Councilwoman Fede, to close public comments on the budget. Motion carried.

Mayor's Report: There are many sidewalk issues involving trees that must be handled. Administrator Scarpa worked well on the safety issues. He would like to look into having the town join the Hackensack Regional Chamber of Commerce. Baseball Recreation program started last week. The Mayor and the DPW Superintendent will meet with the Superintendent of Schools next week concerning the fields. He promoted Rebuilding Together Bergen County which helps those in need. He thanked everyone involved.

#### Committee Reports

Councilwoman Gates-Ferris had no report.

Councilman Miranda reported that he and Councilman Connors went to the Recreation Committee meeting where John Powner was named Chairman and Dan Schnipp was named Vice Chairman.

Councilwoman Fede reminded everyone that the Earth Day/Arbor Day Ceremony would take place on Saturday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>. The Rescue Boot Drive will take place on April 30<sup>th</sup> or May 14<sup>th</sup>. Water rescue training took place in rapids. The Bogota Public Library has been busy with passport applications. The Art Gallery is up. The annual appeal letter will be going out soon to raise funds for furniture. For Environmental Commission, a lot of money is spent on pruning trees, etc. The storm water permit costs \$2,000. Councilwoman Fede applied for a grant for the Forestry Plan which will be the 3<sup>rd</sup> five year plan. Fix it up raffle took place two weeks ago. Loyalty Day will be May 2<sup>nd</sup> at 8:00pm at the VFW where essay contest winners will read their essays on the celebration of our country.

Councilman Mitchell spoke to the Seniors about getting i-pads for them. A grant may be available for them. The Seniors need new tables and chairs. The Eagle Scout Ceremony was a great success. The Police have been very busy keeping traffic moving. They have new colors. They have answered many more calls and issued many more summonses this year than last year. The 1033 Program brought 5 new desk top computers to the police department. Officers from Bogota went to Hackensack University Medical Center and gave a good talk on drugs.

Councilman Connors reported that the Seniors expressed a desire to take computer classes. He is working with the grant writer for the i-pads and classes. May 7<sup>th</sup> from 2:00pm to 4:00pm will be the ceremony for the turn out gear combined with recruitment day for Youth Fire Fighters. Principal Kennedy has been helpful with that.

Councilman Napolitano reported that the Planning Board updated its by-laws. As for infrastructure, he is hopeful that our engineers and PSE&G will work together. He met with the grant writer who is working on grants for the seniors, I pads, the parks, bike path, fire grants and bullet proof vests. He would like to be the liaison for Access for all and for the Parking Committee.

Councilwoman Gates-Ferris would like more information about the Active Shooter Assessment, the Revised Parking Hours at Schools, Bruno Associates, and a Dog Park in town. Riverfront Assoc. want to put in a dog park. Councilman Mitchell said that the police chief is working with the superintendent of schools to move forward. He said that new equipment will make them safer.

Administrator's Report: Administrator Scarpa reported that the Police Chief found a grant to hire another officer. The Quarterly safety meeting took place and was well attended. The annual tonnage report was completed today. The Solid Waste Disposal agreement was renewed at \$68 per ton. Town-wide shredding will take place on September 24<sup>th</sup> at the Recreation Center. Bogota is part of the energy cooperative shared services. There were a few Community Development approved grants including \$20,000 for Project Success and \$12,500 for the Senior Bus Driver. One police officer filed two grievances. Storm water reports were not filed for 2013 and 2014. There is a need for \$200,000 in supplemental bonding because of space limitations at the DPW building. A second floor is needed. The bonding is also needed for sidewalk repairs, security cameras, carpeting in the Police Department, tables and chairs for the Senior Citizen Center. Revenue was lost when the cell tower was sold.

Councilwoman Fede would like to do a campaign on awareness and collection of hazardous waste.

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

Armaru Bustamante said that Bogota Beautiful is now a registered non-profit organization. The organization is doing clean-ups all over town. Rain barrels will be displayed and volunteers will help people plant gardens. Last year over 160 volunteers helped out. About 200 volunteers are expected this year. The DPW did a good job cleaning Olsen Park. Yoga will be offered every Saturday in May and June. Walk with the Mayor will start in June. He thanked Councilwoman Fede and the Borough Administrator for making sure they dotted their "i's" and crossed their "t's".

Isabel Bustamante thanked the Mayor and Council for the use of the land. She said that Bogota Beautiful has two grants for the Community Garden.

Joe Gallagher, a community garden member, said that CFO DiMaria explained that the Community Garden Committee has to meet with Mr. Scarpa to set up a trust fund.

Motion was made by Councilman Mitchell, seconded by Councilman Miranda, to close Citizen Remarks. Motion carried.

Councilwoman Fede explained that the Community Garden Committee is under the Environmental Commission. Mr. Scarpa added that the Community Garden Committee will go to the Environmental Commission, and the Environmental Commission will go to the Bureau Administrator and the CFO.

Councilmen Miranda and Napolitano offered to donate plants to the Community Garden.

Motion was made by Councilman Mitchell, seconded by Councilwoman Fede, to go into closed session for litigation. Motion Carried. The following resolution was added to the agenda and approved: 16-075A.

Meeting reconvened and motion was made by Councilman Mitchell, seconded by Councilwoman Fede to adjourn. Motion carried and meeting adjourned at 10:15pm.

Minutes for April 21, 2016 respectfully submitted by Jeanne Cook, Borough Clerk.