



Meeting Minutes

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Bogota held on Wednesday, July 21, 2016, in the Bogota Council Chambers at 7:30PM.

Salute to the Flag was led by Councilman Napolitano.

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

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, 2015.

The following Resolutions on the Consent Agenda were approved:

PC 16-13 Payment of Claims

16-120 Renewal of Membership in South Bergen Municipal Joint Insurance Fund

16-121 Refund of CCO payment of \$150 to Carmen Olivio for 78-80 Cane Street

16-122 Tax Sale Certificate Block 10, Lot 19

16-123 Tax Redemption for Block 93, Lot 23

16-124 Authorize Acceptance of Green Communities Grant

16-125 Change Order #1 for 2015 Palisade Avenue Road Improvement Project

Discussion:

Council President Mitchell reported that Bogert Lane is in need of better parking ordinances for the protection of the residents who live in that area. Police Chief Maye recommended amendments to the existing parking ordinances to ensure enforcement of proper parking on Bogert Lane. Borough Attorney Bossong will prepare an amendment to the existing parking ordinance for introduction at the next Council meeting. The parking lot there also needs signage. There are eight spots and one handicapped spot. Cars must park in designated spots only.

The following Ordinance was Introduced and Approved

#1486 – Ordinance Amending Chapter XXIB Entitled “Stormwater Control” to add a section 12 Entitled “Private Storm Drain Inlet Retrofitting”

(Public Hearing for Ordinance #1486 will take place on August 4, 2016.)

Reports

Mayor Kelemen said that there have been no issues from neighbors or police with the Swim Club. There were no complaints about the Holy Name ambulance. In fact, response time has been 5 minutes. He and Administrator Scarpa visited the Recreation Summer Camp and said that membership is now 70. Mayor Kelemen reported that the intersection at Elm Avenue open, the poor road conditions under the overpass will remain until Suez Water completes its work. He will be attending an oil train seminar. The Seniors want the boxes out of their room. The Hess Oil property is a mess, but Hess personnel in Texas promised it will be cleaned. The Mayor asked if any Council member had any information about the Beauty Pageant because someone from Community Alliance called The Record and said that the pageant was not being supported by the present Council. He will look into it. He met with the Hackensack Regional Chamber of Commerce, and Louis Knobb agreed to be the head of Bogota’s Chamber of Commerce.

Councilwoman Gates-Ferris will be attending a meeting at Teterboro Airport next week. She reported that the First Aid Squad Re-organization Plan is moving along well.

Councilwoman Fede reported that she saw firemen smoking outside the building and asked that everyone be aware of the no-smoking rules for the town. Residents are complaining about garbage bags being put out that are not strong and are being ripped open by birds, etc. The Rescue Squad participated in water rescue training. The Rescue Squad requested an ambulance to assist on water rescues. There was no Library Board meeting. The Community Garden looks nice. A sculpture is being donated for it. Firemen's Park beautification will begin soon. Bogota is beginning its 3rd 5 Year Community Forestry Plan.

Council President Mitchell suggested garbage bins for business owners instead of garbage cans. Garbage will be picked up early on Main Street. Removal of dead bushes in front of Borough Hall looks good. The Seniors are happy, and the stained glass window will be installed tomorrow. He reported that he attended an active shooter demonstration with Councilwomen Fede and Gates-Ferris. The police will be getting new up-to-date vests, and a Gold bag will be in every squad car.

Councilman Connors reported that Recreation Committee is having trouble recruiting football players and cheerleaders. August 7th will be a pancake breakfast at Applebee's. He did not attend the Board of Education meeting. There is no Fire Department meeting in July and August. Battalion Chief Radburn moved to Virginia, so Chief Greiner is going to fill his spot. Councilman Connors requested a report on fire apparatus and equipment on the fire trucks. Trucks are old, and new equipment may be needed.

Councilman Napolitano reported that the Palisade Avenue resurfacing is completed. The West Shore Avenue project will go out to bid soon. The Pascack Valley shared services road repair will include East Grove Street, West Grove Street, River Road, Linden Avenue to West Broad Street, and Chestnut Avenue between Fisher Avenue and Queen Anne Road. West Fort Lee Road drainage will have to be done by the County. Construction should start in September or October. Shrubs were removed in front of Borough Hall, and the leaking roof has been repaired. An application was made for Safe Routes to School. Adult Day Care center should be opening soon. The house on the corner of Larch Avenue and West Fort Lee Road was purchased by a developer.

Borough Administrator Scarpa reported that bids are due soon for the new DPW building are due soon. Two windows in Borough Hall will be replaced. The Borough Engineer will look into the possibility of angle parking in front of Borough Hall. The Recreation Day Camp is doing well. It is manageable and safe. Sidewalk Safety has started work on sidewalks. Oakwood Avenue was the first block. The cost so far is over \$8,000. Holy Name Hospital Ambulance is doing well. The Recreation Committee are considering adding new programs such as volley ball, wrestling, a youth club, adult theater group, and soccer. The Council is giving \$5,000 to the Police Youth Academy. Sgt. Lynch could put the Academy into the Police budget.

Borough Attorney Bossong reported that the insurance etc. for the Swim Club is correct now.

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

Tina Trotta and Linda Guerra complained about parking on Bogert Lane and the new parking lot. Driveways are often blocked and No Parking signs are not enforced. Parking lot is used by many more cars than intended.

George Shalhoub said a curb was cut in the Belgian Block to allow people to drive through the property on Bogert Lane.

Carmen Diaz said that the young adults in the Recreation event received a football trophy. The fee per child is \$175.

Ray Dwyer put together a plan concerning the reorganization of the Volunteer Ambulance that he gave out to the Mayor and Council members. He is trying to get the pagers back. He asked who put a padlock on the ice machine in the Ambulance building. He will continue to meet with Councilwomen Fede and Gates-Ferris.

Motion was made by Councilman Napolitano, seconded by Councilwoman Fede, to close Citizen Remarks. Motion carried.

Mr. Scarpa said that he does not know who put a padlock on the ice machine.

Mayor Kelemen said that enforcement of the No Parking signs is important.

Council President Mitchell said that Council will work on correcting Bogert Lane problems.

Motion was made by Council President Mitchell, seconded by Councilwoman Fede, to go into Closed Session to discuss Real Estate and Litigation. Motion Carried. Resolution 16-125C was added to the agenda at 9:15pm.

When meeting reconvened, motion was made by Councilman Napolitano, seconded by Councilwoman Gates-Ferris, to adjourn. Motion carried, and meeting adjourned at 10:00pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Borough Clerk, Jeanne Cook.