



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 27, 2019 at 7:30pm.

Salute to the Flag was led by Councilman Napolitano.
Council President requested a moment of silence in memory of Vido Bruno and Mayor Kelemen's father, former Mayor Alexander Kelemen.

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 27, 2018.

Roll Call: Councilmembers Carpenter, Gates-Ferris, Macfarlane, Murphy, and Napolitano were present. Mayor Kelemen and Councilman Robbins were absent. Also attending was Borough Attorney Betesh. Borough Administrator Scarpa was absent. Council President Murphy presided over the meeting in Mayor Kelemen's absence.

Motion was made by Councilwoman Carpenter, seconded by Councilwoman Gates-Ferris, to open the meeting to Citizen Remarks. Motion carried.

Tony Culmone asked about the status of putting a port-a-john in Pagano Park which he had requested at a previous meeting. He also said that the speeds on Queen Anne Road are getting faster. He said that speed monitors slow down some traffic but cars drive around the slowed down cars.

Michael Connors echoed Councilwoman Murphy's condolences to Mayor Kelemen's father. He asked for an update on the basketball court/tennis court grant money. He questioned the money from the developer. He heard that \$2.5 million was left from the original \$3 million. He asked what the correct number of the balance was and if more money is planned to be spent.

Motion was made by Councilwoman Gates-Ferris, seconded by Councilman Napolitano, to close Citizen Remarks. Motion carried.

Councilwoman Murphy said that she will contact Mr. Scarpa about a port-a-john at Pagano Park. Since Police Chief Maye was attending the meeting, she asked him to respond to the question about speeding on Queen Anne Road. Chief Maye said that the monitors record the speeds of the drivers, and patrol is sent there if speeding is noticed.

Councilman Napolitano said that the new Borough Engineer, Neglia, changed the design of improvements for the basketball courts and tennis courts. He said that the grant must be used within 2 years, so the project will have to go out to bid, etc. He said that the Community Development money was used over two years for tax relief at \$125,000 per year. There is \$2.75 million left.

Presentation by Kathy Viola discussing the dangers of vaping took place. Kathy Viola is the Garfield Prevention Coalition Coordinator of The Center, a program of Children's Aid and Family Services. She explained that vaping devices were designed 15 years ago to help people stop smoking. Then people started to use them to increase their intake of nicotine. She said that vaping caused popcorn lung where tumors developed on the lungs of users. She passed around samples of all the types of vaping instruments and showed that they are designed in a way to look like a pen or a USB piece. They can be used to smoke

cannabis as well. Discussion took place concerning preparing an ordinance to ban sale of vaping devices or to charge a large fee for purchasing a vaping product. It was decided that a committee should be formed to look into the matter. The committee will consist of Mayor Kelemen, Council members Gates-Ferris and Napolitano, Borough Attorney Betesh, and Borough Detective Rivera. They want to discuss this at the July Mayor and Council meeting. School policies should be looked at as well.

Mention was made of the Creative Arts Team and Amaru Bustamante to be created under the jurisdiction of the Mayor and Council. It was decided that Borough Administrator Scarpa and Borough Attorney Betesh should look into it and present their findings at the next meeting.

Discussion:

Firehouses: Council decided that Architect should attend the next meeting to present possible tweaking of original plans for the firehouses. The Central Avenue Firehouse does not have to be torn down before it can be sold. The neighboring property owners should be offered it for sale first.

Rainbow flag: Councilwoman Carpenter said that she was approached by residents to put up a rainbow flag. She said that the pride flag could be flown for 12 months and does not have to be limited to a certain time. Councilwoman Gates-Ferris has a rainbow flag that the Borough could use until purchasing one. Motion was made by Councilwoman Carpenter, seconded by Councilman Napolitano, to purchase a Pride flag. Motion carried unanimously.

Councilwoman Carpenter requested that Resolutions 19-097 and 19-104 be removed from the Consent Agenda.

Motion was made by Councilwoman Carpenter, seconded by Councilwoman Gates-Ferris, to approve the following Resolutions on the Consent Agenda. Motion carried.:

PC19-06 Payment of Claims (Councilwoman Carpenter recused herself from Roy Riggitano's payment and the Swim Club payment.)

19-096 Liquor License Renewal

19-098 Tax Sale Redemption for Block 91, Lot 16

19-099 Tax Sale Redemption for Block 26, Lot 16

19-100 Tax Sale Redemption for Block 92, Lot 6

19-101 Estimated Tax Bill for 3rd Quarter

19-102 Approve Grant Application and Execute Grant Contract with NJ DOT for Pine Street Road Improvements

19-103 Hire Summer Counselors for the Recreation Summer Camp

Councilwoman Carpenter asked Police Chief Maye to explain how the New Police Administrative Assistant was chosen. Chief Maye explained that 17 applications were received and all 17 applicants received an interview by Chief Maye, Captain PETERSKI, Sgt Detective LORIANO, and Patricia MORRONE. Three were chosen as the best candidates, and then Borough Administrator Scarpa interviewed them. Leslie Kam was chosen as the best candidate. She needed to be trained before Patricia Morrone left.

Motion was made by Councilman Napolitano, seconded by Councilwoman Gates-Ferris, to approve the following Resolution. Motion carried with only Councilwoman Carpenter voting No.

19-097 Hiring New Police Administrative Assistant Leslie Kam

Police Chief Maye explained that 8 applications were received for the SLEO3 position. All 8 applicants were interviewed by Chief Maye, Captain PETERSKI, and School Superintendent Kennedy. The three best candidates were chosen, and Superintendent Kennedy determined which would be the best fit for each school. Chief Maye requested that the three officers be sworn in at the next Mayor and Council meeting.

Motion was made by Councilwoman Carpenter, seconded by Councilwoman Gates-Ferris, to approve the following resolution. Motion carried.

19-104 Hire Three SLEO3s for the Three Schools in Bogota

The following Ordinance was introduced after a discussion:

#1527 Salary Ordinance

Public Hearing and Adoption on the following Ordinances Occured:

#1525 Ordinance Amending Chapter 9 of the Bogota Code, Entitled "Building and Housing"

#1526 Ordinance Amending Chapter 20 of the Code of Borough of Bogota, entitled "Flood Hazard Protection"

Approvals:

- Motion was made by Councilman Napolitano, seconded by Councilwoman Carpenter, to approve St Joseph's Church's request for approval for Carnival Games and 50/50s at the St Joseph Carnival from September 19, 2019 to September 22, 2019. Motion carried unanimously.
- Motion was made by Councilman Napolitano, seconded by Councilwoman Carpenter, to approve the Minutes for June 6, 2019 and June 11, 2019. Motion carried with only Councilwoman Gates-Ferris voting No.
- Motion was made by Councilwoman Carpenter, seconded by Councilwoman Gates-Ferris, to approve Bogota Fire Department's request for approval of the following Firefighters:
 - Engine 1: Matthew Zimmerman and Jose Guzman as new Firefighters
 - Hose 2: Anthony Alexander as a new Firefighter and Thomas Buttgerreit from a Junior Firefighter to a regular Firefighter because he turned 18 years old.
 - Ladder 1: Kevin Mayhew as a new FirefighterMotion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Councilwoman Gates-Ferris, seconded by Councilman Macfarlane, to open the meeting to Citizen Remarks. Motion carried.

There were no Citizen Remarks.

Motion was made by Councilwoman Gates-Ferris, seconded by Councilwoman Carpenter, to close Citizen Remarks. Motion carried.

Reports:

Council President Murphy expressed condolences to Mayor Kelemen and to a great Bogota family. She explained that since the Council members were not sitting in their regular places, the reports will be somewhat out of order.

Councilman Macfarlane said that Councilwoman Carpenter attended the Board of Education meeting, so he would defer that topic to her. He said that he was thankful that the Salary Ordinance was introduced tonight, and he was happy to see a low tax increase in the estimated 3rd quarter tax rate as per Resolution #19-101 which was approved tonight.

Councilwoman Carpenter said that she attended the Board of Education meeting where several retirees were honored including Maggie Andrezza and some teachers. She said that it was a nice presentation. She said that the Recreation meeting will take place next week.

Councilman Napolitano said that for BACSA, Project Graduation was not as successful as was hoped with only 13 students participating. They are hopeful that they will do a better job of promoting it next year. The Police Chief put together a nice retirement luncheon for Pat Morrone who did a great job and will be recognized at the next Council meeting. The Seniors had a nice ceremony giving Police officer Ryan Ward a commendation for helping a senior by carrying her packages to her home when a road was closed. It was a nice blending of two important parts of the community. He said that he is working with Mr. Scarpa and Commander Hernandez of the VFW for the Veterans' Community Award. They just need to provide

documentation. He found an article about Bogota on "Zoning the Garden State. *"Bogota's planning process deserves acclaim for having integrated the concerns to improve the plan for the community. It took public concerns to heart, adjusting details to ensure safety but never compromising fundamental concerns for the site. The public never considered the process illegitimate..."*

Councilwoman Gates-Ferris said that the library met in the beginning of the month and is working on a Performance Appraisal System for the staff and the Director. There are a number of upcoming events that can be found in the newsletter. The third and final newsletter will be out by the end of the summer. There will be a musical concert with music from the 1800's. Councilman Macfarlane will be coordinating that. There will be two historical bus tours: September 14th and October 5th from 10am to Noon. Registrations can be done on the 125th website. October 4th through the 6th will be homecoming weekend. November 14 will be the Gala. They are looking for funding for the first night December 31st. Chelsea Coleman is editing the first draft of the Journal. It has 200 pages so far. The committee plans to solicit for advertisements. (Full page \$250, half page \$125, business card \$25)

Council President Murphy said that the Community Garden is 100% rented. Mr. Gallagher met with Mr. Scarpa on a few areas of concern for cleaning up the garden. He will be taking over care of the garden this year. The planning and Zoning Board met this past Tuesday. She said that Mr. Napolitano and she attend the meetings. A resolution was approved unanimously accepting the report by Paul Grygiel for the two studies, Outwater Plastics and the area across from the River Club.

Motion was made by Councilwoman Carpenter, seconded by Councilwoman Gates-Ferris, to go into closed session. Motion carried and the following resolution was added to the agenda at 9:10pm:
19-104C Authorizing Meeting not Open to the Public, Pursuant to NJSA 10:4-12

When the open session returned, motion was made by Councilwoman Carpenter, seconded by Councilwoman Gates-Ferris, to amend Resolution 19-092 to add restrictions recommended by the Bogota Police Department. The motion carried.

Motion was made by Councilwoman Carpenter, seconded by Councilman Macfarlane, to add the following resolution to the agenda:
19-105 To add Restrictions to Liquor License for NO Place Inn, Inc. t/a Buddy's Place

Motion was made by Councilwoman Carpenter, seconded by Councilwoman Gates-Ferris to adjourn. Motion carried and meeting adjourned at 10:07pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Borough Clerk Jeanne Cook.