

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Bogota held on Thursday, April 16, 2015 at Borough Hall at 7:30PM.

Salute to the Flag was led by Councilman Mitchell

Roll Call: Mayor Kelemen, Council Members Fede, Kohles, Mitchell, Napolitano, Nunez, and Robbins were all present.

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 8, 2015.

The following Resolutions on the Consent Agenda were approved:

15-68 2015 Recycling Tax

15-69 2015 Recycling Tonnage Grant

15-70 Adopting the Bergen County Multi-Jurisdictional Mitigation Plan

71 – 74 Various Tax Checks Totaling \$95,627.43

Public Hearing on Ordinances took place and the following ordinances were adopted .(Voting records are attached.):

#1456 - An ordinance for Purpose of Registration and Maintenance of Vacant/Abandoned Properties

#1458 – An ordinance to Mandate Direct Deposit for Municipal Employees by the Borough of Bogota Pursuant to c52:14-15f et. Seq

#1459 – An Ordinance Amending Chapter XIII of the code of the Borough of Bogota to Prohibit Smoking in Public Parks and Recreation Areas

The following Payment of Claims was approved with Councilwoman Kohles abstaining from DPW bills:

PC: 15-04

Approvals:

Lillian M Steen School Tricky Tray at the Bogota VFW. Waive Municipal Fees.

Concert at Bogota VFW to benefit Bogota VFW. Waive Municipal Fees.

Discussion:

Councilman Robbins reported that the Fire Department is in need of a vehicle. The black Chevrolet Suburban has 4-wheel drive which is important during winter months when there is a lot of snow. The Fire Department could put the Suburban to good use. After a lengthy discussion, it was decided that the Suburban would best serve the town as a Fire Department vehicle since a need exists there for Battalion Chief DiMauro.

Discussion took place involving hiring Jean Teresi as a Crossing Guard. The following Resolution was added to the agenda and approved:

15-75 Hiring Jean Teresi as a Crossing Guard

#### Committee Reports:

Councilwoman Fede talked about the Rescue Squad's Boot Drive scheduled for May 2<sup>nd</sup> to raise money. The Library is doing a great job offering many activities. The Chess Club is doing well. A lecture will be held soon by the author of a baseball book. She will be visiting the schools on Arbor Day, April 24<sup>th</sup>. Bogota Beautiful will be cleaning Olsen Park on April 25<sup>th</sup>. The Police Department gave out rules and regulations. The Environmental Commission received Sandy Recovery tree seedlings. Residents are welcome to take some home.

Councilwoman Kohles reported that the Recreation Commission meeting was cancelled. Bogota Day will be held only on June 13<sup>th</sup>

Councilman Robbins explained that Bogota Beautiful is sponsoring a cleanup of Olsen Park and Main Street. seventy residents are signed up already. Free lunch will be available. Visit [BogotaBeautiful.com](http://BogotaBeautiful.com) for more details. The Rabies Clinic will be held on May 30<sup>th</sup> from 10:00am to Noon at the Broad Street Fire House. The Fire Department Ladies' Auxiliary is resurrected. The first meeting had a dozen members. They will help with fund raisers and social events. Engine 3 will be having an event on April 27 at 7:30pm.

Councilman Nunez met with the Senior Citizen committee. They need new tables. The Website is up and running. Anything needed on the website can be put on there. Just get in touch with the webmaster.

Councilman Mitchell announced that two dispatchers were hired. Police Negotiations Committee gave an offer one month ago but must wait for state approval before Police can vote on it. There is new testing at the schools. The school budget will be introduced on April 25<sup>th</sup>. The Mayor and the School Superintendent have met. The VFW had wrestling last week. Loyalty day is May 1<sup>st</sup>. The T Ball field is in bad shape. Something needs to be done to clean up the fields. PSE&G needs to be called to repave River Road. Gray Street and Palisade Avenue need help with pot holes. There are still no signs on the road by the park to protect children crossing streets. The engineer wrote a letter to the County, but nothing has been done. The quality of life in town is sad. Road bumps might deter cars from flying around town the way they do.

Councilman Napolitano announced that the budget introduced has a \$500,000 reduction from last year's budget. Projects will be going out to bid for road work, etc. He and the Borough Administrator and the Borough Engineer met with the County and were promised signage, lighting, and stripping in early May. He met with PLE&G about repaving River Road, Larch Avenue, and Fort Lee Road. He was told the town has to wait six months. Drainage on Elm Avenue and River Road must be done. The building on Fort Lee Road is a problem, and construction official should inspect. Eagle Scouts will be painting the Senior Center. The Planning Board voted to adopt the Master Plan and accepted Paul Grygel's plan to redo the Hess properties.

Administrator's Report: Seminar on Harassment Training is required by JIF. The bond is being prepared by the Bond Counsel. This bond includes turnout gear, road work, etc. There are additional dates for hazardous waste, computers, tires, etc. Borough Shredding Date is June 27<sup>th</sup> at the Recreation Center from 9:00am to Noon.

#### Citizens' Remarks:

Tito Jackson mentioned the Senior Citizen's letter asking that the OEM vehicle be returned to the OEM Coordinator or sold. He said that Joe lied and said that the Police Chief asked for the OEM vehicle. Tito said that a resident expired because the police needed another oxygen tank. He said that the vehicle pulled the trailer that would bring the generator to people's homes. He said a resident died because the OEM vehicle was not there and a similar incident occurred on another day when only one officer was available. Removing the vehicle from OEM causes injury and death.

Nick Zampetti praised events occurring on Main Street next Saturday. The town needs more senior housing for our aging community. Property maintenance needs to look at properties on West Fort Lee Road and Leonia Avenue, Fort Lee Road and Larch Avenue, and Linwood and Queen Anne Road. He also asked about the Hess property. There are many vehicles on the property, so it should be revalued.

Michael Connors applauded the Mayor and Council for the \$500,000 savings on the budget because taxes are very high and need to be reduced. He suggested looking into Green Acres funding. He said that the new website is awesome, and the town should videotape the meetings and put them on the website. He also suggested having students shovel snow for seniors because students need service hours.

#### Adjournment

Next meeting: May 7, 2015 at Senior Center