



Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Bogota, to be held at the Bogota Senior Center, 375 Larch Avenue, Bogota, NJ, on Thursday, September 19, 2019 at 7:30pm.

Salute to the Flag

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 September 17, 2019.

Roll Call: Mayor Kelemen, Councilmembers Carpenter, Gates-Ferris, Macfarlane, Murphy, Napolitano, and Robbins, Borough Attorney, Borough Administrator

Citizen Remarks: One Five (5) minute time limit per person

Discussion: Ordinance to Prohibit Planting, Growing, or Cultivating of Bamboo

Consent Agenda:

PC19-09 Payment of Claims

19-116 To Present Proposed Chapter 21A Zoning Amendments to the Planning/Zoning Board

19-117 To Hire Two After-School Care Counselors for the Recreation After-School Program

19-118 Amendment to Adopted Capital Budget

Introduction of the following Ordinances:

#1532 Bond Ordinance to authorize the Construction of a New Recreation/Community Center at Olsen Park

#1533 Ordinance Amending Chapter 3 of the Bogota code, Entitled "Police Regulations"

Public Hearing on the following Ordinances:

#1529 An Ordinance Amending Chapter 19 of the Bogota Code, Entitled "Property Maintenance Code"

#1531 An Ordinance Amending Chapter 3 of the Bogota Code, Entitled "Police Regulations"

Citizen Remarks: One Five (5) minute time limit per person

Reports: Mayor, Council Committees: Five (5) minute time limit per Council Member, Administrator, Attorney, Clerk

Closed Session:

Adjournment

The following Ordinances were introduced and approved:

#1532 Bond Ordinance to authorize the Construction of a New Recreation/Community Center at Olsen Park

#1533 Ordinance Amending Chapter 3 of the Bogota code, Entitled "Police Regulations" (Noise)

Public Hearing and Adoption of the following Ordinances took place.:

#1529 An Ordinance Amending Chapter 19 of the Bogota Code, Entitled "Property Maintenance Code"

#1531 An Ordinance Amending Chapter 3 of the Bogota Code, Entitled "Police Regulations" (e-cigarettes etc)

Motion was made by Councilman Napolitano, seconded by Councilwoman Carpenter to open the meeting up for Citizen Remarks. Motion carried.

Rosemary Gasiewicz asked if the e-cigarettes etc were going to be banned for good.

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

Borough Attorney Betesh explained that banning the sale of e-cigarettes was harder to do than putting restrictions because zoning laws would be involved. Ordinance #1531 requires anyone that sells vaping products to obtain a license from the town. There will have to be signage explaining the 21 year old requirement and that valid ids must be presented. No vaping dispensaries will be allowed. He reported that he and Councilman Napolitano looked it over together to keep the products away from children. Councilman Napolitano said that the fees from licensing will be given to BACSA to use to help keep children safe. He was also concerned for adults as well since vaping causes damage to lungs of users.

Reports: Mayor, Council Committees:

Mayor Kelemen reported that he went to Back to School night at the schools, and the SLEOs are a success. He pointed out that success comes when the Council, the Police, and the Board of Education work together. He reminded everyone that the fall festival is coming. He said that the town received a great audit this year and ~~the~~ Greg Bock, the CFO did a lot to pull the finances together. He commented that the parks look fantastic and the sidewalks are being repaired. The Leonia Avenue project is done. He reminded everyone about the 125th Anniversary weekend that is coming up. He reported the complaint about speeding on Leonia Avenue to the Police Chief who will look into it. A big sign that says "slow down" has been delivered to be put up by the corner of Maplewood Avenue and Palisade Avenue. He spoke about the firehouses and asked for a heater for Hose 2. He reminded everyone to report street light issues to the police. He mentioned the success of the SLEO program, the new Recreation/Community center becoming a reality, and the possibility of a sports complex in the future. He said that St. Joseph's Carnival was enjoyed by many people, and he prayed for safety for everyone who will be at the Carnival and celebrating the 125th Anniversary this weekend.

Councilwoman Gates-Ferris said that the Library Board met last Monday and all is well there. Attendance continues to increase. Free library registration will be offered through the schools, and no late penalties will be collected for books. She reported that the buddy reading program has 44 children registered. She commented that Henry Komorowski did a great job with the 125th Anniversary historical bus tour. She said that there will be another bus tour on October 5th at 10:00am which will be taped and put on the website. She said that she received a lot of positive

feedback about homecoming weekend. She reported that the journal is at the printer and will be available for sale soon. Pat Wilkins and Pat Rochford did a lot of work to make it come together. She said that it was a wonderful experience being a part of the 125th Anniversary committee. She said that Gala information will be available next week, and Borough Administrator Scarpa commented that the tax collector retiring will be part of the Gala.

Councilwoman Carpenter said that she read the audit and it looks good. She said that the sidewalks are looking good. She presented a preliminary flier for the fall festival and said that the haunted house and live music will be included. Two singers are Bogota High School graduates. There will be food trucks, a Halloween parade and a petting zoo. She mentioned an award letter that was received from Community Development for Central Avenue Road Improvement. She asked when the last ISO reading was, ~~50~~ Mr. Scarpa said that the fire department would know. She said that the Corrective Action Plan and Best Practices must be completed soon. She said that the Recreation Committee requested a beer truck at the fall festival. Councilman Napolitano motioned to have no alcohol at the Fall Festival. Councilwoman Gates-Ferris seconded the motion, but then withdrew it, since there is a Borough ordinance that does not allow alcohol at the park anyway.

Councilman Napolitano said that BACSA is doing good work with the Bergen County Coalition. He met with Alex Hernandez to discuss the Governor's Certificate. He said that the Ryan Bridge Monument is under construction. He reported that the Seniors Advisory Board will be meeting in October. He said that good wishes were sent to Howard Van Wess who has moved down to Florida to live with his family. (Mr. Van Wess thanked everyone who helped when he pressed his life alert, because their fast response saved his life.) He reported that the Police answered 2500 calls – mostly for overnight parking. He said that the police are keeping an eye on shops that sell vaping products. He commented that the crossing guards work hard and noted that on Lou Kern's corner, cars drive right up to the crossing guards. He commended the crossing guards for their hard work and bravery. He spoke to Pat Wilkins about the 125th Anniversary Homecoming weekend. Mr. Wilkins said that the town looks good, so people will be coming to see that the town is moving forward. He requested that the fields be repaired, so students could get scholarships for pole vaulting etc. He said that people are coming back to town this weekend to see the town moving forward. The sidewalks adjacent to the high school need repair.

Councilwoman Murphy said there is a firehouse meeting tomorrow at 1:00pm with the Mayor, Council members Murphy and Robbins, Mr. Scarpa, the Fire Chief and the architect. She spoke about Sustainable New Jersey. She said that the NJEA and the BCEA grants and programs for schools are available, and she will pass on any information she receives to School Superintendent Kennedy. She said that speed bumps can damage vehicles. There are wider, gentler speed bumps that are better. She said that people should not be allowed to park by the bend on Larch Avenue. Councilman Napolitano suggested painted yellow lines at the bend to prevent cars from parking there. Mr. Scarpa suggested stop signs on long sections of the road. He said that the Police will be doing a presentation at a later date about stop signs etc.

Councilman Robbins reported that one Bogota resident registered a complaint about noise to the Teterboro commission on August 18th, saying that planes were flying overhead too frequently and someone from Teterboro spoke to the resident. He reported that the rescue Squad and the Auxiliary Police renewed their CPR certifications. He said that the meeting with the Swim Club will be rescheduled.

Councilman Macfarlane said that the Board of Education met three times with a big emphasis on safety. He said that they now have one button lock down in all schools, and the SLEOs give them a sense of security. He said that emergency procedures will be reviewed with the students. He said that the new school bus was delivered. He reported that there will be a Board of Health meeting on Monday.

Borough Administrator Scarpa said that the bids were back from Pascack Valley Cooperative, and different towns were charged a different per ton fee. He said there was a delay in installation of the fence for the Main Street bridge. The Building Department will be moving back to Larch Avenue next week. He had the Property maintenance inspector write letters to the business owners on Main Street to clean the areas in front of their establishments. He is still waiting for the Little Ferry Court Agreement for the next three years. He said that he received word from Cablevision about what was needed to get live streaming in the Council Chambers. He will use the AV person from the Board of Education for help. He reported that the third quarter safety meeting took place.

Borough Attorney Betesh said that both parties involved in the Preston Street retaining wall signed a paper giving permission to the town to go on their properties to repair the retaining wall.

The Borough Clerk said that the meeting for November had to be changed and it was decided to change the November meeting date from November 14 to November 13. She also reminded everyone to follow the Open Public meetings Act.

Motion was made by Councilwoman Carpenter, seconded by Councilwoman Gates-Ferris, to go into closed session. Motion carried and at 9:00pm the following Resolution was added to the agenda:

19-120C Closed Session (Litigation)

When the meeting reconvened, motion was made by Councilman Napolitano, seconded by Councilwoman Carpenter, to adjourn. Motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 9:30pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Borough clerk Jeanne Cook.