

Minutes of Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Bogota held on Thursday, December 3, 2015 at 7:30pm in the Senior Center.

Salute to the Flag was led by Councilman Robbins

Roll Call: Mayor Kelemem, Council Members Connors, Mitchell, Napolitano, Nunez and Robbins were 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 November 27, 2015.

Mayor Kelemen ceremoniously swore in the new Police Chief, Daniel Maye who began as a Bogota police officer in 1988 and moved up to Detective and then Sargent. Mayor Kelemen welcomed Chief Maye and his family and commented on the many Bogota police officers present whom he praised for the fine work that they do.

Chief Maye welcomed former Bogota Police Chiefs John Burke and Frank Gurnarias well as Englewood's Police Chief Suffern, Retired Police Chief _____, and Mayor Subrizi of New Milford. He said that he was happy to see so many of his friends at this celebration and especially his wife, son, and daughter. He promised to try to represent the Bogota Police Department to the best of his ability.

Mayor Kelemen then presented a plaque to former Chief John Burke on behalf of the Mayor and Council. The Mayor explained that John Burke was his best friend for many years.

John Burke thanked everyone and commented that he worked with the very best police, some of whom he brought to town. He then said that his family is his backbone. He thanked the people of Bogota, former Chief Gurneri, former Captain Brophy, Chief Suffner, and the Mayor and Council.

Mayor Kelemen then announced a ten minute recess and the meeting resumed at 8:00pm.

The following Resolutions were approved from the Consent Agenda:

- 15-153 Change order for improvements to DPW Facility
- 15-154 Remove Manhattan Collision Specialists, Inc. from the Borough's towing List
- 15-155 Extend the Cleaning Contract for Borough Hall and Recreation Center through 2016
- 15-156 Award Drainage Proect for Main Street (under bid threshold)
- 15-157 Tax Check for Michael J. Pasquale, Esq.
- 15-158 Tax Overpayment for Leticia & Lydia Rodriguez
- 15-159 Reject Bid on Palisade Avenue Road improvements Project
- 15-160 Award Contract for the Sanitary Sewer Repair for Elm Avenue

The following Approval was approved unanimously:

Steen School is holding a raffle for an IPAD Air 2111. Waive Borough fees.

12-3-15

Motion was made by Councilman Mitchell , seconded by Councilman Nunez, to table Ordinance #1471 which was scheduled for a Public Hearing due to a need to review with the Police Chief.

Public Hearing and adoption of the following ordinance took place:
Ordinance #1472 Amending License Fees for Sale of Alcoholic Beverages

Discussion concerning auctioning off a Fire Department vehicle took place, but no decision was made.

The Democratic Committee sent a letter with three names of candidates to replace councilwoman Kohles: Kathryn Gates-Ferris, Patrick McHale, and Consuelo Carpenter. Motion was made by Jorge Nunez, seconded by Councilman Robbins, to nominate Kathryn Gates-Ferris. Motion carried.

Mayor Kelemen swore in Kathryn Gates-Ferris as a Councilwoman.

Councilwoman Ferris commented that she is honored and ready to serve, and her door is always open.

Mayor's Report: Mayor Kelemen reported that the Dedication Ceremony for former Chief Smith was a great success, and he thanked John Burke for orchestrating the whole event. People came from miles away.

The community Board is working again. The Bogota Police are collecting toys for Tots. Bogota Beautiful is recycling old Christmas lights for money.

Administrator's Report: Administrator Scarpa is waiting for formal approval from the county for Open Space. He requested the approval of Mayor and Council to participate in the Cooperative Road program in 2016 which was successful in 2015. The Sound System for the Council Chambers will be completed by December 17th. Queen Anne Road Drainage, Drainage of Main Street, Roadwork on Elm Avenue for Sewer Repair will be underway soon. Garbage schedule will be the same in 2016 as it is presently.

Councilwoman Gates-Ferris asked if the Grant extension for Open space is cost free and when the grant was awarded. Mr. Scarpa explained that the town must match the grant in its budget, and when he started in Bogota, he noticed that there was no match put in the budget. The grants were awarded in 2012 and 2013, and matching funds will have to be put in the budget.

Citizen Remarks:

Anna Gherity invited the Mayor and Council to attend the Bogota Youth Academy movie on Thursday December 10, 2015 at 7:30pm at the Teaneck Cinema.

Patricia Kearns said that Petrik Park needs to be maintained. The gazebo needs to be painted, and bushes need to be trimmed.

12-3-15

Chuck Martini asked what is happening with the fire truck. Mayor Kelemen explained that it requires further discussion.

Administrator's Report: Mr. Scarpa said that the County has not created a date yet. The DPW was very busy this year and will fix the problem next year.

Councilman Nunez congratulated Councilwoman Gates-Ferris. He said that the Democratic Committee reached out to everyone and Mrs. Ferris who has two advanced degrees stepped up and offered her services.

Councilwoman Gates-Ferris introduced herself. She worked in Public Health for over 40 years. She managed grants and contract and managed the Avon Breast Walk. She is and ordained Minister and holds two Masters degrees. She served on the Board of Education and was a service person for the Girl Scouts. She raised two daughters.

Motion to go into Closed Session was made by Councilman Nunez, seconded by Councilman Napolitano. Motion Carried.

When the Mayor and Council returned to Open session, Motion was made by Councilman Mitchell, seconded by Councilman Robbins, that present labor Attorney Bern must make settlement in Tasca case by 12/7/15, or case will be turned over to Borough Attorney Bossong. Motion carried with Councilwoman Gates-Ferris abstaining.

Motion to adjourn was made by Councilman Mitchell, seconded by Councilman Connors. Motion carried, and meeting adjourned at 9:10pm.