

Minutes of the Work Session of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Bogota held on Thursday, May 5, 2016 in the Bogota Council Chambers at 7:30pm.

Salute to the Flag was led by Councilman Connors.

Then, Acting Mayor Mitchell asked everyone to remain standing for a moment of silence for Mayor Kelemen's mother who passed away this week. Her husband, Alex Kelemen, was a past Mayor of Bogota.

Mayor Kelemen was absent. Council members Connors, Fede, Gates-Ferris, Miranda, Mitchell, and Napolitano were present. Also present were Borough Attorney Bossong, Borough Administrator Scarpa, and CFO DiMaria. Council President Mitchell will serve as Acting Mayor.

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 after CFO DiMaria explained that Res 16-084 included retro pay for Tasca, reduction in LOSAP, police money due to PSE&G work, etc., and Administrator Scarpa explained that the salary was not included in Res 16-085 because the salary will be put in an amended salary ordinance that is needed for Recreation counselors as well:

PC16-09 Payment of Claims

16-080 Tax Sale Redemption – Block 100, Lot 31.01

16-081 Rescind Resol 15-160 and Award Contract for Sanitary Sewer Repair for Elm Avenue to Gotthold

16-082 Award contract for Sanitary Sewer for Walnut Avenue to Gotthold

16-083 Dedication by rider for Community Garden Trust Fund

16-084 2016 Budget Amendment

16-085 Hire Part-time Building Department Assistant

16-086 Recognizing May 1-7 as Municipal Clerk's Week

The following Bond Ordinance was introduced and approved after Administrator Scarpa explained that the bond would be used for the DPW building, sidewalk repairs, cost of the bond, the Senior Center needs, the police department, and security improvements:

#1483 Bond Ordinance

(Public Hearing for Bond Ordinance # 1483 will be May 19, 2016)

Reports:

Councilwoman Gates-Ferris said that the First Aid Squad did not meet. She said that a number of emails about First Aid bills had been sent to Mr. Scarpa, and she met with him to talk about pending Purchase Orders. They will meet again to follow up. She was concerned about First Aid being unable to order medical supplies. Councilwoman Fede interjected that she spoke to VE Ralph who sent a written reply that VE Ralph has no issues with Bogota. Councilwoman Gates-Ferris tried to attend a meeting at Teterboro airport but could not find the location. Mr. Scarpa said that Pat Shuber works for the Port Authority and will make sure notices are sent to Bogota about future meetings. The DWI presentation went very well. Participation included

Police, Fire, Rescue, Petrik's Funeral Parlor, Ridgefield Park, and most Bogota High School Juniors and Seniors. Chief Maye did a great job.

Councilman Miranda said that the Mayor asked him to thank Gordon Kohles for the fields looking so good. Councilman Miranda met with Mr. Scarpa, Recreation Committee member Carmen Diaz, CFO DiMaria, and Jim Moore to discuss concerns that residents had about the Summer Camp Program. He was impressed with the activities available, but understood the concern of having so many outsiders in the program. 70% of campers were from out of town. After a long discussion it was decided to limit applicants to Bogota residents only. Included in the discussion were the costs involved to determine fees etc. There will be no daily fee or outsider fee. The Recreation Center is getting a new television; the fields will be getting new, safer bleachers; and sprinklers for the fields will be kept up to date. He and Mr. Scarpa worked on getting the floors stripped and shined etc. The Recreation trust fund does not have \$150,000 as has been rumored. There is \$80,000 which will be used for upgrades to the Recreation Center and fields. Fees for the Summer Camp will remain the same: \$140 for first child, \$115 for second child, \$90 for 3rd child. Doors will be open from 7:45am to 6:00pm. Room for more Bogota children.

Councilwoman Fede reported that the Clean-up Day went well. Seedlings were given out. Arbor Day Contest awards will be given out next Wednesday. The Rescue Squad had a successful Boot Drive grossing \$4,500. The Environmental Commission will be planting 5 or 6 trees on May 14th as well as some in the park. Bergenfield found lead in the school water. Preliminary testing done in Bogota schools.

Councilman Napolitano said that paving on West Fort Lee Road will begin on Monday. Paving on Palisade Avenue from Cane Street to Kovar Avenue will begin soon. Mr. Scarpa is working on a grant for \$100,000 to go past Cane Street to Teaneck. Councilman Napolitano is working with the Borough Attorney on downtown Revitalization and for a Meaningful Master Plan. The DPW ribbon cutting will take place next week. Parts of Elm Avenue and West Shore Avenue are concrete Roadway which is more difficult to pave. Mr. Scarpa met with a company that specializes in storm water management and is waiting for a proposal. An Audit meeting was set up with the DEP.

Councilman Connors attended the Fire Department meeting. The turn-out gear and youth program ceremonies will be rescheduled. He attended the school board meeting where a 22 million dollar budget was introduced. The high school parking lot will be upgraded to create a safer place for drop-offs and pick-ups of students. A crossing guard at the high school is still an issue.

Councilman Mitchell reported that morale is better throughout town. The Police are pursuing getting a drop box for prescription drugs. Some towns use old mailboxes as drop boxes. Brothers from Others will be painting a mural in front of the police department. A teacher was hit by a car while crossing Main Street in front of Steen School. He called the engineer to have the County put a flashing light in that spot. The Police Chief said that if someone stops to let someone cross the street, that car needs to be sure that another car cannot pass because otherwise, the pedestrian is at risk. He said that the police are working with the school superintendent on a "Safe Route to School" Plan. Police will be getting new equipment for safety. Discussion is ongoing about a metal detector in Borough Hall. The Senior Citizens Executive Board meeting was cancelled. He is still looking into getting I-pads for the seniors.

Administrator Scarpa said that the public has a grasp of all the neglect over the years. Hopefully by 2017 things will be fixed and in better order. He said that the meeting with Councilman Miranda and Recreation Committee member Carmen Diaz went well, and all the research done to improve the Recreation Summer Camp should be utilized. Discussion took place about the Summer Camp. CFO DiMaria will create spread sheets for each program, and an ordinance will be created for each fee. The trust fund money of \$80,000 will be used if needed for shortfalls in expenditures. Motion was made by Councilman Connors, seconded by Councilman Miranda, to add a resolution to the agenda about the Recreation summer camp. Motion carried. Resolution 16-087 was approved.

Discussion took place concerning the Swim Club. Mr. Bossong reported that the Swim Club attorney said that the lease was signed. The Risk Manager had issues with the insurance, so the insurance issues need to be resolved.

Councilman Connors said that there is a need to do something about the parking problem. Councilman Mitchell reminded that tires used to be chalked for one hour... Bogota Savings Bank put up a sign to keep out violators.

Ridgefield Park has a soccer program. It would be good to have kiddie kickers in Bogota. Acting Mayor Mitchell said that everything is being looked into, and things take time.

Motion was made by Councilman Napolitano, seconded by Councilman Miranda, to open the meeting to Citizen Remarks. Motion carried.

Julia Vander was very concerned about overnight parking. Fort Lee Road is always full and the train track parking is dangerous.

Carmen Diaz said that 25% of the campers in the Summer Camp Program are from Bogota, and 75% are from other towns. Bogota only will be more community based.

Lois Mitchell said that Recreation Summer Camp should not accept more than the room capacity.

Motion was made by Councilman Connors, seconded by Councilman Miranda, to close Citizen Remarks. Motion carried.

Councilman Connors spoke to Mr. Bossong about suggestions for Bogota's parking problem. Maybe a permit could be made up for hardship cases. A fee could be charged for the permit. Acting Mayor Mitchell said that he will talk to the police chief about a plan to help alleviate the parking problem.

Motion was made by Councilman Miranda, seconded by Councilman Connors to go into closed session at 9:15pm. Motion carried. Resolution 16-087A was approved.

Meeting reconvened and motion was made by Councilman Napolitano, seconded by Councilman Connors, to adjourn. Motion carried and meeting adjourned at 9:43PM.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Jeanne Cook, Borough Clerk.