



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, August 16, 2018 at 7:00pm.

Salute to the Flag was led by Councilwoman Gates-Ferris.

Mayor Kelemen asked everyone to remain standing in memory of Joe Baranello who was an active volunteer in town for many years. He coached wrestling, baseball, and basketball. He served the Recreation Commission admirably. He was inducted into the Bogota High School Alumni Athletic Hall of Fame in June of this year. Mayor Kelemen asked everyone to offer a moment of silence in honor of Joe Baranello.

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 July 3, 2018.

Roll Call: Mayor Kelemen and Councilmembers Fede, Gates-Ferris, Macfarlane, Murphy, and Napolitano were present. Councilman Miranda phoned in and remained on the phone throughout the meeting. Also attending were Borough Attorney Bossong and Borough Auditor Steve Wielkotz. Borough Administrator Scarpa was absent.

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

Connie Carpenter said that the User Friendly Budget was not on the website. She said that the Audit Report was not on the website. She compared line items from the budget to the Annual Financial Statement and asked what the \$500,000 bond ordinance was for.

Michele Rugar said that there were very strong gas odors at the former Hess site. She asked who was monitoring the removal of contaminated soil.

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

Councilwoman Fede explained that there are Public Notice signs on the fences at the old Hess site with a case #, a name, and a phone number. The former Sifford site has one professional and the former Hess site has a separate professional. She said that she had questioned the odor as well.

The following Resolutions on the Consent Agenda were approved:

- 18-115 Approval to Submit Grant Application for DOT Transportation Alternatives Program
- 18-116 Approval to Submit Grant Application for DOT Safe Routes to School Program
- 18-117 Tax Sale Redemption for Block 67, Lot 4
- 18-118 Tax Sale redemption for Block 78, Lot 4
- 18-120 Award Contract for Tree Take-Downs to Hardwood Tree Service Corp.

Motion was made by Councilman Napolitano, seconded by Councilman Macfarlane, to approve the following Resolution. Motion carried.

PC18-09 Payment of Claims

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

18-113 BAN

Motion was made by Councilman Napolitano, seconded by Councilman Macfarlane, to approve the following resolution. Motion carried.

18-114 Award Contract for Sidewalk Repair to Sidewalk Safety

Motion was made by Councilman Napolitano, seconded by Councilwoman Murphy, to approve the following resolution. Motion carried.

18-119 Authorization to Execute a 2nd Amendment to the Redevelopment Agreement and Financial Agreement for the River Development Project by RCB Urban Renewal

Motion was made by Councilman Napolitano, seconded by Councilwoman Murphy, to approve the following resolution. Motion carried.

18-121 Adopt Model Indoor Air Quality Program

Motion was made by Councilman Napolitano, seconded by Councilwoman Murphy, to approve the following resolution. Motion carried.

18-122 Certification of Compliance with the United States Equal Employment Opportunity Commission's "Enforcement Guidance on the Consideration of Arrest and Conviction Record in Employment Decisions Under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964"

Motion was made by Councilwoman Murphy, seconded by Councilman Napolitano, to begin the Public Hearing of the 2018 Budget. Motion carried.

Connie Carpenter asked questions about the 2018 budget including deferred charges, capital surplus, etc.

Motion was made by Councilman Napolitano, seconded by Councilman Miranda, to close the Public Hearing on the 2018 Budget. Motion carried.

Mr. Wielkotz explained that the 2016 Audit is on the website, and the 2017 Audit is a draft now and will be on the website soon. The User Friendly Budget will be on the website tomorrow. He also answered Connie Carpenter's question concerning the budget, and reported that the \$500,000 bond ordinance was for grant work (specifically for the Leonia Avenue project.)

Motion was made by Councilman Napolitano, seconded by Councilman Miranda, to adopt the 2018 budget. Motion carried, and the following resolution was adopted with only Councilwoman Gates-Ferris voting No.

18-123 Adopt 2018 Municipal Budget

Public Hearing and Adoption of the Following Ordinances took place:

#1516 Bond Ordinance for \$500,000 Resurfacing of Leonia Avenue (Phase III and IV)

#1517 Salary Ordinance 2018

Public Hearing on the following Ordinance took place. Lisa Kohles questioned how someone could apply to be part of the charter study commission. Michele Rugar asked how people will be notified about this charter commission. It was explained that petitions will be available in the clerk's office, and a public notice will be sent explaining it. The ordinance was defeated with Council members Miranda and Napolitano voting Yes, Councilwoman Fede abstaining due to conflict of interest, and Council members Gates-Ferris, Murphy, and Macfarlane voting No.

#1518 Ordinance to Place a Question on the Ballot as to Whether a Charter Study Commission Shall be Elected to Study the Charter of the Borough----Defeated

Approval: -Motion was made by Councilman Napolitano, seconded by Councilwoman Murphy, to approve the Minutes of 7/19/18. Motion carried with councilwoman Gates-Ferris voting No and Councilman Macfarlane abstaining as he did not attend the 7/19/18 meeting.

-Motion was made by Councilman Napolitano, seconded by Councilwoman Murphy, to accept St. Joseph's Church's request for permission for a carnival with games and 50/50 raffles From September 20, 2018 through September 23, 2018. Motion carried.

-Motion was made by Councilwoman Murphy, seconded by Councilman Napolitano, to approve Engine Company Three's acceptance of Jacob Zardoya as a qualified driver. Motion carried.

-Motion was made by Councilman Napolitano, seconded by Councilwoman Murphy to approve Francesca Rosario's request for a block party for September 15, 2018 from 1:00pm to 10:00PM on West End Avenue from Bogert Street to Palisade Avenue. Motion carried.

Reports

Mayor Kelemen commented on the rainstorm last weekend that caused terrible flooding in Bogota, and thanked the DPW for the great cleanup and also thanked all the members that came to help. He also thanked Police Officers Cole

and LaFerrara for saving a bride from a flooded street. He said this rescue made the news around the world. He thanked the Council for adopting the budget, so that projects planned for this year can be completed. He reminded everyone that Councilwoman Gates-Ferris is working on the 125th Anniversary celebration and said that Borough Administrator Scarpa had some ideas on events. He reported that Darlene Wade from St. Joseph's Church asked if St. Joseph's could be a part of the tree lighting celebration. He said that School will be starting soon so the community Board needs to be updated. Councilman Miranda will be talking to the Police Chief soon to be sure the crossing guards are equipped. He said that a letter went out about recycling, and every town is doing the same. He announced that the Eastern Bergen County Board of Realtors asked him to give the opening address. He said that the Swim Club has been quiet, and the DPW has been repairing pot holes in the Swim Club parking lot.

Councilwoman Gates-Ferris: Transportation -She said there was a meeting in Teterboro followed by a barbeque. There was a slight increase in noise complaints from Bogota.

Library – She said that she is on the strategic planning committee. Library Director Coleman drafted a plan that she will share with the Mayor and Council. The quasiquicentennial committee is meeting with the Library Director next week to look through historical records for the 125 anniversary.

Councilman Miranda: Recreation – He said that there is supposed to be a movie in the park tomorrow.

Police – He congratulated the police on the rescue of the bride from the flood, and he said that he would like to see more police in the department.

Councilwoman Fede: Rescue Squad – She reported that the Rescue Squad honored her with a badge for being their liaison. She said that the Rescue Chief is working on ordering the new Rescue truck.

Environmental Commission – She said that the Bogota Environmental Commission and Ridgefield Park's will have recycling days to accept Styrofoam on October 20 in Ridgefield Park and September 22 by Sustainable Jersey in in Leonia and Glen Rock. She reported that the trex box in the library has collected the most plastic bags of all the locations. She reported that Mrs. Hunter would like a trex box for her classroom at Bixby School. There are now 5 trex boxes in town. (She said that she was very sorry the Charter did not pass since council members had said that it would be best to let the people decide.)

Councilman Napolitano: Finance – He thanked the Council for passing the budget and said he is proud the budget has no CAP waivers and no emergency appropriations. He said that the police are appreciative of the fair agreement for their contract, and there was some tax relief from the new development. He reported that the grant writer is working on the Safe Routes to School Grant and the TAP grant.

Infrastructure – East Fort Lee Road has been paved from Queen Anne Road to Crestview Place in cooperation with Teaneck. Also East Fort Lee Road from West Shore Avenue to Palisade Avenue has been paved.

Buildings and Grounds – Javier Construction has been paid in full as the project is complete. The parks have looked really nice all summer. They are being used for soccer, football, and other recreational activities. The electronic keys at Borough Hall are now in effect.

BACSA – BACSA members had a meeting last week. The group is building momentum. They may change their name. They are excited about the new Recreation Building to provide a place for young people to go instead of taking drugs. Councilwoman Fede attended the meeting as well.

Senior Citizens – There will be an advisory board meeting in September.

Planning and Zoning – The planner has created a draft report called the Area Needs Study which will be available soon to the Mayor and Council (He said that he was disappointed that the Charter Ordinance did not pass as people were interested in it, and councilmembers said it was good to leave it to the people to decide if they may want non-partisan government.)

Councilwoman Murphy: Library – She said that the library has not met, but will meet in September.

Fire Department – She said that their next meeting is September 5th. She and Mayor Kelemen met with the Fire Chiefs on Monday. The Fire Chiefs would like to appeal to the Mayor and Council to allow stipends for the firemen in the 2020 budget. There is also a need to discuss two firehouses in need of extensive repair. Should we repair the existing firehouses or build a new one.

Councilman Macfarlane – Board of Education – The parking lot project is moving along slowly and Labor Day is still
The anticipated completion date with utility company cooperation.

Borough Attorney Bossong reported that Bogota's administrative agent for affordable housing, Mr. Piazza, is coordinating all of the affordable housing in Bogota which was in need of order and should be in complete compliance by the end of September.

Motion to adjourn was made by Councilwoman Murphy, seconded by Councilwoman Gates-Ferris, so the meeting adjourned at 8:20pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Borough Clerk Jeanne Cook.