

Minutes of the Work Session of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Bogota to be held on Thursday, September 3, 2015, in the Council Chambers at 7:30PM.

### Salute to the Flag

Roll Call: Mayor Kelemen, Council members Fede, Kohles, Napolitano, Nunez, and Robbins were present. Councilman Mitchell was absent.

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.

Councilman Robbins wanted to discuss the garbage bid. He said that when the town first stopped the private garbage pickup, they were going to rebuild the DPW. He said that he had a cost breakdown for 6 workers on 8 hour days. He feels it would be cheaper to hire DPW workers. Councilman Napolitano reminded Councilman Robbins that the DCA came in last year and forced budget cuts. When the town decided to cut out private garbage pickup, parks became dirty, pot holes were not repaired, and snow became a problem. Now the town is maintaining savings (staying below the CAP) and increasing services. Administrator Scarpa added that problems need to be corrected now. This is a one year contract to get the town back in shape. Next year we may be able to regionalize with Teaneck. For now, we need to correct the problems caused by ending the private service contract. Mayor Kelemen added that the town may be in better financial shape next year, and the figures from last year may not hold for this year due to inflation and cost of living increase.

The following Resolutions on the Consent Agenda were approved (with Councilwoman Kohles abstaining from Resolution 15-121):

15-119 Resolution to Amend 2015 Approved Budget

15-120 Bogota Municipal Endorsing Resolution of Community Development Project (Group homes)

15-121 Award Garbage Bid to Suburban

122-123 Tax checks totaling \$58,094

Public Hearing and Adoption of the following Ordinance occurred:

#1468 Police Promotional Ordinance

### Discussions:

Mr. Scarpa explained that many Community Development programs can be utilized, including roads, curb cuts, and senior citizen activities. Open Space grants are available October 9<sup>th</sup>. Park grants are a 50/50 match. Roads were prioritized. Chestnut Avenue will be paved instead of Linden Avenue from Dunn Avenue to Palisade Avenue.

Councilwoman Kohles asked what happened to the exercise equipment, and Mr. Scarpa responded that the grant for the exercise equipment must be done soon. The rubber mats under the swings are in bad shape, so he will check to see if they have a warranty. Horseshoe and Basketball court need repair. The Seniors requested a putting area, and there was mention

of a Bocci Court. Three heights of an ADA water fountain could be considered as well –(adult, child, pets). Some picnic tables could be replaced with handicap accessible picnic tables. A kiddie pool would have to be regulated by the Board of Health and was not recommended by the Administrator.

Councilman Robbins reported that a woman on Fairview and Fisher plants flowers on a piece of property owned by the Borough. She would like it if all Borough owned property in that area could be gardened as well. He will speak to Bogota Beautiful about it.

Administrator's Report: Mr. Scarpa reported that the DPW contract is completed. For the police contract, a mediator has to put his report in writing, and Mr. Scarpa will then present it to the state. A new calendar will have to be prepared for the revised garbage pickup. The shared services road program will begin on September 24<sup>th</sup>. Pot holes have been filled on Chestnut Avenue, Kovar Street, and East Grove Street by a private contractor. \$13,429 was raised at the Borough's auction. The old ambulance could not be auctioned because all the equipment was not removed from it by the Corps members.

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

Naomi Castro said that Bogota needs a Crisis Outreach Center. The underpass on Preston Street is used as a dump and needs to be cleaned. She is grateful that lights were put on the stairway on the Main Street bridge to Leonia Avenue. Train noise is a problem as well.

Motion to stop Citizen Remarks was made by Councilman Robbins, seconded by Councilman Nunez. Motion carried.

Councilwoman Fede said there is a coalition in Teaneck to ban oil trains. Mayor Kelemen attended a meeting of the coalition, and Councilwoman Fede attended a rally. Councilman Napolitano said that hydroponic acid is also contained in some tanks, and that can burn your lungs.

Administrator Scarpa said that it is the Police Department that should have a Crisis Outreach Center.

Mayor Kelemen announced that St. Joseph's Academy will be having a 5K run on October 6.

Motion to go into Closed Session was made by Councilman Robbins, seconded by Councilman Nunez. Motion carried.

The following Resolution was approved: 15-123A

Meeting reconvened at 8:50pm and motion was made to adjourn by Councilwoman Fede, seconded by Councilman Napolitano. Motion carried.