



Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Bogota, to be held at the Bogota Council Chambers, 375 Larch Avenue, Bogota, NJ, on Thursday, April 19, 2018 at 7:30pm.

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

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, 2017.

Roll Call: Mayor Kelemen and Councilmembers Fede, Gates-Ferris, Macfarlane, Miranda, Murphy, and Napolitano were present. Also attending were Borough Attorney Bossong, Borough Administrator Scarpa, and Interim CFO Herr.

Motion was made by Councilman Napolitano, seconded by Councilwoman Gates-Ferris, to open the meeting to Citizen Remarks.

Connie Carpenter questioned the Emergency Amendment to the Budget. She asked when the 2017 Annual Financial Statement will be ready. She said that the 2017 Tax Rate is missing from the Website. She said that purchase orders and checks were duplicated and asked when the 2015 and 2016 Corrective Action plans will be completed.

Michele Rugar said that the tax map should be attached to Resolutions 18-077 and 18-078. She requested to know the location of the new Recreation building referenced in Resolution 18-075. She also corrected the word after the 4th "Wheras" in Resolution 18-077 and 18-078 – systemic to systematic.

Motion to closes Citizen Remarks was made by Councilwoman Murphy, seconded by Councilman Macfarlane. Motion carried.

Councilman Napolitano explained that the purpose of the authorization in Resolution 18-075 is to have Bilow see where the Recreation Center can be located. There will be options. Administrator Scarpa reported that he went to Olsen Park with the architect who suggested a two story building, eliminating the shed and tennis courts. There will be a full size basketball court, a community room, etc. The cost will be between 3 and 3.5 million dollars. There will not be a land swap. Attorney Bossong said that Resolutions 18-077 and 18-078 include West Fort Lee Road opposite the Riverfront Development to the train tracks and the slipper factory by Cross Street. Interim CFO Herr explained that Battaglia Associates are working every day to get

the finance books in order so that the Annual Financial Statement and the 2017 Audit can be completed. Interim CFO Herr said that he is working on the 2018 Appropriations and Salary and Wages with the administrator. He put in for debt payments for the bond sale in May. There have been no penalties for financial statements being late. The State realizes the issues that Bogota is dealing with and knows that we are in the process of resolving them.

Motion was made by Councilman Napolitano, seconded by Councilwoman Murphy, to approve the following Resolutions on the Consent Agenda:

PC-18-3 Payment of Claims

18-076 Authorizing the Mayor and Licensed Sewer Operator to Execute the Treatment works Approval Application

18-077 Authorization to the Borough's Planning Board to Undertake a Preliminary Investigation Pursuant to the Local Redevelopment and Housing Law as to Whether the Following Lots and Blocks Shall be designated an area in Need of Redevelopment Block 112 Lot 1 and Block 113 Lot 3,4,5,6,7

18-078 Authorizing the Borough's Planning Board to Undertake a Preliminary Investigation, Pursuant to the Local Redevelopment and Housing Law as to Whether the following Lots and Blocks Shall Be Designated an Area in need of Redevelopment Block 3 Lots 1, 1.01, 2.3, 10 And Block 64.01 Lots 11.01 and 13

Motion was made by Councilman Napolitano, seconded by Councilwoman Murphy, to go into Closed Session to interview for new police captain. Motion carried and the following Resolution was added to the agenda at 7:55pm:

18-078C Closed Session

Motion was made by Councilman Napolitano, seconded by Councilwoman Murphy to return to Open Session. Motion carried and at 8:45pm, the meeting resumed. Councilwoman Gates-Ferris had left the meeting during the Closed Session portion. She did not return to the meeting.

Motion was made by Councilman Miranda, seconded by Councilman Napolitano, to appoint Sgt Piferski as Police Captain pending salary negotiations.

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

18-075 Authorizing Bilow Garrett Group to Prepare a Plan for a New Recreation Building and recreation Facilities Plan near Oscar E. Olsen Park

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

18-079 Emergency Amendment to Temporary Budget

Motion was made by Councilman Napolitano, seconded by Councilman Miranda, to approve the following Resolution. Motion carried with only Councilwoman Murphy voting No:

18-080 Authorize Costa Engineering to advertise for Leonia Avenue Project – Phase IV

Motion was made by Councilman Napolitano, seconded by Councilman Miranda, to approve the following Resolution. Motion failed with only Councilman Napolitano voting Yes.

18-081 Authorizing Costa Engineering to Act as Borough Engineers for RCB project

Public Hearing and adoption of the Following Ordinances took place:

#1510 An Ordinance Amending Chapter VII Entitled “Traffic” Schedule XVII to Ad Handicap Parking space Near 137 Gray Street

#1511 Multi-Purpose Bond Ordinance

Ordinance #1510 and Bond Ordinance #1511 will be advertised in The Record on Tuesday, April 24, 2018.

Approvals

Minutes from 4/5/18 were removed from the agenda because a page was missing.

Motion was made by Councilwoman Murphy, seconded by Councilman Miranda, to approve Bogota High School Athletic Director’s request for approval for a 50/50 Raffle that will be drawn on July 11, 2018. Motion carried.

Discussion: Overnight Parking on West Grove Street from Linden Avenue to the railroad tracks was put off until the next meeting.

Reports

Mayor Kelemen reported that the Bergen County Health Fair will be held on May 6th at the Rothman Center. It is free for everyone. He reminded everyone about the poster contest for Arbor Day that Council President Fede will be involved with. He talked about the committees put together to discuss the SRO: Police Chief Maye, Council members Miranda and Macfarlane, High School Principal Kennedy, Mr. Moore, and Mrs. Kohles. He thanked the DPW for setting the town flag at half-mast in honor of Barbara Bush. He said that West Shore Avenue residents requested a mail box. They must get a petition signed. He reached out to Congressman Booker’s aid for help with this. He thanked Councilwoman Fede and Administrator Scarpa for all the work that was done for the bridge rededication. He reported that Rescue, Fire, DPW, and the Police Department did a great job during and after the storm. The town was a mess, and it is all cleaned up now. He said that voting on areas in need of redevelopment gives a lot of hope to the future of the town. He said that the town will be getting signs to show that we are a stigma free community. He reported that a resident would like to get rid of the bus stop at 159 Queen Anne Road.

Councilman Miranda thanked the Mayor for appointing him to the SRO Committee. He said that Ryan Ward is taking officer training for that. He thanked the DPW, the Auxiliary Police, and Rescue for the work they did after the storm. He said that a large tree branch fell on Palisade Avenue and Rescue had to cut it up and remove it. He said that he appreciates those fighting the war on drugs with him.

Councilwoman Fede reported that this is the 17th year that Bogota is a "Tree City USA". She said that Bixby and Steen School created posters for Arbor Day. She reported that the rededication of the William Ryan Bridge will take place on Saturday, and she thanked the Borough Administrator for his help in coordinating the event. She said that the Green Fair will take place on May 5th with Ridgefield Park. She said that each meeting of the Hub is different. There is discussion on what to do with Styrofoam. At the Swim Club meeting, they talked about how to promote the Swim Club. She said discussion took place concerning Firemen's Park. A new Café opened on Main Street, and the owner said that the Bogota Fire Department, Building Department, and Health Department were very helpful.

Councilman Napolitano reported that the interim CFO is doing a fine job working on the Borough finances. As for infrastructure, the midtown bridge will be open Saturday, and D&L can finish paving East Fort Lee Road. The flooding issue at the Senior Housing has been corrected. He is working on reaching out to Spanish speaking seniors. He said that the DPW Superintendent was very upset about the drainage at the high school. The contractor should have handled it better. The DPW did a great job cleaning up Palisade Avenue. He reported that there have been no accidents at the West Shore River Road intersection since the new lines were installed. An inlet at Zak field was cleared, and a lot of roots were removed which should help lessen the flooding there. The Borough Attorney will discuss amending the redevelopment agreement. The site plan has been approved. In about two weeks, demolition should begin. He is hoping for a Crime stoppers kick off with the war on drugs soon.

Councilwoman Murphy attended the last Library Board meeting and is pleased with the work being done by the new library director. She said that a volunteer dinner for the Friends of the Library will take place next week. She reported that the Fire Department is working on grants and continuing to expand recruitment. She reported that she and FOP representatives went to the Community Garden and each of them paid for two lots. They are donating their plots to families in town. She said the Fire Department helps with watering the gardens. (Councilwoman Fede added that St. Joseph's has a food pantry, and girl scouts etc could grow vegetables to donate to the food pantry. Councilman Miranda added that he will sponsor lots to get young teenagers involved in a worthwhile activity.)

Councilman Macfarlane reported that the Board of Health met and Bogota's Health Inspector Jin Bae was named Health Inspector of the Year. He said that there have been some issues with improperly stored trash, and Zika season is coming. There is a bill before the Senate to make it more difficult to get religious exemptions for vaccines. He reported that the President of the Board of Education ran a tight meeting, respectful etc. Construction is proceeding on schedule and will be completed by Labor Day.

Administrator Scarpa reported that the Recycling Tonnage Report is due April 30th. As part of the DPW contract, they will wear uniforms. The workers asked that matching pants be added to the uniform requirement, so the contract will be amended. A meeting took place with Suez water about properties Suez owns in Bogota. Suez will sell them to the town, but the price is too high. He said that maybe there could be a lease agreement, so the DPW bubble could be

moved off of private property. He asked if the governing body had any suggestions for the Open Space Grant. No one responded.

Borough Attorney Bossong said that preliminary investigations will take place to see if redevelopment is necessary. Public hearings before the planning board will occur and then this will come back to Council. The Borough of Bogota received a final judgement and repose which protects the Borough from Affordable Housing lawsuits through July 1, 2025. All the requirements for Senior and Fair Share Housing will be met. He said the amendment to the RCB development was changing the name. They will be hosting new escrow accounts.

Mayor Kelemen said that he is very proud that the governing body members are all working together for the betterment of Bogota.

Motion to adjourn was made by Councilwoman Murphy, seconded by Councilman Miranda. Motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 9:50pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Borough Clerk Jeanne Cook.