

Minutes of the Work Session of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Bogota held on Thursday, December 5, 2013, at the council chambers of Borough Hall at 7:30 PM

Salute to the Flag was led by Councilwoman Uceta

Roll Call: Mayor Jackson, Council members Uceta, Nunez, Konigsberg and Robbins were present, \*Councilman Burdiez 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 3, 2013

Bogota Democratic Municipal Committee recommended three individuals to fill the vacated council seat of former Councilman Tito Jackson. Three names submitted are: Lisa Kohles, Arthur S. Konigsberg and Anthony R. Stevens. Councilman Nunez motioned, seconded by Councilman Konigsberg to appoint Lisa Kohles to replace the vacant councilman

Seat of Tito Jackson; the members present voted unanimously and the motion was approved and carried; Mayor Jackson conferred the oath of office on Lisa Kohles Which was witnessed by her family, and she then took her seat on the council dais. Councilwoman Kohles thanked all for their support and looks forward to working with all for the good of the town.

The following resolution was adopted:  
13-196A Closed Session

The meeting reconvened and the following items on the consent agenda were approved with the exception of resolution Nos. 13-199, 13-203 and 13-204 which were discussed/

Consent Agenda

13-197 Refund balance of escrow for \$534.45 to M. Ahn, - site plan approval

13-198 Tax check for \$17,039.9 to NJBT - overpayment of taxes

13-199 Three year merger agreement with Little Ferry Court System

Councilman Nunez felt the court system which was transferred to Little Ferry is cost-effective and he voted to continue with it. Attorney Monaghan advised that he is not involved with either court in Little Ferry or with Bogota court in Little Ferry. This resolution was tabled until the December 19<sup>th</sup> meeting.

13-200 Authorize Tax collector to transfer overpaid tax account to surplus

201-02 Tax checks to various property owners for overpayment of 2013 taxes

13-203 Appoint Robert Stauffer as Public Works Manager for 3 years, \$7500 per year This resolution will be tabled until the December 19<sup>th</sup> meeting.

13-204 Renew a three-year contract with 8 towing companies for Police Department This was tabled until the December 19<sup>th</sup> meeting.

The public meeting and the closed session minutes of November 25, 2013 were approved.

Public Hearings on the following ordinances were approved and the voting records and comments are included in the Minute book.

1437 Installation and maintenance of grease traps

1438 Sewer connection fees

1439 Prohibited discharges and connections, sump pump discharges, etc

Representatives from Paychex, which is an automated payroll system were present and discussed the operation of their system. Council will consider a payroll system at another time.

Correspondence: Project Success invites Mayor and council to attend their Christmas party to be held on Friday, December 13, 2013 at 7:00 PM at Recreation Center

The bid which Bello Grande won for the CDBG sidewalk replacement program, will resume in the spring of 2014.

Committee Reports:

Mayor Jackson reported there were multiple fires in the parking lot the evening before Thanksgiving and our volunteers responded immediately and he wished to thank them for doing a great job and wishes to recognize their dedication to duty for the residents.

Councilman Robbins is interested in having a rep from a parking meter company present at a meeting in order to familiarize the Council of the importance of having automatic parking meters installed.

Connie Carpenter works with the website and it isn't the most efficient system which a community would desire. so it should be redone.

Councilman Konigsberg reported the Rescue Squad held elections for new officers.

Councilwoman Kohles advised the train to be featured at the tree lighting ceremony was sponsored by the Recreation Commission.

Councilman Nunez advised there was an emergency situation earlier this week when a resident was in distress and needed special accommodation. It was at this time, that without hesitation, Mayor Jackson sprung into action and rose to the occasion by providing a medical service; he thanked Mayor Jackson for this extraordinary action and acknowledged his professionalism. Mayor Jackson replied that the volunteers provide such services on a day to day basis for Bogota.

Council decided that the reorganization day for the year 2014 will be held at the Bogota Senior Citizen Center on Saturday, January 4, 2014, starting at 2:00 PM with the Sine Die meeting followed immediately by the Reorganization meeting. The Clerk will advertise same.

Citizen Remarks

Daniele Fede is frustrated with attendance at the Environmental commission meetings. She has taken an interest in helping the local VFW by making an application for a grant to renovate that building on Leonia Avenue and wishes support comes from the residents of Bogota.

Connie Carpenter advised she did research into our affiliation with the Bogota Savings & Loan and they pay service charges and we receive the current interest rates.

Mike Cerrasco wishes Council to rescind resolution 13-108 concerning the use of publicly-owned vehicles which Bogota employees and volunteers are using privately which violates the law of Ethics and is costly for the taxpayers of Bogota.

Scott Woegens recommends a "welcoming committee" for newcomers to Bogota which would include listing the many services are available to residents.

Melissa Piteriski objects to installing parking meters – taxes are high enough without imposing more financial burdens on Bogota's residents.

Motion to adjourn was made by Councilman Robbins, seconded by Councilman Konigsberg; motion approved and carried; session ended at 9:25 PM