



Meeting Minutes

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Bogota held on Thursday, December 15, 2016, in the Senior Center at 7:30PM.

Salute to the Flag was led by Council President John Mitchell.

Roll Call: Mayor Kelemen and Council members Connors, Fede, Miranda, Mitchell, Murphy, and Napolitano were present. Other Attendees included Borough Administrator Scarpa and Borough Attorney Bossong. CFO DiMaria arrived at 8:00pm.

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 8, 2016.

Mayor Kelemen spoke of the accomplishments of Council President Mitchell and Councilman Connors since this was to be their last official meeting as Councilmen.

Mayor Kelemen presented certificates to the Bogota High School girls volley ball team and the boys Cross Country team and thanked them for their achievements. Also honored were the coaches, Brad Dirupo and Jay Mahoney.

The following Resolutions on the Consent Agenda were approved:

- 16-187 Shared Services Agreement with Borough of Little Ferry for Municipal Court Services
- 16-188 Refund of Overpayment of Taxes for block 57 Lot 15, Block 68 Lot 9, Block 83 Lot 6, and Block 106 Lot 6
- 16-189 To Authorize Canceling of Minor Tax Overpayment of 1 Cent
- 16-190 Refund of Overpayment of Taxes for Block 1 Lot 4
- 16-192 Adoption of Annual Mayor and Council Meetings for 2017.
- 16-193 Authorizing Holidays for 2017
- 16-196 Cancelling Revenue Accounts Receivable Balances
- 16-197 Cancelling Municipal Alliance Balances
- 16-198 Cancelling Outside Police Employment Trust Balances
- 16-199 Appoint Suburban Disposal Inc. for the Collection of Garbage in the Borough of Bogota
- 16-200 Approve 3 Year Towing Contract for seven (7) Towing Companies for the Bogota Police

Resolution 16-194 was moved from the Consent Agenda to "after Citizen Remarks"

Resolutions PC16-20, 16-191 and Resolution 16-195 were removed from the consent agenda to be voted on separately.

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

PC16-20 Payment of Claims

Motion was made by Council President Mitchell, seconded by Councilman Connors, to approve the following resolution. Motion carried:

16-191 Amending Resolution 16-167 Awarding bid for DPW Building to Javier Construction
Motion was made by Council President Mitchell, seconded by Councilman Connors, to approve the following resolution. Motion carried:

16-195 Amending Resolution 15-170 to correct payment schedule for Tasca loan

The following Ordinance was Introduced:

#1490 Authorizing the Execution of a Financial Agreement with River Development Bogota Urban Renewal LLC

Public Hearing and adoption of the following Ordinance took place :

#1489 Amending the Borough's Vacant / Abandoned Properties Registration Ordinance

Motion was made by Council President Mitchell, seconded by Councilman Connors, to have a special meeting on December 29, 2016 in the Senior Center for the Public Hearing on Ordinance #1490. Motion carried.

Reports:

Mayor Kelemen reported that he received a letter from County Executive Tedesco advertising a Winter Festival at Overpeck Park. A tree decorating contest will take place at the festival. Councilwoman Murphy offered to help with decorations for the tree. He announced that 8 businesses signed up for the Regional Chamber of Commerce and on January 30 all business owners are invited to a party. Bogota Beautiful will be holding an event at the VFW on December 30.

Councilwoman Murphy asked if there were job descriptions for the professionals that submitted RFQs.

Councilman Miranda: Recreation Committee –He reported that the Christmas tree lighting was a success. The DPW cleaned the streets and put the lights on the tree. Raul Lebron entertained everyone as the DJ. He thanked the Recreation Committee for providing cookies etc. The Recreation Center will be spackled and painted. He thanked Jason Kearns for the research he did on improving the Recreation building.

Councilwoman Fede: Bogota Swim Club Report – She said that the committee will meet in May, June, and September.

Finance – She reported that there were no less than 6 to 8 meetings of the Planning and Zoning Board concerning the Pilot. One community benefit to the project is tax relief.

Library Board – There will be a memorial service for Nikki Spiegel.

Rescue – She reported that new officers were voted on and sworn in for 2017.

Environmental Commission – The Community Forestry Plan is due. Bogota is meeting with Ridgefield Park to share tree strategies.

Council President Mitchell: Police Department – He requested that a blue line be painted on Main Street between Larch Avenue and Elm Avenue in

support of the Police.

Councilman Connors: Fire Department – He reported that Joseph DeMauro was sworn in as the new Fire Chief.

Councilman Napolitano: Finance – He reminded everyone to come to the Special Meeting on December 29th for the Public Hearing on the Pilot Program Ordinance. He reported that the Borough is waiting for the Safe routes to School grant and the TAP (Transportation Alternatives Program) grant. He announced that the town will be off of official state financial watch on January 1, 2017.

Administrator Scarpa announced that there will be one more leaf pick up in January 2017. It will be listed on the 2017 Recycling Calendar. December 22nd will be the last Safety meeting for 2016. He said that payments on the loan for Officer Tasca's settlement should be over 20 years, not 15. That has to be corrected by the JIF.

Attorney Bossong and CFO DiMaria had no report.

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

Charles Severino asked the difference between a Resolution and an Ordinance. He and Juanita Sayres requested that Citizen Remarks go before the Consent Agenda.

Kathy VanBuren, Antero Jackson, Juanita Sayres, Amanda Montgomery, and John Wolberg all expressed concern about the large development at West Fort Lee Road.

Lisa Kohles requested that the bill list be available for the public at meetings.

Motion was made by Council President Mitchell, seconded by Councilman Miranda, to close Citizen Remarks. Motion carried.

Councilman Miranda said that the Planning and Zoning Board meetings were announced at Council meetings. Councilwoman Murphy said that PILOTS are used repeatedly throughout the state. If school population increases, then money will have to go to the schools. Attorney Bossong said that under statute, a PILOT has to be phrased as an Urban Renewal entity. PILOTS are governed by the DCA (Department of Consumer Affairs). Profits must be capped at 12%, and all financial statements will be reviewed. Councilwoman Murphy noted that the town is complying with the law. Councilman Napolitano said that there were at least 4 Planning and Zoning Board hearings and a newspaper article about the drainage. There will be community enhancement money that came from negotiating with the developer. It was not offered initially. COAH is necessary by law. 297 Palisade did not have COAH or Community enhancement money.

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

16-194 Authorizing Execution of Redeveloper's Agreement and Approving Long Term Tax Exemption Application of River Development Bogota Urban Renewal LLC

Mayor Kelemen said that the former police chief suggested the 5 minute rule for Citizen Remarks to keep order. He expressed his concerns with the project. He applauded the Planning and Zoning Board members who had to attend many long meetings involving the River Development project. He urged everyone to pass the word about the December 29th meeting.

Motion was made by Councilman Napolitano, seconded by Councilman Connors, to adjourn. Motion carried, and the meeting adjourned at 10:20pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Borough Clerk Jeanne Cook.