

Minutes of Reorganization meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Bogota, held at the Bogota Senior Citizen Center, 375 Larch Avenue, Bogota, NJ, on Saturday, January 3, 2015, at 2:00PM.

Salute to the Flag was led by Councilman Robbins.

Talia Dombrowski sang "America the Beautiful" beautifully. Mayor Kelemen requested that everyone remain standing to have a moment of silence for the fallen officer from Cliffside Park, Steven Petrozelli as well as the two NYPD officers whose lives were lost a week and half ago.

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 22, 2014.

Mayor Kelemen welcomed the following dignitaries: Senator Weinberg, Assemblyman Gordon Johnson, Assemblywoman Valerie Huttle, Freeholder Maura DeNicola, Former Mayors Alex Kelemen and Antonio Tito Jackson, Former Councilmembers Bob Ferro, Nick Zampetti, Pat Kearns, Ann Marie Mitchell, and George Shaloub, Police Chief John Burke, new Fire Chief Mike Brophy, and Citizen of the Year Vinnie Galante.

Oath of Office was conferred upon Councilwoman-elect Lisa Kohles by Senator Loretta Weinberg. Councilwoman Kohles thanked everyone who helped her, and said that she is looking forward to a good year.

Oath of Office was conferred upon Councilman-elect Thomas A Napolitano by Bergen County Freeholder Maura DeNicola. Councilman Napolitano thanked Freeholder Maura DeNicola and his family and friends. He said that he is very optimistic about the future for Bogota.

Roll Call: Mayor Kelemen, Councilmembers Fede, Kohles, Mitchell, Napolitano, Nunez, and Robbins

Council elected Councilman Jorge Nunez as Council President for the year and Assemblywoman Valerie Huttle conferred the Oath of Office upon him. Councilman Nunez thanked the Council for their trust in him and said that he is looking forward to working with all the Council members and the Mayor for the community.

Council elected Tom Napolitano as Class III member of Planning/Zoning Board.

Councilwoman Fede motioned to add a resolution to the consent agenda for Job and Job as Special Borough Engineer for 297 Palisade construction. John Mitchell seconded; all approved and motion carried.

Resolution 15-03 was pulled from the consent agenda and voted on separately.

The following Resolutions on the Consent Agenda were approved:

15-02 Appoint Borough Attorney Craig Bossong of Florio, Perrucci, Stenhardt and Fader

15-04 Appoint Zoning Official Daniel Howell

15-05 Reopen petty cash funds

15-06 Interest on tax delinquencies

15-07 Interim payments

15-08 Authorize Banks

15-09 Authorize official newspapers, The Record and the Star Ledger

15-10 Authorize signatories for checks

15-11 Authorization for tax appeals

15-12 Adopt a cash management plan

15-13 Authorize collection of costs for insufficient funds

15-14 Yearly meeting schedule

15-15 Authorize employee holidays

15-16 Police dispatchers

15-17 Adult crossing guards

15-18 Participate in Bergen County Police Mutual Aid Plan

15-19 Appoint Special Borough Engineer Job and Job for 297 Palisade Ave

Discussion took place concerning the appointment of Robert Costa as Borough Engineer. Council members Robbins and Kohles expressed concern with billing authorizations from 2014. Councilman Mitchell explained that billing problems related only to 297 Palisade Avenue project.

The following resolution was approved

15-03 Appoint Robert Costa as Borough Engineer. Voting record is attached.

Mayor Kelemen conferred Oath of Office on Police Commissioner John Mitchell. Police Chief Burke wished everyone a Happy New Year and thanked Councilwoman Kohles for her work as Police Commissioner for 2014. He then presented a ceremonial badge to newly appointed Police Commissioner Mitchell.

Mayor Kelemen conferred Oaths of office on First Aid Squad, Rescue Squad and Auxiliary Police members

Mayor Kelemen appointed the following to various committees/boards:

Planning/Zoning Board: Class II: Art Sopelsa ,
Class IV: Nick Zampetti
Alt I: George Shaloub
Alt II: Corado Mancini

Board of Health: Cora Zakrzewski and Elsa Carpio

Environmental Commission: Daniele Fede, Mariann Zampetti, Franco Munno,
Diane Mancini

Recreation Commission: Art Sopelsa, Sal Donatucci, and Jared Deutch

Senator Weinberg wished everyone a Happy New Year and said that her office is always available to all residents for help. She thanked Former Mayor Jackson for his service.

Assemblywoman Valerie Huttel congratulated Mayor Christopher Kelemen and commented on his father Alex Kelemen who preceded Chris as Mayor of Bogota. She thanked Former Mayor Jackson for his service.

Assemblyman Gordon Johnson acknowledged Police Chief Burke and commented on the importance of the police, first aid, and rescue etc. and ensuring that everyone can maintain a good life.

Freeholder Maura DeNicola wished everyone a Happy New Year and thanked everyone who ran for office. She thanked Tito Jackson for his work with emergency services.

Warren Waters of Riverfront Development reminded the Mayor and Council that he is committed to the redevelopment of the Hess and Sifford properties.

There were no Citizen Remarks.

Mayor Kelemen introduced the Citizen of the Year, Vinnie Galante who was very happy and honored to be recognized.

Councilwoman Fede invited everyone to partake of refreshments that she prepared.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 3:00pm.