



Meeting Minutes

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Bogota held on Thursday, January 19, 2017, in the Bogota Council Chambers at 7:30PM.

Salute to the Flag was led by Councilman Macfarlane.

Mayor Kelemen asked everyone to remain standing after the Flag salute in order to observe a moment of silence for two members of the community that died recently. Cynthia O'Neill was the daughter of Joe O'Neill who was a volunteer coach etc for many years in the Recreation programs. Robert Brickley was a former DPW employee and the son of Robert Brickley who was a Board of Education employee and Patricia Brickley who was a crossing guard.

Roll Call: Mayor Kelemen and Council members Fede, Macfarlane, Miranda, Murphy and Napolitano were present. Councilwoman Gates-Ferris was absent due to illness. Also present were Administrator Scarpa, Attorney Bossong, and CFO DiMaria.

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 30, 2016.

CFO DiMaria explained the Cash Management Plan and said that the Finance Committee could review it to update it because it is a dated policy. He also explained the difference between the Accelerated Tax sale (Resolution 17-004) and the Standard Tax Sale (Resolution 17-003). The Accelerated Tax Sale has been used by Bogota for the past couple of years. The Standard Tax Sale Resolution is needed just as a safeguard. He went on to explain Ordinance 1491 (the CAP ordinance) which allows the Borough to raise the spending limit to 3.5%.

Councilwoman Murphy asked about the Green Team Advisory Committee. Councilwoman Fede explained that the Green Team Committee is a separate entity from the Environmental Commission and is necessary for Bogota to obtain Sustainable Jersey Certification.

Resolution 17-042 was removed from the Consent Agenda to be voted on separately.

The following Resolutions on the Consent Agenda were approved:

PC17-01 Payment of Claims

- 17-041 Renewal of Green Team Advisory Committee
- 17-043 Appointing a Tax Appeal Appraiser
- 17-044 Redemption of Tax Sale Certificate for Block 60, Lot 1
- 17-045 Redemption of Overpayment of Taxes for Block 111, Lot 1.01
- 17-046 Redemption of Overpayment of Taxes for Block 111, Lot 3
- 17-047 Redemption of Tax Sale Certificate for Block 8, Lot 13
- 17-048 Authorizing application for Municipal Alliance Grant

Administrator Scarpa that the Qualified Purchasing Agent allows the town to have a higher threshold for purchases. Raymond Carnivale is the same QPA that the Council hired for the last quarter of 2016. His fee is very low because it is shared service. After amending the Resolution to correct the QPA's name and to add the increased threshold amount, the following Resolution was approved:

- 17-042 Hiring a Qualified Purchasing Agent

The following Resolutions were approved after CFO DiMaria explained the difference between a Standard Tax Sale and an Accelerated Tax Sale:

17-003 Authorizing a Standard Tax Sale

17-004 Authorizing an Accelerated Tax Sale

The following Resolution was approved:

17-049 Authorizing Execution of Settlement Agreement in the matter of
Consuelo Carpenter v. Borough of Bogota Docket #2:15-cv-057841-CCC-MF

The following Ordinances were Introduced and Approved (Voting Record Attached):

#1491 To Exceed the Municipal Budget Appropriation Limits and Establish a CAP Bank

#1492 Capital Ordinance – Reconstruction of West Shore Avenue \$200,000

#1493 Capital Ordinance - Reconstruction of Leonia Avenue Phase 2 \$200,000

The Public Hearing on Ordinance #1491, #1492, and #1493 will take place at the February 2nd Council Meeting.

Motion was made by Councilman Miranda, seconded by Councilman Napolitano, to approve the following minutes after amendments were made to the minutes:

Minutes of 12/1/16, 12/15/16, 12/29/16, and Sine die were approved by four Council members. Councilman Macfarlane abstained because he was not on the Council at the time of those meetings. Minutes for 1/5/17 were approved unanimously by the five present Council members.

Reports

Mayor Kelemen reported that a good job was done by the DPW in picking up Christmas trees and clearing the streets during the recent storm. He said that the DPW has moved to trailers now while the new building is being constructed. On January 30, he will be hosting a Chamber of Commerce meeting with the Hackensack Chamber of Commerce as the host Chamber at the Recreation Center from 5:30pm to 7:30pm. Members of other towns will be attending as well. He and Councilman Macfarlane met with the new Interim School Superintendent to discuss various matters.

Councilman Miranda: Recreation Committee – He said that Jason Kearns was chosen as Chairman, Daniel Schnipp as Vice Chairman and Carmen Diaz as Secretary. The Football program went well. The Basketball program has more than 90 children with yellow and purple reversible jerseys. The 4th grade team will play against St. Joseph's on Thursdays. Painting is in the works. Vents must be cleaned. The new sign will be installed soon which will have graphics and animation.

Police Department – He is just getting to know the many parts of the department. The Chief is helping him get acquainted with everything.

Councilwoman Fede: Bogota Beautiful – They had a successful dance party on December 30th. She requested a fee ordinance for the Community Garden. Next Saturday will be a pot luck lunch.

Environmental Commission – Notices for the Master Plan for the parks were sent out. The Commission is combining with Ridgefield Park for Earth Day which Ridgefield Park calls Earth Fest. It will be held on May 13. A River keeper pontoon, a bee keeper and a bat keeper will be present.

Rescue Squad – They are in the process of obtaining non-profit status.

Councilwoman Fede explained that the VFW is doing well and is working toward being an emergency shelter in case of a disaster and would like to meet with the OEM Coordinator.

Councilman Napolitano: Senior Citizens – He announced that Senior Citizen meetings are held on the first and third Tuesday of the month. He reported that Bergen County is offering interest free loans for home renovations up to \$17,500.

Buildings and Grounds – Demolition of the DPW building will begin soon. The renovations to Borough Hall and the Police Station are continuing. The Contractor was on the Midtown Bridge this week doing emergency repairs. West Fort Lee Road flooded, so he contacted the county. He told them that temporary drainage needs to be installed before lanes can be closed. The County is having a pre-construction meeting for the temporary drainage, and he and Chief Maye will go attend. The Safe Routes to School Grant should be available in February. Road work will be done on Grey Street, Kovar Street, East Fort Lee Road, Elmwood Avenue, and Maplewood Avenue. The DOT grants for West Shore Avenue and Leonia Avenue Phase II are in the works. The Palisade Avenue project will begin soon.

Planning and Zoning – George Shalhoub was chosen as Chairman, Corrado Mancini as Vice Chairman, and Tina Trotta as Secretary. A Master Plan Committee will be meeting with the planner.

Finance – Mr. Scarpa will be meeting with Department Heads to discuss Capital And operational budget projections.

Councilwoman Murphy: Fire Department – She spoke to the officers who gave her a spreadsheet schedule Of meeting dates for the houses and the officers. She will try to Attend the officers' meeting on February 1st.

BACSA – She has not had contact with BACSA yet.

Councilman Macfarlane: DPW – He met with Superintendent Kohles at the DPW garage and saw that the DPW has a large amount of equipment. The trailers are in place for the renovations. He congratulated the DPW on the snow removal.-

Library – They had a fund raiser to build a memorial in the Children's section for Nikki Spiegel. The Circulation rate is flat or slightly improved. Next Saturday afternoon will be a luncheon.

Board of Education – He went to a meeting of the Board and saw presentations made to the sports teams. Cross country team received nice t- shirts and sweat shirts.

Board of Health – First meeting will be on January 30th.

Administrator Scarpa commented that the new vehicles and salt spreaders were a big help for the snow removal. He pointed out that the Capital bond ordinances will be over \$300,000. A Recycling grant of \$6,500 was received. Local Roads will be repaved through the Pascack Valley Cooperative Shared Services Agreement. A draft of a multipurpose bond will be presented at a future meeting. BCUA hazardous waste disposal dates are available in the clerk's office.

Borough Attorney Bossong had no report.

Mayor Kelemen announced that Joseph Monaghan, (a past Borough Attorney for Bogota) was sworn in as a County Judge.

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

Amanda Montgomery said that she is the new liaison for the Board of Education. She requested that the town work with the Board of Education to build a soccer field in Bogota for the students.

Motion to close Citizen Remarks was made by Councilman Napolitano, seconded by Councilman Miranda. Motion carried.

Responses: Councilmen Napolitano and Miranda both were in favor of working with the Board of Education for the purpose of building a soccer field in Bogota. They both said that they want to keep the children in Bogota as Councilman Mitchell had often said. Councilman Napolitano said that grant money may be available. Administrator Scarpa said that the concussion issue is making football less desirable. He said that a joint meeting with the Board of Education for shared services will fill a Best Practices check list suggestion.

Councilwoman Murphy requested a committee to be appointed to discuss amending the by-laws. The committee will consist of Councilwomen Fede, Gates-Ferris, and Murphy.

Motion to adjourn was made by Councilman Napolitano, seconded by Councilman Miranda. Motion carried, and the meeting adjourned at 8:35PM.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Borough Clerk Jeanne Cook.