



Minutes of the 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, February 7, 2019 at 7:30pm.

Salute to the Flag was led by Councilman Macfarlane.

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 27, 2018.

Roll Call: Mayor Kelemen and Councilmembers Carpenter, Gates-Ferris, Macfarlane, Murphy, Robbins, and Napolitano were present. Also attending were Borough Attorney Betesh and Borough Administrator Scarpa.

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

Lisa Kohles reminded the Borough Clerk that the approval request for the High School PTO was for raffle licenses, not for the carnival.

Michele Rugar was concerned that Resolution 19-050 was not available on the website, and the meeting was listed as February 6th instead of February 7th. She asked for an update on whether minutes can be sent to the Council in Word format. She mentioned that the Mayor was not at the first two planning and zoning meetings and commented that in all her years on the Planning and Zoning Board, the mayor attended all the meetings.

Novia Castro mentioned the recent tragedy in town which resulted in one death and some convictions. She asked if Bogota has a Crisis line to offer to people to prevent any more tragedies.

Motion was made by Councilwoman Murphy, seconded by Councilman Robbins, to close Citizen Remarks. Motion carried.

The Borough Clerk explained that the description of the Resolution (Veteran's Tax Break for Disability) was on the agenda, but due to the tax collector being unavailable, the resolution had to be obtained with the help of the tax assessor. She then explained that Minutes are not a draft. The Municipal Clerk is trained to prepare the minutes in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act. Minutes are given to the governing body to review and vote on at the next public meeting. Any corrections to the minutes must be approved at that time, and the corrections must be included in the minutes of the meeting where the corrections were made.

Mayor Kelemen said that he will discuss having a Crisis Center with the Police and the liaisons.

Mayor Kelemen then explained that he had family health issues and was unable to attend the Planning and Zoning board meetings. He chose Councilman Napolitano as his substitute because Mr. Napolitano was a seasoned member of past Planning and Zoning Boards, and was the Class III liaison last year. He is an engineer and is well qualified to stand in as the Mayor's substitute, but the Mayor will attend all Planning and Zoning meetings that he can attend.

Councilman Napolitano announced that the County has a Crisis Hotline and requested that the County liaison contact the County to attain the hotline phone number. He then commented that on his first year as a member of the Planning and Zoning Board, the Mayor attended only one meeting for the year, and the Class III liaison did not attend any meetings.

Borough Administrator Scarpa announced that the County Crisis hotline number is 201-262-HELP.

Mayor Kelemen swore in Lewis Duenas as a new Bogota Patrol Officer. In attendance were Lewis Duena's family and friends as well as Police Chief Maye and a large number of Bogota's Police Officers. Mayor Kelemen and Chief Maye said a few words, and then the Mayor called for a short recess before continuing with the regular meeting.

When the Regular meeting resumed at 8:00pm, Library Director Chelsea Coleman presented the Bogota Public Library's strategic plan for 2019 through 2021. She explained that through Focus Groups and meeting with Community leaders throughout the town she revised the concrete mission statement. It is to maximize our community potential through exploration, education, and empowerment. She said that surveys were distributed in English and Spanish and the results showed the library to be a warm welcoming place in need of more space and less noise from children who did not have parent- supervision. She said that the Seniors were looking for more daytime programs, and the people in general would like more "learning events". She said that she would like to secure more financial support for the library. She plans to rearrange the shelving of children's books to put fiction and non-fiction together of similar topics to make easier accessibility for young readers. To celebrate the community's 125th anniversary, she will work on proper archiving and offer more local history programs. She created a new logo and new website for the library. She would like to expand library programs and possibly use other locations in town to present programs. She developed a schedule to be on target for 2021.

Discussion took place concerning Videotaping Council meetings. It will be looked into for cost etc.

Motion was made by Councilman Robbins, seconded by Councilwoman Murphy, to remove Resolution 19-047 from the Agenda since Bruno Associates agreed to accept the terms of Resolution 19-039 which was approved at the January 17, 2019 Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council.

Motion was made by Councilwoman Murphy, seconded by Councilwoman Carpenter, to approve the following resolutions on the Consent Agenda. Motion carried.:

- 19-046 To Advertise for Bids for Palisade Avenue Project Phase III
- 19-048 To Approve a Water Main Extension and Public Hydrant for RCB Urban Renewal Project
- 19-049 To Approve Suez Water Order for Fire Hydrant for RCB Urban Renewal Project
- 19-050 To Approve Veteran's Tax Break for Disability Block 73, Lot 23
- 19-051 To approve Veteran's Tax Break for Disability Block 7, Lot 3.01

Approvals:

-Discussion took place concerning the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of January 17, 2019. Councilwoman Gates-Ferris requested that the minutes be stream-lined. Councilwoman Carpenter asked that the discussion concerning some council members meeting with Bruno Associates be removed. The Borough Clerk agreed to streamline the minutes and present them at the next Council meeting for approval. Motion was made by Councilwoman Murphy, seconded by Councilman Robbins, to Table the minutes. Motion carried.

-Motion was made by Councilwoman Murphy, seconded by Councilwoman Gates-Ferris, to approve Bogota High School PTO's request for approval of a raffle license for games and a raffle license for a 50/50 for a carnival to be held on April 16, 2019 through April 20, 2019 to raise money for the girls' volleyball team. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Councilwoman Murphy, seconded by Councilwoman Carpenter, to Introduce the following Ordinance. Motion carried.:

#1521 Ordinance Amending Chapter 23 of the Code of the Borough of Bogota Entitled "Police Department" (Public Hearing will be on February 21, 2019.)

Motion was made by Councilman Napolitano, seconded by Councilman Macfarlane, to open the meeting to Citizen remarks. Motion carried.

Lisa Kohles said that a work session is a good idea and that the town needs a task management plan because the library needs more space. She said that a Community /Recreation Center is needed, and the Seniors can use it.

Michele Rupar said that years ago Cablevision allocated a station for Bogota. She said that many towns live-stream on U-tube.

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

Councilman Napolitano said that the Seniors do not want to go to the Recreation Center. Administrator Scarpa will look into the grant money used to build the Senior Center and whether the time has expired for that space to be used only by the Seniors.

Discussion took place concerning the Task management Plan.

Reports:

Mayor Kelemen said that there will be a Recreation Meeting on Wednesday to discuss Bogota Day. He will not be able to attend due to personal health issues. He said that DPW Superintendent Kohles and the new Sidewalk repair company are doing a great job. He reported that he requested to Jim Moore to clean up the Recreation Center. He said that he is glad that the SLOE3 ordinance was introduced. He reminded everyone that a Blood Drive will be held at the Senior Center on Sunday February 17 from 10am to 4pm.

Councilwoman Gates-Ferris reported that the next Library meeting will be held on Monday. She said that the 125th celebration is moving along. She reminded everyone that the Valentine's Dance will be held next Wednesday. There will be fence weaving, a pot luck dinner, and a newsletter. She asked about the banners, and Mr. Scarpa said that they are here.

Councilwoman Carpenter said that the Recreation meeting will be held on Wednesday. She said that Jim Moore expressed concerns about the trust account being low. Mr. Scarpa explained the discrepancy and said that the auditor is looking into a line item in the budget for the Recreation Center. She said that she missed the County meeting. She heard that a woman from Leonia started up a collection of Styrofoam and would like Bogota to look into it.

Councilman Napolitano reported that the police had 2,204 calls in January, 57 ambulance calls, 11 false alarms, 252 motor vehicle stops with 181 summonses issued. They had 1 DUI, 1 missing person who was returned, 5 wanted persons, and 2 bench warrants. He said that the Police are still waiting for two new No Parking Signs for two residences. He said that there will be a BACSA meeting next week where they will discuss vaping, drug awareness, and crime stoppers. He reported that the VFW is hosting the Valentine Dance on Wednesday. He said that a monument is being erected on Bogota's side of the Ryan Bridge in the Spring. He said that the County is hosting a Veterans' fundraiser on Sunday at Firehouse Subs on Hackensack Avenue from 10am to 9pm.

Councilwoman Murphy said she will be getting more information from Mr. Scarpa concerning a \$30,000 grant for trees. She just spoke to Daniele Fede to catch up on Environmental news. She will follow up on DEP tanks removed from the DPW building. She is planning to go for training for Planning and Zoning in March. The next Planning and Zoning meeting will be February 12th, and the agenda for the meeting will be going out tomorrow. She said that on January 25th, the architect met with her, Councilman Robbins, Mr. Scarpa, and Alex Breuss for two hours to discuss the situations at two firehouses. She will have more information once she hears from the architect. She said that there was a fire officers' meeting last night. She said that when Mr. Scarpa gets information from the Architect and Engineer, the Council can vote to move forward in some way.

Councilman Robbins said that he did not get a chance to meet with Walter Croft to discuss the Memorial Day parade. He said that the Rescue Squad has added three new members Daniele Fede, Rebecca Youla, and Christine Mitchel. Councilman Robbins motioned and Councilman Napolitano seconded to approve the three new members of the Rescue Squad. Motion carried.

The Rescue Squad purchased batteries for their pagers and will purchase three new pagers for their new members. He said there have been issues connecting the Rescue Squad with e-dispatch, so while working on an alternative method, they will continue to get notified through auxiliary dispatch and communicate through pagers and group texts. He reminded everyone that the Boot Drive will be held on April 27 with a rain date of May 4th. He spoke to Nick Barese about the condition of the lot next to the Central fire house. He said it was in very bad shape. Mr. Barese took care of the situation. He said that the Palisade Avenue Road Improvement Project was voted on to go out to bid. He said that road improvements under the Pascack Valley Road Projects will be: Lynn Court from River Road to the Cul-de-sac, West Broad Street from Larch Avenue to Elm Avenue, McDougall Lane from Larch Avenue to Elm Avenue, and Central Avenue from Bogert Lane to Queen Anne Road. The NJ State DOT road project will be Larch Avenue from South Street to Main Street including angled parking in front of Borough Hall. The CDBG road project will be Pine Street from Leonia Avenue to the Teaneck border. He reported that the TANAAC met on January 23, 2019. Construction at the airport was discussed which included light circuits being replaced and repaving taxi ways in the near future. He reported that Noise Complaints for 2018 included 439 Callers and 3,480 concerns. Bogota had 3 noise complaints in 2018. Maywood had the most complaints because one resident has a device called the air Noise button which you can press every time you are annoyed by aircraft noise. He said that the Falcon150 LeerJet has been banned from landing or taking off at Teterboro Airport. The next meeting of the TANAAC will be in April.

Councilman Macfarlane said that Finance does not have much going on. They are waiting for the Annual Financial Statement and Debt statement from Mr. Wielkottz, so Deter Lerch can work on this year's budget etc. He is hoping that the town will have the simplified budget soon. He said the Board of Education discussed videotaping meetings. One member of the Board of Education would like to start a youth group. He reported that the Board of Education met with the grant writer and felt it was too expensive, but maybe they will revisit it since the town received a better price. He attended the Senior Advisory Board meeting and the Senior Executive Board meeting. He said that he spoke to the Seniors about moving to the Recreation Center, and they said they want to stay at the Senior Center. He said that they told him that they all take the bus to the Senior meeting, He said that the AARP will offer tax help to Seniors on Thursdays and Fridays. The Seniors are hoping that the file boxes will be moved soon.

Administrator Scarpa said that a DPW employee resigned, so he would like to advertise for a new DPW worker. He said that the tax collector is ill and Battaglia has stepped in to help collect the taxes. He said that he spoke to Jim Moore about sprucing up the Recreation Center, so painting will be done and flooring and new furniture will be purchased. He said the architect had to do an analysis on the two fire houses and he gave an estimate of \$4,500. He said that surveys must be done as well, and the engineer gave an estimate of \$5,485.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Murphy, seconded by Councilwoman Carpenter to have the architect move forward with the analysis for \$4,500 and have the engineer move forward with a survey for \$5,485. Motion carried. He said that Mr. Costa did the plans and specs for the Palisade Avenue project and will give them to Neglia to proceed with the project. He said that the County will be closing the Cedar lane Bridge. They will be doing a six year study first. He said that Public Service will be doing work in March or April to repair leaks. This will take six to eight weeks. Suez water will be working on Linden Avenue to improve fire hydrant pressure for six to eight weeks. It will begin in the summer. Suez has found that there is a lot of lead in Bogota water. 900 homes are affected. Only main lines will be replaced. Call 800-422-5987 with questions.

Motion was made by Councilwoman Carpenter, seconded by Councilwoman Murphy, to pass a resolution to have Suez Water expedite the changing of lead pipes in Bogota. Motion carried and the following resolution was added to the agenda.

19-052 To Demand a Commitment from Suez North America to Aggressively Replace Lead Service Lines They Own
He said that the tank issues for the DEP need to be finalized and that should occur soon.

Borough Attorney Betesh spoke about a letter received from one of the town's towing companies concerning an amendment made by the State legislature concerning towing laws. The towing company requested that the town amend our ordinance as to the fees that should be charged. The town's present fees are similar, some are lower. The Borough has the choice to amend the fees or not. The current ordinance does not get into fees by private property owners. The town can set a ceiling, but does not have to do anything. He said that this could be discussed at the next meeting. He reported that former police officer Tasca appealed the decision saying she was not entitled to pension benefits, but the decision did not change. He then suggested discussion about the Bogota Police ordinance for the next meeting. He feels that it needs to be more comprehensive.

The Borough Clerk reminded the governing body of the importance of the Open Public Meetings Act.

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

Minutes respectfully submitted by Borough Clerk Jeanne Cook.