



Meeting Minutes

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

Salute to the Flag was led by Councilwoman Gates-Ferris.

Roll Call: Mayor Kelemen and Council members Fede, Gates-Ferris, Macfarlane, Miranda, Murphy and Napolitano were present. Other Attendees included Borough Administrator Scarpa, Borough 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 23, 2016.

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

Nicholas Zampetti questioned Ordinance 1501 in relation to the ordinances already adopted concerning abandoned property.

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

Warren Waters, the principal of River Development, advised the Mayor and Council on the status of approvals and the closing, and he predicted to be able to make payment to the Borough in 60 days.

CFO DiMaria explained that funding was on hold for Leonia Avenue Phase III project. He said that a Capital Ordinance takes 30 days to process, and the project is still waiting for the award letter and cost estimates from the engineer.

The following Resolutions on the Consent Agenda were approved:

- 17-138 Appoint a Full-Time Police Dispatcher Priscilla Garcia
- 17-139 Approve Shared Services Agreement for County Road Resurfacing
- 17-140 Approve Hiring Kenneth J. Job to Prepare Plan for Stormwater Management
- 17-141 Approve Hiring Qualified Purchasing Agent Roy Riggiano
- 17-142 Support Override of Governor's Veto of S806- Oil Train Safety Bill
- 17-143 Resolution to Amend the Approved 2017 Budget
- 17-144 Resolution Hiring Part-Time Crossing Guards

(Public Hearing on the Amendment to the 2017 Approved budget will take place on September 21, 2017.)

Public Hearing and Adoption of the following Ordinances occurred:

- #1501 An Ordinance Amending Chapter IX Entitled "Building and Housing" to create subsection XII – Entitled "Unsafe and Uninhabitable Structures"
- #1502 Salary Ordinance for 2017

Approvals:

Motion was made by Councilman Napolitano, seconded by Councilwoman Murphy, to approve Hose Company #2's request for approval of a raffle license for a leather helmet, and to waive Borough fees. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Councilwoman Murphy, seconded by Councilwoman Fede, to approve the Minutes of 8/17/17. Motion carried with only Councilwoman Gates-Ferris voting "No".

Reports

Mayor Kelemen said that he spoke to the Superintendent of Schools concerning anything needed for a safe return to school. He said that the Police Chief is working on cracking down on speeding during the beginning of the school year. He reported that the Fire Department was well represented helping with the Cliffside Park fire. The black SUV will be painted for the Fire Department. The flooding problem on Leonia Avenue is being resolved. Many roads are being paved. Cornhusks were ordered by Administrator Scarpa to decorate the town for Autumn. He is sending prayers to all those that were impacted by Hurricane Irma and reached out to the community to help one another. He will take calls for those in need of help and for those offering help.

Councilwoman Gates-Ferris – DPW: She reported that the DPW bought a new sweeper. She said that the second floor has been poured in the new DPW building and half of the first floor was poured. Storm and sanitary lines are in. Suez is putting in a new water line, the construction company is sheet-rocking the outside walls and installing the roof.

Councilman Miranda – Recreation: He reported that the After School program will begin next week. He said the summer camp program was a hit, and the Fall Festival is on track and they are looking for vendors. Soccer starts in two weeks.

Police: He reported that the police issued 32 summonses since school opened. He will go out with the Chief check on improper parking. He said that they must work to find a solution to improve traffic issues at drop off locations for school. He said that the police have been very busy with 561 general calls, 344 Motor Vehicle violations, 229 summonses, and one DWI. There were 40 suspicious vehicles. He said there were 51 Ambulance calls all under 10 minutes. He would like to look into a parking committee. He would like to look for into a parking committee. There were massive changes in town for the better.

Councilwoman Fede – Environmental Commission: She reported that the Environmental Commission found an old tree inventory which helped to locate all the ash trees. There are 98 Ash trees, thirty of which are on Larch Avenue. She said that the \$30,000 grant will be used, \$10,000 per year, to replace all the ash trees.

The Sustainable Jersey application is due Sunday. She is working hard on tracking energy bills. Bogota Beautiful's block party will be held on Saturday, September 9 from 2pm to 6pm. The townwide garage sale will be held on October 14th.

Rescue: She reported that the Rescue Squad will be attending St. Joseph's Carnival from September 20th through 23rd. There are two boats in the Fire & Rescue Annex. Four members of the Rescue Squad are hazmat trained Personnel which should be added to the emergency management plan.

(The Swim Club meeting will be September 18th. The Swim Club committee said that they were going to present a proposal for amendments to the lease, but they have not done so yet.)

Councilman Napolitano – Buildings and Grounds: The new DPW building will be completed soon. Water and Sewer Tie-ins are being completed. Parks look beautiful with the new signs.

He will ask Mr. Costa about the grant for the basketball courts. He said that Bogota will work with County Housing to fix the flooding problem on Leonia Avenue. The Soccer field is in good shape, and Opening Day is September 26th.

Infrastructure: He reported that the Coop paving has begun on Kovar Street, Gray Street, and Elmwood Avenue. East Fort Lee Road will be paved after the tie in for the water and sewer is completed. There was no money for Larch Avenue section.

Finance: River Front development is giving \$300,000,000 for Recreation, etc. The Borough is no longer under state watch by the DCA. The Moody Report said that the town is in solid financial position with low debt. Bogota is maintaining a 0% tax increase for 2017. The town negotiated with the developers of River front for community enhancement money of \$3,000,000 for Recreation facilities.

Senior Citizens: He reported that the Seniors had a meeting yesterday. The police did a demonstration for the Seniors. The Senior County picnic will be held on September 13th. There will be a Retirement Pizza Party in honor of Pat Brown, The Senior Bus Driver on October 17th.

Councilwoman Murphy – Fire Department: She thanked the Council for approving the fire department raffle. She would like the trees to be elevated for the fire engines, and trees also block the lights. She said that Ken Kalman offered to clean up the trees from Homestead to West Grove Avenue.

Councilman Macfarlane – Recreation: He reported that he attended the Recreation meeting, and learned that football is flourishing with 48 registrants. Kiddie Kicker Soccer is under way. There are new rental procedures for the Recreation Center. Police will be involved in monitoring the Recreation rental. Movie night will be September 16th. Bogota Bucs football parents are sponsoring a Comedy Night on September 16th @\$25 per ticket from 7pm to 11pm at the VFW.

Board of Education: He reported that the schools are up and running. The gym floor is completed. The playground behind the high school is completed. 12% of school Board budget goes into placing out of district students. A small borough cannot provide all services. The superintendent has brought back some students. The State Financial Office has been involved checking on billing and RFQ practices. Billing should be done hourly, not as a retainer. RFQs should be used every year to hire an attorney. The state was satisfied and left.

Board of Health & Library will meet next week.

(CFO DiMaria pointed out that the Board of Education must refund \$32,620.11 to the state as a result of OFAC. It can be found on the state and Board of Education website.)

Administrator Scarpa reported that the Recreation rental issue has been addressed and will be rectified. There is a One Million dollar lawsuit resulting from a recreation rental. The School football team will have an ambulance on standby. He explained that the lighting was changed in the offices at Borough Hall. A carpeting company will be coming, and blinds will be purchased for the windows. He explained that the tax

bill must contain Stormwater Regulations . He spoke to a government affairs representative. The town has not been fined for not filing the Stormwater report for 2012, 2013, and 2014 which were completed this year. Now the state is requesting 2010 as well. Ken Job was the Borough Engineer for about 15 years, and he knows stormwater management, so he can map out the storm drains etc. The preconstruction meeting for the Pascack Valley Road project will be completed soon. The new DPW building will be completed on October 13. A mandatory Community Development meeting will be held on September 15, and a town representative must go to it in order for the town to be able to apply for CD grants. He and the engineer are looking for a solution to the flooding in the Senior Housing Building on Leonia Avenue. Suez Water and the Fire Department are checking the water pressure of some hydrants. The resident only program for the Recreation camp has worked out well. If Rescue, OEM, or Police need equipment, they should ask for it.

Borough Attorney Bossong reported that the COAH ordinances are being reviewed by the Special Master, Ms. Bishop. The judge hearing this matter is retiring next month and would like to settle the Fairness hearing on October 3rd. The second hearing will be held near the end of this year or early next year. Half of Fair Share housing must be done by 2025. These units must be there as per the State law. With Council acting early on legislation on this large development, Fair Share was bound by the old number of units required which was 87 instead of 129 units which is the new requirement.

The Clerk reported that the Flu Clinic will be held on October 3, 2017 in the Senior Center from 11am till Noon.

Motion to go into Closed Session to discuss Personnel was made by Councilman Napolitano, seconded by Councilwoman Murphy. Motion carried and the following Resolution was added to the agenda at 9:30pm:
17-144C Closed Session

The meeting resumed at 9:40pm. Motion to adjourn was made by Councilwoman Gates-Ferris, seconded by Councilwoman Murphy. Motion carried and meeting adjourned at 9:42pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Borough Clerk Jeanne Cook.