

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Boota held on Thursday, October 17, 2013, in the Council Chambers of Borough Hall at 7:30 PM

Salute to the Flag was led by Councilman Nunez

Roll Call: Mayor McHale, Council members Uceta, Jackson, Nunez, Konigsberg, Burdiez and Robbins were present

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 January 3, 2013

Discussion: Best Practices Inventory was discussed with a question and answer period, completed by the Mayor and Council, and the resolution authorizing filing it with the state's Div. of Local Government was added to the agenda and adopted.

There is a need for authorizing an automated payroll service, so a resolution Authorizing advertisement of an RFP was added to the agenda and adopted.

The following items on the consent agenda were approved:

Resolutions: Consent Agenda

13-174 Settle Winifred M. Pitkin tax appeal

13-175 Appoint Mark Salerno as plumbing inspector for 4 year term

13-176 Authorize Best Practices Inventory be filed with the Div. Local Government

13-177 Authorize advertisement of an RFP for the automated payroll services

Introduce ordinances with voting record attached to the minutes:

#1435 Amending Chapter 21A-6.3 entitled "Schedule of Fees" for Escrow Accounts

#1436 Salary ordinance for various positions including fire prevention, dispatchers

And crossing guards

The following minutes were approved:

Minutes: September 19; October 3

The following resolution was adopted:

PC 13-11

Correspondence: William Muro resigns as Plumbing Inspector as of October 10th

Committee Reports

Councilman Robbins advised that the H/L truck has been refurbished and will serve many more years

Councilman Konigsberg advised the Library Board is sponsoring "food for fines" and will donate proceeds to the St. Joseph food pantry.

Councilman Jackson advised there is structural damage to the Midtown bridge, so it will be closed for about 10 days for inspection purposes. Further interaction with FEMA will take place for the purpose of funding because of the storm. He thanked Ray Dwyer for displaying the 1959 ambulance; Bogota won 3rd place in the "driving challenge".

Councilman Nunez advised that Senior Citizen Board did not meet regarding their agreement for use of the Center for council meetings; he questioned the bill list and payment for the engineer's dispositions – Attorney Monaghan will send him a rice notice for explanation; Councilman Nunez felt violation of the OPMA took place at the closed session regarding inappropriate conversation - he will not accept absence from sessions.

Administrator Greiner advised that Bogota can be commended for their high rating in the JIF for the lowest number of accidents.

Councilwoman Uceta advised there is a discrepancy with the BOE's Superintendent' contract which will be reviewed.

Mayor McHale advised there was a bomb scare on September 27th and the police department handled it with "textbook" operation; he also appointed Councilmembers Robbins, Uceta and Jackson to the "beautify Bogota" committee.

Citizen Remarks:

Nick Zampetti questioned disposition and personal use of the borough-owned automobiles by certain individuals and whether compliance is met – allowance for same is assigned to emergency members; he questioned why a police officer attends the public meetings – Councilman Jackson replied – for safety reasons. Regarding overnight parking, the River Road apartment buildings have empty parking spaces and could be leased to other tenants in need of them.

Daniele Fede's concern's regard interaction between council and the public should be more cooperative; Nick Zampetti agreed.

A resident of the Orchard Terrace apartments complained of overnight parking; she asked to delete her parking ticket and Councilman Jackson requested she consult the Judge.

Don Stofan complains of the dress code for students; he should appeal to the Board of Education; he asked who pays for the insurance, maintenance, gas for the use of borough-owned vehicles – the borough does;

Chris Kelemen advised the dress code is the responsibility of the school when on public property at the school.

John Mitchell's concern was to have an ambulance present at the field games and he was told to write a letter requesting one; the \$22,000 grant is a matching fund grant - he suggests buying a senior bus instead; we are spending too much money

Terry Robbins advised the Board of Ed is aware of ambulance presence at games. Councilman Jackson advised a letter is received from the BOE each year regarding this.

Ms. Gerraghty complained of overnight parking – if there is a police committee meeting, she wants to be notified of the date and time; the police chief doesn't want expansion of overnight parking – Councilman Jackson will look into this.

Ray Dwyer presented a framed picture of the 1959 ambulance and members from that year, as well as, a picture of the current members; this will be hung in a place of honor in the borough hall; he thanked everyone for their cooperation for having a parade, proclamation and celebration; the owners of the ambulance left in awe of the thoughtfulness of the town.

Charles Severino advised that the Superintendent of Schools should address the dress code for the students of the schools.

Connie Carpenter asked if you can OPRA -- OPRA requests? Yes.

The following resolution was adopted:
13-173A Closed Session

The following resolution was added to the agenda and adopted:
13-178 Authorize the Borough Administrator to accept settlement offer regarding
Damage sustained to DPW building and Borough Hall due to Superstorm Sandy

Motion to adjourn made by Councilman Robbins, seconded by Councilman Konisberg;
motion approved and carried; meeting ended at 9:10 PM