

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Bogota held on Thursday, November 9, 2017, in the Bogota council Chambers at 7:35pm.

Salute to the Flag was led by Councilman Macfarlane.

Roll Call: Mayor Kelemen and Council members Fede, Gates-Ferris, Macfarlane, Miranda, and Napolitano were present. Councilwoman Murphy was absent. Other attendees included Borough Administrator Scarpa, Borough Attorney Bossong, and Payroll and Finance Specialist Curran.

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 Councilman Miranda, to open the meeting to Citizen Remarks. Motion carried.

Michele Rugar asked if Borough Engineer Costa sent his changes to the County and what the cost of this service was to Bogota. She asked about Environmental Solid Waste charge on the bill list, and she felt the meeting should be open to the public during discussions.

Connie Carpenter asked about the Riverfront deposit. She asked what the change orders for Road Improvements entailed. She believed there was a typo on Resolution 17-160 and questioned Resolution 17-163. She questioned two bills on the bill list, Firehouse cleanup & Giblin. She questioned the Best Practices worksheet for 2017, and she asked about the 2016 audit.

Motion was made by Councilman Napolitano, seconded by Councilman Miranda, to close citizen remarks. Motion carried.

It was explained that the Environmental Solid Waste charges are for taking the leaves and vegetative waste. The Giblin bill was for FOP negotiations as Giblin is the Borough Labor Attorney. The change orders were due to estimated quantities. The County will reimburse for some Palisade Avenue work. Striping was removed from the bill for West Shore Avenue. The DPW building needed drainage and also painting which was not included in the original bid. Mr. Costa wrote a note to the County about the culvert change suggestion. Warren Waters will come to the December 7th meeting to address timeline on Riverfront Development. The check to Joe Scarpa was a reimbursement for the gutters and down spouts for a firehouse that he put on his credit card.

The following Resolutions on the Consent Agenda were approved:

PC17-11 Payment of Claims

17-157 Authorize Change Order #1 for 2016 CDBG Palisade Avenue Road Improvement Project, Phase II

17-158 Authorize Change Order #1 for 2016 Roadway Improvement at West Shore Avenue

17-159 Authorize Change Order #1 for 2017 Pascack Valley Paving Program

17-160 Authorize Submission of Strategic Plan for Municipal Alliance Grant

17-161 Hire After-School Counselor for Recreation After-School Program

17-162 Change Order #6 for DPW building

17-163 Change Order #7 for DPW building

17-164 Tax Redemption for Block 63, Lot 4

17-165 Tax Overpayment Refund for Block 32, Lot 3

- 17-166 Tax Redemption for Block 54, Lot 24
- 17-167 Tax Veteran's Deduction for Block 17, Lot 16
- 17-168 Authorize Borough Clerk to advertise RFQ's for 2018
- 17-169 Entering into a Shared Services Agreement with the County for use of OEM Equipment

Motion was made by Councilman Napolitano, seconded by Councilman Miranda, to approve the about the Minutes of 10/21/17. Motion carried with Councilwoman Gates-Ferris abstaining since she was absent from 10/21/17 meeting.

Motion was made by Councilman Napolitano, seconded by Councilman Miranda, to approve the membership of Heinert Diego to Hose Company 3 and to remove Scott Hanley as a member. Motion carried.

Discussions:

Best Practices: Payroll and Finance Specialist Curran explained that in Best Practices worksheet, NA count as Yes, so Bogota scored high enough not to lose any aid. The CFO and the Administrator worked on the Best Practices worksheet. She also reported that finances are up to date on the website.

Proposed Subdivision of a Group Home at 360 Larch Avenue: Luciano Bruni spoke about tearing down the house at 360 Larch Avenue and creating two homes, a group home and a private residence. The group home will be valued at 4 COAH credits.

Motion was made by Councilwoman Fede , seconded by Councilman Napolitano, to add the following resolution to the agenda and approve it. Motion carried.

- 17-170 Support Endorsement of a Community Development Project Within the Borough of Bogota by Nouvelle LLC and its Request for HOME funds for the property at 360 Larch Avenue

Bogota Beautiful would like to be added to the borough's Insurance Policy. After discussion, it was decided that Bogota Beautiful should get their own insurance in order to keep their own identity.

Reports:

Mayor Kelemen reminded everyone about the NJLM conference next week. He reported that Rescue, Fire, Police and cadets all work hard on Volunteer Night. The First Responders would like to move Volunteer Night back to Palisade Avenue. He announced that many trees have been cut down and trimmed. He reminded everyone that reports about tree problems must be made to the clerk. He talked about the possibility of closing Larch Avenue on Halloween for a short time for the safety of trick-or-treaters. He announced that the Volunteer Dinner will be at the Fiesta on January 6th.

Councilwoman Gates-Ferris: Transportation – She reported that Teterboro had a meeting on October 25th which was packed with South Hackensack and Hackensack Senior Citizens. Talks are continuing about changing the flight plan. She said that the flight plan is over Maywood now. The next meeting is November 29.

Councilman Miranda: Recreation – He reported that the Christmas Tree lighting will take place on December 8th.

Police – He announced that speeding signs are now available.

Councilwoman Fede: Rescue – She reported that a new operations vehicle is in use. Rescue attended the Open House at Borough Hall and the Fall Festival with their

equipment. The Sunday after Thanksgiving , the doorknockers will be distributed throughout the town. This fundraiser brings in about \$6,000 each year.

Environmental Commission – She talked about selecting types of trees and locations of trees which the grant will be used to purchase. She announced that Bogota Beautiful is planting bulbs for the spring. They hosted “How to Plant a Bulb” at the Community Garden. She is working on the Vehicle Charging Stations which will give the town more points toward silver status next time with Sustainable Jersey. She and Administrator Scarpa will be attending the Sustainable Jersey Awards luncheon to receive the bronze award for recertification. That is good until 2020.

Swim Club – She sent an email to the Swim Club reminding them that she did not receive business terms for the extension of the lease. She asked them to bring them to the December meeting.

VFW - The VFW will be having a Veteran’s Day Affair on November 10th at 8pm.

Councilman Napolitano: BACSA – He announced that there was a BACSA meeting on November 1 with Pauline McDonald and Karen Rogers. They are working on programs to present to the public. He and the Mayor signed the grant application. He and Councilman Miranda met with the Police Chief to discuss ways of dealing with drug issues in town.

Infrastructure - He reported that road paving will be done from Palisade Avenue and Fort Lee Road to Leonia Avenue. East Fort Lee Road will be paved soon, but Larch Avenue will have to wait until next year. The Mid-town bridge work is continuing. The DPW building is near completion. 203 Queen Anne Road will be demolished. The exterminator was there. Leonia Avenue Phase IV is moving forward.

Buildings and Grounds – He said that a number of people came to the Open House at Borough Hall to see the improvements.

Senior Citizens – the Senior Citizen meeting was cancelled.

Finance – He said that the Borough Administrator will be talking to Department Heads concerning the budget for 2018.

Councilman Macfarlane: Library Board – He reported that the Library Board held an extra meeting to interview candidates for Library Director, and an offer was made. He believes the New Director will be a good fit.

Mayor Kelemen announced that the County Executive is offering Christmas tree decorating for each town in Bergen County at Van Saun Park. Councilman Miranda offered to take charge of the event.

Mr. Scarpa reported that the Police and DPW are in need of new contracts. The initial negotiation with the police took place, and a second negotiation with the DPW took place. He would like to discuss the DPW contract in closed session at the December 7th meeting. He said that the DPW building is coming

along nicely. He applied for a Senior Citizen grant for new, energy efficient appliances. He reported that the newer ambulance sold for \$123,000, and Rescue is using the old ambulance.

Borough Attorney Bossong had no report.

The Borough Clerk congratulated Councilwoman Fede for obtaining bronze status for Bogota with Sustainable Jersey.

Mayor Kelemen reminded all those attending the League Conference next week that each official from town that attends an insurance class next Wednesday in Atlantic City will earn a \$250 credit for the town.

Motion to adjourn was made by Councilman Napolitano, seconded by Councilman Miranda. Motion carried, and the meeting adjourned at 8:45PM.