

Minutes of the Work Session of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Bogota held on Thursday, February 4, 2016 in the Bogota Council Chambers at 7:30PM.

Salute to the flag was led by Councilwoman Fede.

Roll Call: Mayor Kelemen and Council members Connors, Fede, Gates-Ferris, Miranda, Mitchell, and Napolitano were present. Also present were Administrator Joseph Scarpa, Borough Attorney Craig Bossong, and CFO Frank 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 board on December 23, 2015.

The following Resolutions on the Consent Agenda were approved after Councilwoman Gates-Ferris questioned Rubenstein, Meyers... bills which were for the Tasca case:

PC16-16-03 Payment of Claims

16-035 Authorizing Submission of Application for the Municipal Alliance for Alcohol and Drug Abuse Grant

16-036 Hire Two Crossing Guards

16-037 Hire a Substitute Senior Bus Driver

16-038 Engage Services of the Bruno Group

16-039 Resolution to Amend CY2016 Capital Budget

The following Ordinances were Introduced: (Voting Record Attached)

#1476 Bond Ordinance

#1477 An Ordinance Amending Schedule VI of Section 7-5 Entitled "One-Way Streets"

#1478 An Ordinance Amending Schedule XVII of Section 7-11 Entitled "Parking Reserved for Physically Handicapped Persons"

#1479 An Ordinance Amending Schedule IIC of Section 7-3.4 Entitled "Parking Prohibited During Certain Hours on Certain Streets"

#1480 An Ordinance Repealing Ordinance 2-8 Et Seq. Entitled a Board of Recreation Commissioners, and Establishing a Recreation Committee

(Public Hearing on all of the above Ordinances will take place on February 18, 2016.)

Public Hearing and Adoption of the following Ordinance occurred: (Voting Record Attached)

#1475 Amending the Rate of Reimbursement by Private Contractors for the Use of Members of the Borough of Bogota Police Department

Discussion took place concerning fire hydrants not being cleared off by residents after snow storms. Councilman Mitchell pointed out that former Councilman Robbins had been working on an ordinance to require residents to clear off fire hydrants in front of their houses. The volunteer fire department should not be responsible for clearing off fire hydrants throughout the town.

Councilwoman Gates-Ferris questioned unpaid bills for first aid. Mr. Scarpa explained that all oxygen bills were paid because of their necessity although the requisitions were not prepared

properly. The OEM coordinator and members of the First Aid committee were informed on how to fill out requisitions.

Councilwoman Gates-Ferris said that almost all night calls have been answered by First Aid, but not daytime calls. Mr. Scarpa explained that he received his information about First Aid responses from the Police Department. Councilwoman Fede said that she and Councilwoman Gates-Ferris will go over the numbers. She also requested that the police dispatchers be notified of road closures.

Mr. Scarpa reported that the Asset Inventory was completed for 12/31/15. He also reported that the DPW Superintendent, Gordon Kohles, suggested Daniel Klima as the 2016 DPW foreman. Motion was made by Councilman Mitchell, seconded by Councilman Connors to make Daniel Klima the 2016 DPW foreman. Motion carried.

Mr. Scarpa also reported that the DCA Director, Timothy Cunningham, was pleased with the bond ordinance that was introduced tonight.

Citizen Comments: Limited to 5 minutes per citizen

Susan Carachio asked what the financial effect would be of changing the Recreation Commission to a Recreation Committee and how Jim Moore's job would be affected.

Robert Robbins thanked the Council for discussing the fire hydrant ordinance. He suggested recognizing residents who agree to "adopt" a fire hydrant. He also said that the Fire Department can be called for issues relating to Senior Citizens and the disabled.

First Aid Deputy Chief, Pam Dirr, said that she did the record keeping for the month of January. She said there were 52 calls for the month. Cancellations, stand-bys, etc are not in the police records. She has every call on her cell phone and is in constant communication with the dispatchers.

Lisa Kohles asked why the Council wants to dissolve the Recreation Commission and replace it with a Recreation Committee.

Michele Rugar asked what the Bruno Group is and what the bond ordinance is comprised of.

Michael Carrachio is concerned about a Recreation Committee. He praised Jim Moore's work as the Recreation Director.

Motion was made by Councilman Connors, seconded by Councilman Napolitano to end Citizen Remarks. Motion carried.

Councilman Napolitano explained that the Council is concerned with the safety and health of the residents and that is why it questioning ambulance call responses. He also explained that the parks are suffering and need fiscal supervision. The Council is responsible to the people that elected them.

Councilman Connors agreed that adopting a fire hydrant is a great idea. He would like to see an ordinance introduced soon.

Councilman Miranda explained that Council is not trying to take money away from Recreation programs. There is a need for transparency, to be able to see how the money received by the Recreation Center is used. There needs to be oversight.

Administrator Scarpa explained that Bruno Associates is a grant writing group that is a great source of finding grant money from many different places that are not easily found.

The bond ordinance consists of a roll off truck and dump truck as well as equipment such as a snow blower for the DPW, a police car and needed equipment for the police, scot packs for the fire department, and renovations for the police department and borough hall.

Councilman Mitchell explained that the new DPW building will have showers etc. The dump truck will have a hydraulic salter. Any changes to the Recreation Department can be changed back. There will be new signs throughout the town with the town logo.

Administrator Scarpa said that he is not against the ambulance corps. He received his statistics from the police, first from Chief Burke and then from Chief Maye. He is concerned for the people whose calls are not answered. The ambulance corps throughout the county have problems with staff to answer calls.

Councilman Napolitano pointed out that this Council invested in turnout gear, scot packs, etc with no increase in spending.

Mayor Kelemen explained that we cannot afford to have a paid fire department, and we have great volunteers. We are here to serve the 8,500 people that live in this community. He thanked Gordon Kohles and the DPW workers, and he thanked the Council members. He thanked the audience for their great questions.

Motion to adjourn was made by Councilman Mitchell, seconded by Councilman Miranda. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:59pm.

Respectfully submitted by Jeanne Cook, Borough Clerk

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Bogota held on Thursday, February 18, 2016 in the Bogota Council Chambers at 7:45pm.

Salute to the flag was led by Councilman Miranda.

Roll Call: Mayor Kelemen and Council members Connors, Fede, Gates-Ferris, Miranda, Mitchell, and Napolitano were present. Also present were Borough Attorney Bossong, Administrator Scarpa, 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, 2015.

Discussion took place concerning PC16-04 Payment of Claims. Councilwoman Gates-Ferris requested that the Council by-laws be gender neutral. Borough Attorney Bossong suggested that gender neutrality be added to Resolution 16-040 and also explained the tax appeal settlements on the consent agenda.

The following Consent Agenda was approved:

PC16-04 Payment of Claims

16-040 Resolution to Amend Council By-Laws

16-041 Support for the Pascack Valley Mayors' opposition to the Pension & Health Benefit Study Commission Report Dated February 24, 2015

16-042 Tax Sale Redemption

16-043 Settlement of Tax Appeal – NAH Realty

16-044 Settlement of Tax Appeal – Fairmount Properties

16-045 Settlement of Tax Appeal – Laurel Associates

16-046 Authorizing the Preparation of Specifications for the 2016 Municipal Road Paving Program for the Pascack Valley Cooperative Pricing System #107-PVCPS

16-047 Appoint Genesis Liu as Webmaster

16-048 Change Order for Renovations and Improvements to DPW facility

16-049 Authorize the Bogota Police Department to apply and participate in the 1033 Program

16-050 Settlement of Tax Appeal – Bogota Royale Inv

Public Hearing and Adoption of the following Ordinances occurred: (Voting Record attached)

#1476 Bond Ordinance

#1477 An Ordinance Amending Schedule VI of Section 7-5 Entitled "One Way Street"

#1478 An Ordinance Amending Schedule XVII of Section 7-11 Entitled "Parking Reserved for Physically Handicapped Persons"

#1479 An Ordinance Amending Schedule IIC of Section 7-3,4 Entitled "Parking Prohibited During Certain Hours of the Day"

#1480 An Ordinance Repealing Ordinance 2-8 Et Seq. Entitled "A Board of Recreation Commissioners", and establishing a Recreation Committee

Approval: Minutes of 1/21/16, 1/28/16, and 2/4/16 were approved.

#### Committee Reports:

Councilwoman Gates-Ferris did not meet with the First Aid Squad, but she met with Mr. Scarpa and saw that many First Aid bills were paid. Bogota Beautiful has a 5 year plan. There was one noise complaint on 1/26/16.

Councilman Miranda thanked the Mayor and Council for following through with his recommendation to establish a Recreation Committee. He would like to see the fields maintained more efficiently and cost effectively. He suggested better advertisement of the Recreation sports programs. Credit card machines should be used. The Recreation Center needs to be cleaned better, and a log should be kept to track the cleaning.

Councilwoman Fede reported that the Library Board amended the library by-laws including displaying a Code of conduct, rules for internet use, and the policy for unattended children. The Library Board discussed security measures in light of a stairwell incident and a computer incident. She recommended signing up for the Library Newsletter to learn of the scheduled events. The Rescue Squad is going to get County approval for the Boot Drive. They are having a barbeque in July. Incident reports need improvement. They may add a mailbox to the front of the building. Diane Mancini is the new Chairperson for the Environmental Commission. There will be a Green Fair on March 19 which will include a bee keeper and distribution of energy efficient light bulbs. The Community Forestry Plan will be updated.

Councilman Mitchell reported that the Senior Citizens will be having an executive meeting in March. He would like to see a new borough hall. He said that Captain Sepp did a great job helping a displaced family in town. Then he asked the Police Chief, Daniel Maye, to speak. Chief Maye reported that there were 2,201 police calls in January and over 529 summonses were issued. The 1033 program allows municipal law enforcement agencies to get federal supplies such as radios, first aid equipment, furniture, etc. He explained the Active Shooter Program. Bogota is behind and needs to update security at the schools. He is hoping to get a grant to have all the schools assessed and updated. He spoke about the Hero Campaign based on a West Point graduate who was killed by a drunk driver. He warned everyone about IRS scams and said that he will be giving a talk in the Senior Center soon about them. Councilman Mitchell suggested having "baseball" cards made of the Bogota police officers.

Councilman Connors agreed that "baseball" cards of the police officers is a good idea. He reported that Engine 1 received three commendations from the Bergen County Freeholders for their extraordinary work at the Avalon fire. Fireman Adam Schaeffer would like to start the Junior Fire Fighter program again. Inspections for 297 Palisade Avenue are done and March 1 is the expected occupancy date. Bergen County will continue to loan trucks to municipalities but will now charge a rental fee. He would like to see an ordinance drafted about residents cleaning off fire hydrants after snow storms. He spoke to the Superintendent of Schools about starting a youth club. He would be willing to organize it.

Councilman Napolitano reported that the bridge on Anderson Street is being renovated, and then work will begin on the Midtown Bridge. PSE&G are working on the Elm Avenue/River Road project and hopefully will work on road paving once that is done. Drainage problems on Queen Anne Road and Leonia Avenue have been corrected. The budget will be introduced soon. The Finance Committee is happy with the purchasing procedures that are now in place. The DPW building will be completed soon, and Borough Hall renovations will be bid on soon. This administration has invested more money in the DPW and the volunteer organizations than in anything else. Now that there will be a Recreation Committee, he and Councilman Mitchell are hoping to invest in the parks and the Recreation building to help the children of the community. The Planning and Zoning Board drafted a Developer's agreement and sent it to the attorney for review. The lease for the Swim Club is moving forward. The Borough Engineer will attend a meeting in March to discuss the latest developments.

Mayor's report: Mayor Kelemen spoke to Bogota Beautiful and said that everything will be fine. He is happy to see Eileen Karpoff on the library board, and he thanked the Police Chief for speaking. He said that there is a need for improvement to children's services and for buildings and grounds work. Police issues and First Aid issues need to be addressed. The Board of Education is ongoing and proactive. It is good to see three board of education members at this meeting because a good working relationship is necessary. Mr. Barese arranged a meeting with CSX railroad, and we discussed fixing crosswalks and signs. Mayor Kelemen suggested a crossing guard at the high school for the safety of the children. The swim club lease meeting will take place on February 29<sup>th</sup>.

Administrator's Report: Mr. Scarpa reported that it would be beneficial to have a monitor in the main entrance area with employees' names, etc. The court was monitored and it went well. The Police did a survey of street lights that were out and sent the list to PSE&G. Aerosol cans, paint cans, and fluorescent lights must be disposed of properly. The DPW building should be completed soon.

Clerk's Report: The clerk reported that many positive comments have been received by residents concerning the DPW and the improved conditions of the town itself. Also, on February 14, the police, building, fire, and Board of Health all worked together to help a family in distress. She was proud of all the departments.

A motion was made by Councilman Mitchell, seconded by Councilman Connors, to open the meeting to Citizen Remarks. Motion carried.

John Powner said that a street sign on Fairview Avenue needs repair. He spoke about his desire to improve the Recreation Center programs. He and his neighbors see improvements in the town and would like to see those improvements continue.

Rebecca O'Hagan said that she is new to town and would like to help out in any way she can to make the town better.

Amanda Montgomery is a Board of Education member and requested a crossing guard in front of the high school.

Michele Rugar would like a copy of the by-laws and asked if the Mayor and Council will be televising their meetings since the past administration began the installation of equipment.

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

Councilman Mitchell said that he would like to see a crossing guard in front of the high school. Councilman Connors asked if a police car could be there. Administrator Scarpa pointed out that his interest in the betterment of Bogota is the same as the Mayor and Council.

Motion was made by Councilman Mitchell, seconded by Councilman Miranda to go into closed session at 10:00pm. Motion carried.

The following closed session resolution was adopted: 16-050A

The meeting reconvened and motion was made by Councilwoman Fede, seconded by Councilman Napolitano, to adjourn. Motion carried and meeting adjourned at 10:10pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Jeanne Cook, Borough Clerk.

Minutes of Work Session of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Bogota held on Thursday, March 3, 2016, 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 Connors, Fede, Gates-Ferris, Miranda, Mitchell, and Napolitano were present. Also present were 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 board on December 23, 2015.

Councilwoman Gates-Ferris asked CFO DiMaria to explain the problems with Fire and Police Pensions as well as LOSAP. Mr. DiMaria explained that with a new payroll system, there are always problems, but most of them have been resolved. LOSAP is separate from payroll. Two more item schedules need to be set up for LOSAP.

Administrator Scarpa explained that money for the renovations of Borough Hall were coming from last year's bond. CFO DiMaria explained what a tax sale redemption is.

Discussion took place concerning Resolution 16-052 "Adding Community Garden Committee to Environmental Commission". A motion was made by Councilwoman Fede, seconded by Councilman Mitchell, to remove 16-052 from the agenda. Motion carried.

The following Resolutions on the Consent Agenda were approved:

PC 16-05 Payment of Claims

16-053 Authorizing Borough Architect, Bilow Garret Group, to prepare bids for Borough Hall Renovations

16-054 Tax Sale Redemption

Motion was made by Councilman Mitchell, seconded by Councilman Connors for the following Approvals. Motion carried.

-Social Permit for VFW for Benefit Concert on March 26, 2016

-Rescue Squad Boot Drive to be held on April 30, 2016 or Rain date of May 14, 2016

-PSE&G River Road/Elm Avenue Project – Due to a water main break, the project is behind schedule. PSE&G requested permission to work 24 hours a day (excluding Sunday) to make up the time. After discussion, the Council agreed to allow 24 hour work provided there is no jackhammering done and there is limited truck back-up noise between the hours of 11pm and 7am. Also, PSE&G must agree to repair all burnt out street lights before beginning the 24 hour shifts.

Appointments:

Mayor Kelemen to appoint the following people to the Recreation Committee with Council approval:

John Powner, Farid Briones, Jared Deutsch, Dan Schnipp, Jason Kearns

Alternates: Mike Leong, Carmen Diaz

Councilman Miranda motioned to move Carmen Diaz to the committee and to move Farid Briones to Alternates because he felt it was important to have a woman on the committee. Councilwoman Fede seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Discussion took place concerning No Cash Policy. Mr. DiMaria explained that it will be safer for Borough employees not to be dealing with cash. Mr. Scarpa pointed out that he was sued in Rochelle Park for changing to a no cash policy. The judge ruled in favor of no cash. Details will be ironed out and policy will be presented at a future meeting.

Councilwomen Fede and Gates-Ferris presented a voluminous Community Garden Plan. Many residents expressed interest. The issue is having a community organization establishing a community garden on public property. A community garden committee should be established. After discussion, it was decided that more details are needed to establish a community garden committee, so it will be presented at a future meeting.

#### Committee Reports:

Councilwoman Gates-Ferris reported that she met with Pam Dirr of the First Aid Squad and found that First Aid responded to 52% of calls in February. The Squad was able to respond to 100% of the night calls but is unable to respond to all of the day calls because most of the volunteers are working.

Councilman Miranda reported that Recreation Committee will have to look over program costs etc. for the future. He thanked Mr. DiMaria for helping to get finances in order there.

Councilwoman Fede reminded everyone of the Green Day affair on March 19 from 10am to 1pm at the Recreation with a bee keeper, a soda stream raffle, and new smoke free signs.

Councilman Mitchell reported that the Seniors have not had their executive board meeting yet. The police are working hard, and he would like a crossing guard at the high school. Someone will be coming to show samples of security cameras March 10<sup>th</sup> and March 18<sup>th</sup>.

Councilman Connors reported that the Fire Department is pushing for a youth program. They will be meeting with the high school principal to discuss community service projects and a youth club. Parents will have to be involved. He is hoping for a September start date.

Councilman Napolitano reported that he met with the Swim Club Lease committee for a three hour meeting. Something will be drafted by the borough attorney. A long term development plan is being developed by the Planning and Zoning board. It needs to be organized in a way that will make it easy to read. A paving ordinance requiring utilities to repair roads that they open would be beneficial to the town.

CFO DiMaria said that the introduction of the budget is scheduled for the next meeting. He will be meeting with the finance committee next week.

Mayor Kelemen thanked DPW Superintendent Gordon Kohles, Administrator Scarpa, and Police Chief May for taking care of the speeding problem on Palisade Avenue. Signs went up to slow down traffic. The Police Department needs work. He is meeting with the Board of Education concerning all schools.

Administrator Scarpa said that there have been many administrators in Bogota, but many plans were never implemented. There is a great need for repairs. A tv was installed for presentations and a lot of garbage has been cleaned up. The Police Department is a mess. The DPW building is almost done. Work on the new building will begin when everything is completed on the first building. There is a decent recycling area. A booth will be put up for the worker. He would like a couple of firemen to show the turnout gear to the public. Community Development money will be used as needed. Shoprite in Hackensack will accept Purchase orders as will the Hilton Garden in Ridgely Park. The town will seek \$4,000 with interest from property owner with the displaced tenant. Parking issues have to be presented to police first before being brought before Mayor and Council.

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

Amaro Bustamante thanked Councilwomen Fede and Gates-Ferris as well as Mayor Kelemen for allowing him to speak about the Community Garden. He first presented this in 2013. Now in 2016 it is going strong. He thanked all the volunteers who have helped with Bogota Beautiful. They are planning another Earth Day clean-up. Planters need to be refreshed. There are many ideas and many volunteers who want to be involved. The Walk with the Mayor Program is a great idea.

Cornelia Geraghty thanked Councilwomen Fede and Gates-Ferris for their support of the Bogota Beautiful Program. She also thanked the Mayor and Council for looking into overnight parking.

Motion to end Citizen Comments was made by Councilman Mitchell, seconded by Councilwoman Fede. Motion carried.

Councilwoman Gates-Ferris told Amaro Bustamante that in the past Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts participated in clean-up projects. Councilman Miranda thanked everyone who participates with Bogota Beautiful. Councilman Napolitano expressed interest in the Walk with the Mayor program and reminded everyone that people used to have block parties where Council would approve closing the street off. Councilman Mitchell said that there are a lot of monuments in town that need upkeep.

Motion was made by Councilman Connors, seconded by Councilman Napolitano, to go into closed session. Motion carried. Resolution 16-054A was approved.

Meeting reconvened and Motion to Adjourn was made by Councilwoman Gates-Ferris, seconded by Councilwoman Fede. Motion carried and meeting adjourned at 9:07pm. Minutes respectfully submitted by Jeanne Cook, Borough Clerk

Minutes of Regular meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Bogota held on Thursday, March 17, 2016 in the Council Chambers at Borough Hall at 7:30PM.

Salute to the Flag was led by Councilman Napolitano.

Roll Call: Mayor Kelemen was absent. Council members Gates-Ferris, Miranda, Mitchell, and Napolitano were present. Councilwoman Fede arrived a few minutes late due to traffic. Also present were Borough Administrator Joseph Scarpa and CFO Frank DiMaria. Borough Attorney Craig Bossong was absent, so Phil Morin III, Esq. was in attendance in his place. (Councilman Connors arrived at 8:07pm due to work conflict.) Council President Mitchell presided over the meeting.

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, 2015.

Councilwoman Gates-Ferris asked when the 2016 Budget will be discussed. Councilman Napolitano explained that after the 2016 budget is introduced, a budget summary must be advertised with the date of the public hearing which by law must be at least 28 days after introduction. He noted that this budget is \$600,000 more than last year's budget which is \$400,000 under CAP. This will cause an increase in taxes of about \$90 for the year for the average taxpayer. Included in the increase is the settlement for the Tasca lawsuit, increased funding for Borough Hall, the Recreation Center, full year private Garbage service, street lighting, sidewalk repairs, Public Safety for the Police, Signage, Shared Services, Infrastructure, and increase in Sewer fees.

He reminded everyone that two years ago the Council requested a \$600,000 increase above CAP, and this year we are \$400,000 below CAP. He thanked the Administrator, the CFO, and all the staff.

The following Resolutions on the Consent Agenda were approved (Voting Record attached):

PC16-06 Payment of Claims

16-051 Introduction of 2016 Municipal Budget

16-055 Tax Sale Redemption

16-056 Hire Stewart Business Systems to handle copier leases and maintenance of copiers and printers

Approval of the Minutes for 2/18/16 and 3/3/16 was put off until the next Council Meeting.

Appointments:

Mayor Kelemen appoints the following people to the Planning and Zoning Board:

Tina Trotta will replace Joseph Kelly

Jessie Frias – First Alternate (to replace Tina Trotta)

Dermot O'Hagan - Second Alternate (to replace Jesse Frias)

The following Ordinances were Introduced and Approved:

#1481 Road Opening Repaving Requirements

#1482 No Cash Policy

(The Public Hearing on Ordinance #1481 and #1482 will take place at the 4/7/16 Council Meeting.)

Council Committee Reports:

Councilwoman Gates-Ferris reported that there were no noise complaints. Also, the FAA is introducing a new flight pattern to cut down on the noise over Hackensack Medical Center. The First Aid squad did not have a meeting.

Councilwoman Fede reported that there have been rumblings on Facebook that supply requisitions for the First Aid Squad have not been processed. She asked if requisitions for medical supplies have been submitted.

Mr. Scarpa reminded everyone that he has not received a response yet to his request for an inventory of First Aid Supplies. The firemen said that e-Dispatches is a redundancy and is not necessary.

Councilman Miranda added that without pagers, the system does not work.

Councilwoman Gates-Ferris asked Mr. Scarpa to send the request for inventory in writing again.

Councilman Miranda noted that he found a lot of equipment laying on the ground in the ambulance building and 7 bicycles with flat tires were present as well.

Mr. Scarpa reiterated that equipment had been stored in the ambulance that was to be auctioned as well.

Councilman Miranda reported that a big screen television was ordered for the Recreation Building. Jim Moore volunteered to mount the television on the wall. Councilman Miranda and Mr. Scarpa called the cleaning company and ordered the floors at the Recreation Center be buffed on or by April 15.

Councilwoman Fede reported very significant statistics at the Public Library. Library membership has increased greatly and circulation of books has increased as well. There is an excellent art exhibit at the library. The library is in need of new furniture, so they will be having a fundraiser. Bogota Beautiful would like to grow a Community Garden. The "Walk with the Mayor" should be interesting. March 19 will be the Green Fair. Earth Day Clean-up will be on April 23. There will be an Easter Egg Hunt in the fields by the Recreation Center. The Rescue Squad is having an issue with equipment not being returned. Members take devices and do not return them. Rescue did a great job taking down trees. There were four trees in need of removal.

Councilman Miranda asked if Bogota Beautiful could help to beautify the Recreation fields.

Councilwoman Fede reminded everyone that Bogota Beautiful is not a registered 501(c)(3).

Councilman Napolitano said that he and Councilman Miranda would donate plants.

Councilman Napolitano said that the Budget had been discussed enough at this meeting. He said that the Planning and Zoning Board has new members. PSE&G has not been doing the

work that was promised. They are doing directional drilling and need a discharge place for the water. The County just received plans this morning. Councilwoman Fede asked where the water will be discharged because it cannot be discharged back into the ditch.

Councilman Connors apologized for being late. He had parent/teacher conferences. He is working on a ceremony where the turnout gear can be displayed. Joe DeMauro and Principal Kennedy from the High School are trying to start up the fireman's youth group before the end of the school year. Battery packs are needed. Venders need to be paid. Audrey McDonald resigned from the Board of Education. The School Superintendent's salary increase was voted down at the last meeting. There are Teachers' fund issues at the Board of Education. Councilwoman Gates-Ferris asked when the water was last tested for lead.

Councilman Mitchell reported that the police had an Active Shooting Demonstration. The protocol is that police can go in right away. Police Youth Academy is moving forward. Councilman Connors had talked to them about community service for the high school students such as snow removal for the seniors. He also suggested having the students meet with the Senior Citizens and interview them. Teaching the Senior Citizens how to use the internet is also a suggestion. Maybe grants could be obtained or donations of i-Pads for the Senior Citizens. Councilman Mitchell said that the Senior Citizens need new tables and chairs.

#### Administrator's Report:

Mr. Scarpa reported that the new Police Chief's contract was finalized for thousands of dollars less than the former Police Chief's salary. Handicapped Parking sign was put up at 109 Fairview Avenue, and No Smoking signs were put up in the park. He is hoping that the state watch over Borough finances will end soon. The DPW building is almost complete. The DPW did a lot of snow removal.

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

Conchetta \_\_\_\_\_ said that many things have been neglected in town. Without the community, the Borough will die. Things should not be sitting around and not used.

Michelle Rugar asked the Council to keep in mind that as roads are dug up for utility work, other town roads are being used in excess and should be repaired by utility companies as well.

Nicholas Zampetti requested that resolutions and ordinances be put out for residents to see. He said that years ago the town had to spend a lot of money to get Conrail to participate in demolishing the underground walkway under Ft. Lee Road due to prostitution, drugs, etc.

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

Mr. Scarpa responded that there are things that need to be done for all the residents. We have been focusing on improving Quality of Life for all residents. The grant writer will only be paid if grant money is found. Last year most news coverage was negative.

Councilman Miranda said that we are on the right track to do the right thing.

Councilman Mitchell said that the VFW is also available.

Motion was made by Councilman Miranda, seconded by Councilman Connors to go into Closed Session for Contract Negotiations. Resolution 16-056A was approved.

Meeting reconvened and motion was made by Councilman Connors, seconded by Councilwoman Fede, to adjourn. Motion carried and meeting adjourned at 10:00pm

Minutes for March 17, 2016 respectfully submitted by Borough Clerk, Jeanne Cook