

Minutes of the Reorganization meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Bogota, held at the Bogota Senior Citizen Center, 375 Larch Avenue, Bogota, NJ, on Thursday, January 11, 2018 at 7:00pm.

Salute to the Flag was led by Councilman Napolitano.

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 9, 2018.

Invocation was done by Mary Wagner who read a nondenominational prayer.

Oaths of Office - Former Lopatcong Mayor Doug Steinhardt conferred the Oath upon Councilmember-elect Thomas Napolitano

Councilman Napolitano thanked all those that recognized the progress made over the last three years. He is proud of the financial stability and improvement in services for the residents.

Roll Call: Mayor Kelemen and Councilmembers Fede, Gates-Ferris, Macfarlane, Miranda, Murphy, and Napolitano were present. Also attending were Borough Attorney Bossong, Borough Administrator Scarpa, and Finance Specialist Judy Curran.

Mayor Kelemen welcomed many Special Guests including former Mayors Alex Kelemen and Steve Lonagan, Doug Steinhardt, Former Council members Robert Ferro, Anne Marie Mitchell, JorgeNunez, John Mitchell, Liza Kohles, former Administrator Pat O'Brien, Former CFO Ray Herr, Police Chief Dan Maye, Deputy Fire Chief Alex Breuss, VFW Commander Alex Hernandez, Senior Citizen Club President Rosemary Gasiewicz, Rescue Chief Wayne Sorge, Rescue President Rob Foster

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

Robert Bartello thanked the volunteers for all the work that they do and thanked the Mayor and Council for all the improvements to the town over the last ten years.

John Mitchell congratulated Councilwoman Murphy and Councilman Napolitano and said that he hopes they will work together for Bogota.

Anne Marie Mitchell wished everyone a Happy New Year and congratulated Councilwoman Murphy and Councilman Napolitano as well as Rob Foster, Pete Avella, Ed Rode, and Fran Garlicki.

Connie Carpenter congratulated Councilwoman Murphy and Councilman Napolitano. She said that an OPRA request had not been filled in the form she requested and questioned the 2016 audit.

Michele Rugar asked if any paperwork was generated regarding the new developers. She also complained about the property at the corner of Larch Avenue and West Fort Lee Road being in need of maintenance for health and safety reasons as well as needing to look presentable.

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

Finance Specialist Curran explained to Ms. Carpenter that Bogota's computer system cannot create the form she requested without calling on a professional to create the form. Ms. Curran also explained that she is now working on the 2018 Budget and is meeting with the auditor on Monday to address the status of the audit.

Alex Hernandez, VFW Commander, presented the Citizen of the Year Award to Robert Foster for commitment to the Rescue Squad and to the community as a whole.

Mayor Kelemen offered special recognition to the following people:

- Robert Foster for his contributions to the Bogota Rescue Squad and to the former First Aid Squad for driving the ambulance for them whenever he was available. Mayor Kelemen also acknowledged that Rob Foster is now a member of the Bogota Auxiliary Police as well.
- Peter Avella who was the town barber for 46 years at 3rd Place and Palisade Avenue. Residents went to Pete's for haircuts for themselves and their sons, to talk about current events, etc.
- Ed Rode who has been the official Fire Department photographer since 1978. He not only took pictures for the Bogota Fire Department, but also for just about every important event that went on in Bogota.
- Frances Garlicki who was the Borough Clerk for Bogota for 27 years. Mrs. Garlicki was always professional and helpful throughout her career.

Election of Council President:

Motion was made by Councilwoman Gates-Ferris nominating Councilwoman Murphy for Council President, seconded by Councilman Macfarlane. Councilmembers Gates-Ferris, Macfarlane, and Murphy voted "Yes", and Councilmembers Fede, Miranda, and Napolitano voted "No". Mayor Kelemen broke the tie and voted "No".

Motion was then made by Councilman Napolitano nominating Councilwoman Fede as Council President, seconded by Councilman Miranda. All six (6) Council members voted "Yes" for Councilwoman Fede as Council President.

Councilwoman Fede congratulated Councilmembers Murphy and Napolitano on their re-election. She requested that everyone try to respect each other and work together. She

acknowledged two Bogota residents who served our country during War time and died recently, John Mussomeli and Joseph Carnivale.

Election of Class III member of Planning/Zoning Board:

Motion was made by Councilwoman Gates-Ferris nominating Councilwoman Murphy as Class III member of Planning/Zoning Board, seconded by Councilman Macfarlane. Councilmembers Gates-Ferris, Macfarlane, and Murphy voted "Yes". Councilmembers Fede, Miranda, and Napolitano voted "No". Mayor Kelemen broke the tie and voted "No".

Motion was then made by Councilwoman Fede nominating Councilman Napolitano as Class III member of Planning/Zoning Board, seconded by Councilman Miranda. Councilwoman Fede, Gates-Ferris, Miranda, and Napolitano voted "Yes". Councilmembers Macfarlane and Murphy voted "No".

The Following Resolutions on the Consent Agenda were approved with Councilmembers Gates-Ferris and Murphy voting "No":

- 18-001 Adopt the temporary budget
- 18-002 Authorizing CY2018 Budget to be Read by Title Only
- 18-003 Standard Tax Sale
- 18-004 Accelerated Tax Sale
- 18-005 Authorize Bank Depositories
- 18-006 Adopt Cash Management Plan
- 18-007 Authorize official newspapers, The Record and the Star Ledger
- 18-008 Authorize signatories for checks
- 18-009 Authorization for Borough Attorney and Tax Assessor to settle tax appeals
- 18-010 Establish Delinquent Tax Rate
- 18-011 Authorize Interim payments
- 18-012 Authorize Collection of costs for insufficient funds
- 18-013 Appoint Borough Attorney Craig Bossong
- 18-014 Appoint Public Defender Mark Musella
- 18-015 Appoint Prosecutor Jared A. Geist
- 18-016 Appoint Alternate Prosecutor Linda Schwager
- 18-018 Appoint Bond Counsel Steven Rogut
- 18-021 Appoint Bilow Garret Group as Architect
- 18-022 Appoint Phillips Preiss Grygiel as Planner
- 18-023 Appoint Brian Giblin as Labor Counsel
- 18-024 Appoint Genesis Liu as Webmaster
- 18-025 Appoint Daniel Howell as Zoning Official
- 18-027 Appoint Adult School Crossing Guards
- 18-028 Participate in Bergen County Police Mutual Aid Plan
- 18-029 Appoint Financial Advisor Phoenix Advisors, LLC
- 18-030 Designation of Public Agency Compliance Officer (P.A.C.O.)
- 18-031 Appoint Jesse D'Amore as Bogota's Wastewater Collection Operator
- 18-032 Appoint Joe Scarpa as Bogota's Certified Recycling Official
- 18-033 Authorization to Enter into a Grant Agreement for Senior Bus Driver
- 18-034 Authorization to Enter into a Grant Agreement for Project Success

Board of Health: Cora Zakrzewski, Ellen Hegel
Recreation Committee: Walter Fowler
Alternate – Michael Connors
Environmental Commission: Pauline McDonnell
Library Board: Joanne Cursinella

Motion was made by Councilman Napolitano, seconded by Councilwoman Gates-Ferris, to adjourn. Motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 8:20pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Borough Clerk Jeanne Cook