

Minutes August 6, 2015

Minutes of the Special meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Bogota held on Thursday, August 6, 2015 in the Council Chambers at 7:30PM.

Salute to the flag was led by Councilman Mitchell

Roll Call: Mayor Kelemen and Council members Fede, Kohles, Mitchell, Napolitano, Nunez, 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 July 23, 2015.

Councilman Robbins asked where the money for tree take-downs would be coming from, and Councilwoman Fede explained that it would be on the Environmental Commission line. Councilwoman Kohles asked who decides what trees will be cut down. Councilwoman Fede explained that it is a combination of factors that are involved. Councilman Robbins requested that CFO DiMaria be present to explain the Corrective Action Plan. He explained that 12 of the 20 items have been completed, but there is no time frame for completion. Major items must be completed quickly and they have been. The CFO also explained that in 2010 when Health Insurance became mandatory, section 125 plan was supposed to be mandatory as well. Resolution 15-109 is taking care of that.

The following Resolutions on the Consent Agenda were approved:

- 15-107 Award Pascack Valley Cooperative Road resurfacing bid to D & L Paving Contractors
- 15-108 Award Bid for Tree Services
- 15-109 Appointing Aflac to administer IRS Section 125 (FSA) Plan for employees of the Borough of Bogota
- 15-110 Ratify DPW Contract terms and authorize Borough Attorney to draft agreement
- 15-111 Emergency Temporary Budget Appropriation
- 15-112 Corrective Action Plan

The following Ordinances were introduced and approved:

- #1465 Salary Ordinance for Non-Contractual Borough Employees
- #1466 An Ordinance Repealing Ordinance #1447

Discussion took place concerning police promotions. Councilwoman Fede pointed out that anyone can apply to be the Police Chief. Administrator Scarpa had taken samples of promotional ordinances to discuss with Mayor and Council. He will be at the next Council meeting.

Councilwoman Kohles requested that Captain Sepp be made acting Chief temporarily, but Councilman Napolitano pointed out that rules need to be put in place in order to prevent any more litigation.

Borough Attorney Bossong will look over ordinances from other towns and show them to Captain Sepp.

Citizen Remarks:

Antero Jackson said that Council cut the ambulance budget, the Rescue budget, and the Fire Department budget. Mr. Jackson said that bills have not been paid, and the Mayor asked for hard copies of the bills. Reverse 911 was changed and he was not told about it. He asked if

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the Council will be getting a new Chief of Police and if there is a dress code for Council meetings. He does not want the town to repeal the parking space for the DPW Superintendent.

Michele Rupar wanted to follow up on the Munidex issue. She would like Josh to come in and tell how he worked out a deal with the CFO.

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

Councilwoman Kohles asked why the Council cannot make Captain Sepp the Acting Chief. She said that people are being turned away for handicap stickers. She said that the Chief recommended putting in an acting chief. Councilwoman Kohles made a motion to appoint Captain Sepp as Acting Chief. No one seconded.

Councilman Napolitano motioned to table the appointment of acting chief. Councilman Mitchell seconded. Motion to table carried. Councilman Robbins said that he had wanted to second Councilwoman Kohles' motion, but the tabling motion came before he had a chance.

Councilman Napolitano explained to Councilwoman Kohles that the town must be protected against litigation. Then he asked her who told her that the members of the Police committee were all at borough hall the other day. Councilwoman Kohles would not reveal who her source was. Councilman Napolitano asked for transparency, but Councilwoman Kohles would not reveal her source.

Councilwoman Kohles asked what people are to do if they are turned away for a handicap sticker. Councilman Nunez said that he believes that the people can go to a neighboring town's Police chief. Mayor Kelemen said that he asked the former Police Chief John Burke what limitations there would be, and Chief Burke said only those requesting firearm permits would be turned away. The Mayor will talk to Captain Sepp tomorrow.

Motion was made by Councilman Mitchell, seconded by Councilman Robbins, to adjourn. Motion carried and meeting adjourned at 8:15pm.