

Minutes of the Work Session of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Bogota held on Thursday, June 2, 2011, at the council chambers of Borough Hall at 7:30 PM

Salute to the Flag was led by Councilman Konigsberg

A moment of silence was observed for former Councilman Ray Muller who passed on.

Roll Call: Mayor McHale, Council members Noto, Sharp, Jackson, Brophy, Nunez and Konigsberg 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 1, 2011

GJEM insurance representatives Matt McArow and Ezio Altamura were present to give a presentation of insurance coverage for 2011 risk management's plan through the South Bergen Municipal Joint Insurance Fund. They advised Council that Bogota was cited with an award for safety.

Architect Anthony Iovino was present to summarize his report concerning roof replacements and estimated costs for all of the borough buildings; the DPW roof was not included at this time.

A public hearing on the second amendment to municipal budget of 2011 took place and there were no citizen comments. Councilman Noto advised the budget is tight; also, increases in pension contributions have to be considered.

The following resolutions were adopted:

11-121 Adopt the 2011 Municipal Budget

11-122 Appoint Robert A. Pelissier as part time seasonal DPW help – this resolution was amended to reflect the e-mail poll vote and the retroactive hiring date of May 24, 2011

A sidewalk repair program, including trees, was discussed with all members interacting; further discussion will take place.

At 8:19 PM, a fire drill was conducted, so council and citizens stepped outside the building until 8:41 PM when the meeting reconvened.

It was suggested that a complete registration of house addresses, not post office box numbers, and telephone numbers should be available for absentee property owners.

The Mayor and Council decided to hire a hearing officer and Regina Tasca will continue to be suspended, with pay, unless she adjourns the hearing of June 9th. During this time, Councilwoman Sharp left the dais and then returned at 9:15 PM

The following resolution was added to the agenda and voted upon:

11-123 Appointing James H. Coleman as Hearing Officer

The Bergen County contracts for Animal Control, Bloodborne Pathogens and EAP will be placed on the June 16th agenda.

The tree ordinance will not be in place this month; it will be on the next work session.

Solar panels on residences will be discussed at a later date.

The following resolution was added to the agenda and then voted upon:

11-124 Hiring of a per diem dispatcher, Casey Giblin, for Bogota Police Department

Councilman Brophy requested Bogota residents be considered for future appointments.

A resolution for the police emergency youth academy was amended to read "resides in the Borough of Bogota", and it will be placed on the next meeting agenda for approval.

Rice notices were sent to Daniel Klima and Perry Buonaguardo who both decided to conduct the hearing this evening in open session. DPW Superintendent Niosi has given them a verbal reprimand, and documentation will be placed in their personnel files.

Councilman Sharp made a motion to continue the meeting past 10:00 PM

Councilman Brophy requested a letter be sent to Bergen County for the purpose of installing missing curb sections on W. Main Street and into the park; it is a safety issue.

Mayor McHale advised there is an 80% increase in tax appeals.

Attorney Monaghan reviewed items on the next meeting agenda.

Citizen Remarks:

Nick Zampetti advised the state's mandates overrule local laws for absentee property owners; focus on garbage left on Main Street .

Ken O'Donnell complained of drainage from River Road into his property; Administrator Nicolosi and Engineer Tuvel will meet with him.

David Rushfield complained of the sink hole on W. Grove Street.

Police Chief Burke advised the FCC license arrived today; Officer Cole was cited for assisting Hackensack in apprehending criminals.

Motion to adjourn made by Councilman Noto, seconded by Councilman Jackson; motion approved and carried; session ended at 10:29 PM