

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Bogota held on Thursday, March 16, 2017, in the Bogota Council Chambers at 7:30PM.

Salute to the Flag was led by Councilman Miranda.

Roll Call: Mayor Kelemen and Council members Gates-Ferris, Miranda, Murphy and Napolitano were present. Council members Fede and Macfarlane were absent. Also present were Borough Attorney Bossong, Borough 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 30, 2016.

Traffic Officer Sgt Cole reported on parking issues that need to be addressed including handicapped parking by the VFW on Leonia Avenue and West Shore Avenue, restricting parking on northwest corner of Fairview Avenue to 90 feet from Palisade Avenue, and limit parking on Maple Street to two hours.

The following resolutions were removed from the agenda to be voted on separately:

PC17-03 Payment of Claims

17-070 Amendment of Council By-Laws

17-074 Resolution Regarding Purchasing Control Officer

The following Resolutions on the Consent Agenda were approved:

17-071 Tax Sale Redemption for Block 78, Lot 4

17-072 Tax Sale Redemption for Block 24, Lot 16

17-073 Hire Replacement Counselor for Recreation Program

17-075 Tax Sale Redemption for Block 47, Lot 1

Motion was made by Councilman Napolitano, seconded by Councilman Miranda, to approve the following Resolution. Motion carried with only Councilwoman Murphy voting No.

PC17-03 Payment of Claims

Motion was made by Councilman Napolitano, seconded by Councilman Miranda, to approve the following Resolution. Motion carried with Council members Miranda and Napolitano voting yes, Council members Gates-Ferris and Murphy voting no, and Mayor Kelemen breaking the tie.

17-070 Amendment of Council By-Laws

Motion was made by Councilman Napolitano, seconded by Councilman Miranda, to approve the following Resolution. Motion carried with only Councilwoman Murphy voting No.

17-074 Resolution Regarding Purchasing Control Officer

The following Bond Ordinance was introduced and approved:

#1494 Multi-purpose Bond

(Public Hearing on Bond Ordinance #1494 will be held on April 6, 2017.)

Motion was made by Councilman Napolitano, seconded by Councilwoman Murphy, to approve the FOP Lodge 46 holding a raffle on April 22, 2017 at the VFW during an affair. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Councilman Napolitano, seconded by Councilwoman Murphy, to approve the March 2, 2017 Minutes. Motion carried.

Discussion took place concerning supporting the April Distracted Driving Crackdown U Drive, U Text, U Pay program and applying for a Grant to support the program. Motion was made by Councilman Napolitano, seconded by Councilman Miranda, to add the following Resolution to the agenda. Motion carried.

17-076 Supporting the April Distracted Driving Crackdown U Drive, U Text, U Pay

Reports:

Mayor Kelemen commented that the new OEM Coordinator, Scott Woegens, handled the storm with no problems. The revised OEM plan is almost completed. He also reported that the DPW Superintendent and Foreman did a great job with the snow storm. He drove around with one of the DPW snow plow trucks to see the work that the men do and their commitment to the community. He receives emails from residents. The Church of God offered to help Senior Citizens with snow shoveling. He thanked Police Chief Maye for having the reverse 911 in English and Spanish. He congratulated the Bogota Jr/Sr High School Honor Roll inductees and encouraged residents to get involved in the schools. He reported that he attended the American Muslim Union Luncheon and said that it was well attended and everyone got along well. The William Ryan Midtown Bridge will be closed soon for 10 months for repairs. This is a county bridge, so it is a county project. The Overnight Parking Committee will be meeting on Tuesday, March 21st.

Councilwoman Gates Ferris: DPW – The old DPW building was taken down. She congratulated the construction company for not harming Buddy's Place.

Councilman Miranda: Recreation Committee – He reported that a new software program has been ordered that will allow for better communication for enrollment in programs. The Easter Egg Hunt will be held soon, and Jason Kearns will be the Easter Bunny. He said that enrollment for baseball is diminishing.

Councilman Napolitano: Finance – The budget will be introduced at the next meeting.

Buildings and Grounds – The condemned DPW building has been torn down. Renovations on Borough Hall and the Police Department are moving along well.

Infrastructure – The Master Plan Committee will meet soon. The Midtown Bridge must be closed for 10 months. The temporary drainage on West Fort Lee Road is working so far. The Pre-Construction meetings for Leonia Avenue and West Shore Avenue will take place tomorrow. A meeting about the culvert project is going to take place soon. The Cooperative Road project for 2017 will include Grey Street, Kovar Street, East Fort Lee Road, and Elmwood Avenue. The town has not heard about the safe routes to school grant yet.

Senior Citizens – The Senior Citizen Advisory Board met. They are concerned with bricks in front of the building that have settled which can cause tripping. They need new tables.

Councilwoman Murphy: Fire Department – She said that April 5th is the next Officers' meeting.

Administrator Scarpa reported that the railroad does not want the town to paint the bridge for the trains. The first Quarterly Safety Meeting took place today, March 16th. A contractor for the County will be working on the Midtown Bridge and will store equipment in front of the bridge – not in Olsen Park. The town will receive \$300,000 in grants for the Leonia Avenue and West Shore Avenue projects. The Open Space tax increased 300%.

Borough Attorney Bossong and CFO DiMaria had no reports.

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

Lisa Kohles questioned if the purchasing control officer holds the same position that Connie Carpenter held.

Rosemary Luck was very upset because she received a parking ticket in a spot that she thought was designated for snow emergency parking.

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

Councilman Miranda and Mayor Kelemen offered help to Rosemary Luck.

Motion to adjourn was made by Councilwoman Murphy, seconded by Councilman Napolitano. Motion carried and meeting adjourned at 11:05pm.