



Minutes of the Virtual Budget Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Bogota, to be held at the Bogota Council Chambers, 375 Larch Avenue, Bogota, NJ, on Thursday, February 25, 2021 at 7:30pm.

Salute to the Flag was led by Mayor Kelemen.

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 February 23, 2021.

Roll Call: Mayor Kelemen and Councilmembers Carpenter, Connors, Fede, Granquist, and Robbins. Councilwoman Murphy was absent. Also attending were Borough Attorney Betesh, Borough Administrator Scarpa, and CFO Bock.

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

There were no Citizen Remarks.

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

Capital Budget Presentations by Police Chief, DPW Superintendent, Fire Chief

Police Chief Maye explained the need for the following items:

Patrol PC – Hardware/Mounts/Computers	13,066.96
ESS Radio & Scanner (for two cars)	2,240.24
Arbitrator 360 HD Cameras (mobile cameras)	14,280.82
Body Worn Cameras (State Mandated)	50,000.00
Traffic Signs (with installation, poles, striping)	15,000.00

Chief Maye said that there is no clarification on how the Body worn Cameras will be paid for and how the information from the cameras will be stored. He asked for a line item for Police Electronic Equipment for \$50,000 to cover the Body worn Cameras and the storage of the data retrieved. He is hoping for reimbursement from the state or county, but there is no guarantee.

DPW Superintendent Kohles explained the need for the following item:

2021 Front Loader which comes with claw for leaf removal \$180,000 +

DPW Superintendent Kohles said that the front loader will replace a back-hoe. Foley will be coming in to see if the back-hoe can be traded in. The front loader will be used for snow removal, leaf removal, mulch, and for loading the roll off. The back-hoe is over 16 years old and not that powerful.

Fire Chief Kalman explained the need for the following items:

Computers	\$60,000
Extrication Equipment	55,000
Thermal Imaging Camera	60,000
Roll Apparatus	10,000 a piece
SCBA (Self-contained Breathing apparatus)	15,000
Face Piece replacements – need extra in case of Breakage	

Fire Chief Kalman said that the fire department needs a place to keep files. They need a centralized location to be able to move information from Chief to Chief as this is a rotating position. Right now everyone works off of their personal computers. Ken Guida gave him an estimate for the computers. He will talk to Dino, the IT person, about the computer needs for the Fire Department. The thermal imaging cameras are very old and need to be replaced for the safety of the fire department members and the residents.

Extrication equipment at Hose Company 2 is 30 years old and needs to be replaced. The old equipment does no work on new vehicles.

SCBAs last about 15 years. They need to be updated and spares are necessary for every job. He wants to replace a few at a time to keep them all up to date. The \$15,000 will cover 10 SCBAs and 10 Face pieces.

Turn out gear is inspected and tested. New turn out gear will be purchased as necessary.

He is hoping to wait for a new firehouse to purchase the new fire apparatus in order to purchase a larger cab than can fit in Firehouse 2.

Budget Discussion:

Discussion took place concerning leftover money in last year's multi-purpose bond. \$17,000 was left over for 2020 Road Resurfacing which will be used to resurface the recycling center. \$109,000 left over from old bonds will be used for recycling center. Borough Administrator Scarpa explained that the \$50,000 from Fireman's Park will be removed from the multi-purpose bond to create a separate bond. The Police Body Worn Cameras will replace it. He said that \$15,000 can be removed from the line for Miscellaneous and put on for the Police. There will be a \$42,500 line item for the down-payment.

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

Jorge Nunez said that the presentations by the Department Heads were excellent. He said that it is nice to hear the governing body all working together. He said that the town has come a long way. He continued that 10 to 15 years ago not much was done. Now, Borough Hall was renovated, the DPW building was rebuilt, and now the Community Center is in the works. Additional revenue will be coming in from the new apartments. The DPW is doing a great job – better than surrounding communities. He said that employees should be getting more money. He said that he supports the new equipment for the Fire Department. He encouraged the governing body members to do the right thing. He said that the meetings are way too long, and something needs to be done about it.

Rebecca Youla said that it is a shame for only 18 people on this zoom meeting with 8,000 people in town. She said that she has been a member of the Rescue Squad for two years now, and they were only called to one motor vehicle accident. She noted that they are all working from home now, so they are available when a call comes. She said that they have 3 trucks with full equipment to get people's out of cars, and they are all trained to use the equipment. She said that the Chief's truck has battery-operated tool which were purchased with donation money. If the Fire Department

needs equipment, the Rescue Squad has the equipment available. She thought that maybe the money for a fourth set of the same equipment could be used for something else that the Fire Department needs.

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

Councilman Robbins said that all the Chiefs from Fire and Rescue should get together and have a conversation about borrowing equipment. Councilman Connors said that the Fire Department is requesting multiple pieces of equipment, not just one piece. He just wants to be sure that there will be no lag time in getting to an emergency. Councilwoman Fede said that there are protocols as to who gets called for each situation. It would be a good idea for the departments to get together to discuss the protocol. She said that the Rescue Squad buys equipment with donation money. She said that bond ordinances do not mean that all the money will be spent.

Motion was made by Councilwoman Carpenter, seconded by Councilman Connors, to adjourn. Motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 8:57pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Borough Clerk Jeanne Cook.