

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council held on Thursday, April 6, 2017 in the Bogota Council Chambers at 7:30PM.

Salute to the flag was led by Councilwoman Fede.

Roll Call: Council members Fede, Gates-Ferris, Macfarlane, Miranda, Murphy, and Napolitano were present. Mayor Kelemen was absent. Also present were Administrator Scarpa, Borough Attorney Bossong, and CFO DiMaria.

The notice requirements for 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.

Borough Engineer Costa discussed the flooding problem on West Fort Lee Road. He reminded everyone that the County was supposed to control the flooding issues on West Fort Lee road before closing the Mid-town Bridge, but the flooding has continued. The County must re-visit the site and do something to allow cars to drive on West Fort Lee road. A pump was one suggestion. Council President Napolitano and Administrator Scarpa both asked Mr. Costa to write a letter to the County and demand immediate action to alleviate the flooding problem.

Motion was made by Councilwoman Fede, seconded by Councilman Miranda to approve the following resolution. Motion carried.

17-077 Introduction of 2017 Budget

Motion was made by Councilman Miranda, seconded by Councilwoman Murphy, to approve the following resolution. Motion carried.

17-078 Authorizing the Ordering of Appraisal to Defend Tax Appeal

Motion was made by Councilman Miranda, seconded by Councilwoman Murphy, to approve the following resolution. Motion carried.

17-079 Authorizing the Mayor and Licensed Sewer Operator to Execute the Treatment Works Approval Application

Motion was made by Councilwoman Fede, seconded by Councilwoman Gates-Ferris, to approve the following Resolution. Motion carried.

17-080 Accept bids and Award Contract for CDBG 2016 Palsade Avenue Road Improvement Project Phase II

Motion was made by Councilwoman Ferris, seconded by Councilwoman Murphy, to approve the following Resolution. Motion carried.

17-081 Refund Property Taxes for Disabled Veteran at Block1, Lot 33

Motion was made by Councilwoman Murphy, seconded by Councilman Miranda, to approve the following Resolution. Motion carried.

17-082 Tax Sale Redemption for block 4, Lot 1

Discussion took place concerning Resolutions 17-083 and 17-084 being added to the agenda after the deadline of 12:00pm on the Tuesday before the meeting.

Motion was made by Councilman Miranda, seconded by Councilwoman Fede, to approve the following Resolution. Motion carried with Council members Gates-Ferris and Murphy voting "No".

17-083 Authorize Repair and Maintenance of Olsen Park and Fields

Motion was made by Councilwoman Fede, seconded by Councilman Miranda, to approve the following Resolution. Motion carried with Council member Murphy voting "No".

17-084 Tax Sale Redemption for Block 73, Lot 20

Motion was made by Councilman Miranda, seconded by Councilwoman Murphy, to approve the Minutes for 3/16/17. Motion carried with Council members Fede and Macfarlane abstaining due to being absent on 3/16/17.

The following Ordinances were Introduced and approved:

#1495 Amending Chapter VII entitled "Traffic" Schedule XVII to add Handicap Parking spaces Near VFW

#1496 Amending Chapter VII entitled "Traffic" Schedule 1 –No Parking – to add a No Parking Zone on

Fairview Avenue

Public Hearing and Adoption of the following Bond Ordinance took place:

#1494 Multi-purpose Bond

Approval:

The raffle at Bogota High School to be held on July 10, 2017 and waving the Borough fee was approved by the Mayor and Council.

Council President Napolitano – Finance: The public hearing on the budget will be May 18th. Conversations took place with the Board of Education concerning applying together for the Open Space Grant. He is waiting to hear about the Safe Routes to School Grant and the Transportation Alternatives Grant.

Infrastructure: Palisade Avenue, Leonia Avenue, West Shore Avenue are all projects in the works. The DPW building project is also underway. Engine II gutters etc will be cleaned.

Senior Citizens: The Senior Citizen Advisory Board meeting will take place on Monday.

Councilwoman Gates-Ferris – DPW: The DPW building is started.

Transportation – There will be a transportation meeting at the airport soon that she and Mayor Kelemen will attend.

(She asked about FEMA money totaling \$170,000. Administrator Scarpa said that OEM

Coordinator Scott Woegens is looking into it and will be meeting with Mr. Scarpa.)

Councilman Miranda – Recreation Committee: He said that the Recreation Center had a break-in. The police caught the intruder who entered through an unlocked window and was sleeping at the center. He reported that the electrical sign should be up soon, and the community pass will be available soon. He mentioned the possibility of a Recreation soccer program.

Councilwoman Fede – Environmental Commission: Bogota Beautiful will be putting together a Clean-up Day in two weeks. Ridgely Park will be celebrating Earth Day on May 13 with a lot of activities. She announced that four or five Community Garden members attend every Environmental Commission meeting. She attended the County Environmental Committee meeting and learned that they are creating a Master Plan on all County Parks and will include municipal parks. The County Environmental Committee will be having another Master Plan meeting in May. She is working with Bruno Associates for tree planting grants.

Rescue: She attended the St. Patrick's Day Parade in Bergenfield with the Rescue Squad. The squad will be conducting Water Rescue training and participating in the Clean-up.

(The first Swim Club meeting for the year will be held on May 8th.)

Councilwoman Murphy – Fire Department: She attended the Officers meeting last night. She said the officers are worried about Rescue trucks getting through with the bridge closing. Five firemen are being trained in Mahwah. She questioned paperwork for the volunteers and Administrator Scarpa confirmed that the LOSAP papers were sent to Lincoln Financial.

Councilman Macfarlane – Board of Education: He reported that the Superintendent's contract was extended for another year. The budget will go public next month. The high school is getting a new gym floor and new risers. There will be basketball courts and volleyball courts behind the high school. He attended the shared services meeting concerning the soccer field.

Library Board: He attended the Library Board meeting. The memorial service for Nikki Spiegel will be on May 6th.

Administrator Scarpa mentioned the open space grant and asked the governing body to think of any improvements that the grant could be used for the grant application. . He made suggestions of a turf field, new basketball court, etc. and reminded everyone that the Letter of Intent for the Open Space Grant is due by May 1st. He announced that the Easter Egg Hunt will be held on April 8, 2017 at 9:00am. He reported that Councilwoman Fede donated furniture and paintings to Borough Hall. He reminded everyone that the budget hearing will be on May 18th. In the near future, motor vehicle checks on employees must be done to satisfy obligations.

Borough Attorney Bossong reported that the Borough will need ordinances and resolutions concerning COAH. A municipal housing liaison and an administrative agent will need to be appointed. A Fairness and Compliance hearing will be held in June or July. Development on West Fort Lee Road went a long way in doing what was required to be done.

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

Connie Carpenter asked about the budget being introduced in April. She said that the website does not have certified tax rates past 2012, audits past 2014, supplemental debt statements past 2013, or minutes past January 5, 2017. She questioned contributions in anticipated revenue on the budget. She expressed concerns about the soccer field.

Michele Rupar questioned Resolution 17-083. She did not understand how the repair and maintenance of the Olsen Park and the fields is a shared service since the Board of Education is not providing anything.

Tony Culmone asked for clarification when the Council President runs the meeting in the absence of the Mayor. Specifically, is he allowed to vote?

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

Borough Attorney Bossong explained that although the Council President presided over the meeting, he is still a voting member. Anticipated Revenue expected within 60 to 90 days can be included in the budget. He explained that the time and money involved to draft a shared services agreement would be much more costly than having a resolution approved by both the governing body and the Board of Education.

Motion to adjourn was made by Councilwoman Gates-Ferris, seconded by Councilman Miranda. Motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 9:15pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Borough Clerk, Jeanne Cook.

