



Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Bogota held at the Bogota Council Chambers, 375 Larch Avenue, Bogota, NJ, on Thursday, July 19, 2018 at 7:06pm.

Salute to the Flag was led by Councilwoman Fede.

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 3, 2018.

Roll Call: Mayor Kelemen and Councilmembers Fede, Gates-Ferris, Miranda, Murphy, and Napolitano were present. Councilman Macfarlane was absent. Also attending were Borough Attorney Bossong, Borough Administrator Scarpa, and Borough Engineer Costa.

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

Connie Carpenter where the Pascack Valley Road Program in Resolution 18-112 is located. She questioned Resolution 18-111, the Temporary Capital Budget and its connection to Bond Ordinance #1516 and the grant for \$380,000. She pointed out an error in Salary Ordinance #1517. The Fire Sub Code Official 2% increase should bring his total to \$6329, not \$6238.

Marlena\_\_\_\_\_ of 341 Elm Avenue thanked the Council for resolving the parking issue on Linden Avenue. She wanted to show support for building a new Recreation Center. She said that children should have a safe environment, and the community would help support the funding of the project.

Michael Olivo said that he is a coach in town for football and basketball. He said that the children need a place to play instead of hanging out on street corners. He said that many people want to help him with the children and would support a new Recreation building. He said it will help to build up the community.

Jim Moore, the Recreation Director, said that a new Recreation Center has been on his wish list for the last 17 years. He said that the town, the kids, and the parents will be grateful for a new Recreation Center.

Jason Kearns said that a new Recreation Center is a great idea. He said that Recreation programs are getting bigger and better and it is a good time for a new facility.

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

Councilman Miranda said that he is in full support of building a new Recreation Center. He pointed out that a few years ago, there was mismanagement of money and resources. FEMA money and money from the sale of a cell tower brought nothing to the town. Now, a new development is going up which will give the town \$3,000,000 in Community Enhancement money. The Center could be built with almost no tax money. Councilwoman Murphy said that she is in support of building a recreation center, but not at this time because the Pilot identifies where the money can be used. She said that money does not exist now for the Recreation Center until Certificates of Occupancies are received. She said that a referendum is needed for that \$6.7 million. Councilwoman Gates-Ferris said that the pilot says the money can be used for the Rec Center or tax relief as determined by Council. It was explained that \$3,000,000 will be received as the buildings are built. Borough Attorney Bossong explained that the \$125,000 was received and went to tax relief. The \$250,000 will be received soon. He explained that pilot agreement is separate from the \$3,000,000 Community Enhancement money. The pilot money will still be received aside from the \$3,000,000 gift from the developer. The land is not part of the pilot, so the tax money on the land will be received at the end of the year. Councilman Napolitano said there was no referendum for the \$800,000 received for the sale of the cell tower 5 or 6 years ago. He said that he spoke to the auditor and bond counsel and was told that this is an amazing pilot, and the Rec Center will be built without using tax money. The bond will be voted on when the check is received. The bond is paid off as it is used. The

Planning and Zoning board negotiated a deal with the Riverfront Development group to benefit the town. Councilwoman Gates-Ferris said that a new recreation Center is a good idea, but three council members never saw it and community input is important. She said that as \$6.7 million is being bonded, the council should consider a Recreation Center, a new Library, and a new Senior Center. Councilwoman Fede pointed out that all the Council voted on the allocation of the money for a concept plan for the Rec Center, and the town is not bonding \$6.7 million in this year's budget. One million dollars is bonded each year.

Mayor Kelemen explained to everyone that we are all learning together how to do this. He thanked all the residents that came to the meeting and showed their support. He said that he was elected to move the town forward, and that is what he is doing. He would like to see a new Recreation Center and a new firehouse, etc. He said that he sees a need for a new Recreation Center even without the \$3,000,000. He asked the Seniors if they would like to move to the Recreation Center, and they said that they are happy where they are. The Senior Center was constructed using Grant Money for the Senior Center. He said that the town needs a new Recreation Center now. There is no better time. It may also be possible to move more voting to the new Recreation Center.

Administrator Scarpa said that the Pascack Valley Road program started in 2007, and the lead agency is Westwood. The Leonia Avenue Bond consists of about \$380,000 in grants, about 20% is engineering fees which is \$80,000 and about \$40,000 in contingencies which brings it to \$500,000.

Mayor Kelemen explained that Patty Petrosino retired in June, and he wanted to present her with a plaque for her years of service to Bogota school children. She was unable to attend the meeting, so he will present the plaque to her at another time.

The following Resolutions on the Consent Agenda were approved:

PC18-08 Payment of Claims

18-109 Change Order #2 for Reggio Construction to minus \$194.96 from 2016 Leonia Avenue Road Improvement

18-112 Authorize Preparation of Specifications for the 2018 Municipal Road Paving Program for Pascack Valley Coop

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

18-108 Hire Part-time Clerical Assistant for Borough Hall

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

18-110 Resolution Expressing Opposition to Senate Bill #106

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

18-111 Temporary Capital Budget

The Following Ordinances were introduced:

#1516 Bond Ordinance for \$500,000 Resurfacing of Leonia Avenue (Phase III and IV)

Borough Engineer Costa explained that Mr. Loveless at the Department of Transportation allowed the grants for Leonia Avenue Phase III and Phase IV to be combined for \$380,000. He explained that the money has to be in place. He said that the administrator and clerk can sign vouchers to get 75% up front. Work will be done on East Fort Lee Road and Leonia Avenue including streets, drainage, handicap ramps, trees, etc. There will be some contingencies \$120,000: 10% design, 15% for inspection. Paving will be on East Fort Lee Road, East Broad Street, Maplewood Avenue, and Larch Avenue.

#1517 Salary Ordinance 2018 with the correction for the Fire Sub-code Salary.

Public Hearing and Adoption of the Following Ordinance took place:

#1515 CAP Ordinance

The following Approvals took place:

- Motion was made by Councilman Napolitano, seconded by Councilman Miranda to approve the Minutes of 6/28/18. Motion carried with Council members Fede, Miranda, and Napolitano voting Yes, and Council members Gates-Ferris and Murphy abstaining as they were absent on June 28<sup>th</sup>
- Motion was made by Councilman Napolitano, seconded by Councilwoman Fede, to accept Carol Nicolay's request to close Beechwood Avenue from Queen Anne Road to Dunne Avenue from 11am to 10pm on 8/25/18. Motion

carried.

Old Business: Architect's plans for new recreation center: Discussion took place concerning the plans for a new recreation building. Administrator Scarpa reminded everyone that he had said in April that the cost would be \$3.2 million. He suggested introducing a bond ordinance at the next meeting. Motion was made by Councilman Napolitano, seconded by Councilman Miranda, to introduce a bond ordinance at the next meeting and have a presentation. Motion carried.

New Business: - Discussion took place concerning Library and Senior Center Renovations. Councilwoman Gates-Ferris pointed out that the library committee did focus groups and it was determined that more computers are needed and maybe more library space overall. She suggested the Recreation Center include Seniors. Councilwoman Fede reminded her that the present Senior Citizen Hall above the Library was built using grant money specifically for a Senior Center. Councilman Miranda said that a new Recreation center would give children a place to go instead of the library. Councilman Napolitano added that once the Recreation Center is built, the Council will be able to gage better the needs for the library. He also said that many grants are available for libraries.

- Ordinance to place a Question on the ballot as to whether a charter study commission shall be elected to study the Charter of the Borough: Discussion took place concerning partisan vs. non-partisan government. Motion was made by Councilman Napolitano, seconded by Councilman Miranda, to introduce the following Ordinance. Motion carried.

Ordinance #1518 – An Ordinance to Place a Question on the Ballot as to Whether a Charter Study Commission shall be elected to study the charter of the borough.

### Reports

Mayor Kelemen announced that Councilwoman Gates-Ferris will be the head chairwoman for the 125 Anniversary of Bogota. He will meet with Councilwoman Gates-Ferris, Henry Komorowski and Library Director Chelsea Coleman to discuss the Anniversary celebration.

He apologized for the confusion about the recycling. He explained that the recycling company announced suddenly that it changed what it would accept. He said that a letter will go out to the community explaining the situation and apologizing for the confusion. He asked that people who know about any changes to please let your neighbor know. He met with Library Director Coleman, and she mentioned some new programs she would like to introduce. She is working on the problem with children be dropped off. He met with Paul Burns who would like to hold a fundraiser at the high school gym, so he is coordinating a date with the Board of Education President and the School Superintendent. The fundraiser will consist of the Bogota Police and Fire Departments vs. Bogota High School Faculty in a basketball game. The fundraiser will be to help wounded veterans. He thanked Ray Herr for filling in as the temporary CFO who helped to put finances in order. He announced that he knows a local sprinkler man who is willing to donate a sprinkler to the community garden in time. Main Street looks beautiful now, and he thanked Administrator Scarpa for his persistence with the county. Sidewalk and tree complaints come in regularly. He thanked the fire department, rescue squad, police reserves, and Councilwoman Fede for their great representation at the Ridgefield Park parade. He said the Bogota High School Graduation was very well done and he is proud of the administration, faculty, staff and students for a job well done. He said that he will do anything he can to make the new Recreation Center a reality.

Councilwoman Gates-Ferris: Library – The Library Director is working on the focus groups.

The passport program received a perfect score as an acceptance facility.

Transportation – There will be a meeting at Teterboro Airport on July 25<sup>th</sup>.

Councilman Miranda: He would like to share a recycling program that provides information to the public. He is giving it to Mr. Scarpa to look at. He asked if the Fire Department could water the fields once in a while.

Police Department - He is excited that the police contract has been negotiated. He thanked Councilwoman Fede, Administrator Scarpa, and the police department. He is glad that the volunteer parking passes are being implemented.

Recreation Committee - He thanked the Rec Committee for their work and asked if counselors could be paid to help out with the movie night. He would like to acknowledge Michael Olivo for all the work he has done to recruit etc. to get the football program started this year.

Councilwoman Fede: Finance – She reported that the Payment of Claims is easier to read and understand.(She thanked the Administrator and the DPW for painting crosswalks and installing safe signs for no speeding.)

Rescue Squad - She attended the Squad's last meeting. They purchased two generators and will purchase a cutter and other equipment using fundraiser money. They will be

doing water rescue practice this weekend. She thanked them for taking care of fireworks and attendees on 4<sup>th</sup> of July.

Environmental Commission – She reported that Shred day was a success although it was very hot. She was able to talk to people about recycling situation on Shred Day. She spoke to Amaru about creative team. He would like Bogota Beautiful to be the creative team. He took ill and had to cancel meeting. He gave her a list of names that would qualify for sustainable NJ. Waiting to see what format they will use. Yesterday she brought second installment of plastic bags to Target. They are very helpful and cooperative. Many people are bringing bags. A retired teacher is going to get bags from the schools. The Chief of Police took one of the trex boxes. She will go there as well to pick up boxes. Swim club met this week. One member of operations and one community member made a recommendation about cleaning out the sand bar – gave suggestion to administrator. All is well. Spent 3 hours at right tree right location seminar to discuss what trees to purchase, marking out planting sights, pests to trees - new butterfly that likes to destroy all trees which has been seen in Warren County now. Hopefully it will not reach Bogota.

Councilman Napolitano: Senior Citizens – He said that the Seniors held a regular meeting and had a good time. The Senior Advisory board off for the summer.

Buildings and grounds – He said that the Recreation Center was already discussed. Ribbon cutting at the DPW will take place once Fort Lee Road is paved. River development said that permits should be issued within the next couple of weeks, and they will be moving forward.

Finance - The budget is introduced, and the public hearing will be at the next meeting. 2017 audit is underway. Battaglia is doing well.

Infrastructure – Engineer was here, not doing a lot in town right now working on grants. Board of Education is helping with tally numbers. Safe Routes to School Grant and Transportation Alternative Grant will connect downtown with park and address safety sign, lights etc. He said that we know how to score points now which will help in getting grants. River Road had a water main break that was handled well. A crew worked through the night. Main street paved well. \$55,000 collected by Property Maintenance

Councilwoman Murphy: Fire Department: She will attend a Fire Chief's meeting with the mayor and the fire chief on July 30.

Library Board – She said that the Library Board will not be meeting until September 10. There is nothing new to report. The strategy committees have met etc.

(FOP sponsored more plots, so she is handling 6 spots. The Fire Department helps with rain barrels. More people are asking about the Community Garden now.)

Administrator Scarpa said that a letter for recycling will be sent out. He said that plastic bags hurt machines. China is not taking recycling anymore. The town used to receive \$6 a ton. Now the town is paying over a hundred dollars a ton. To keep taxes down, no recyclables in plastic bag will be taken. Two reverse 911s, both electronic boards and the website explained the recycling situation. Plastic bags can be recycled at borough hall and supermarkets. He said there will be a meeting next week to go over tree list.

Preconstruction meeting with public service for efficient lighting and air conditioning took place. Borough pays 30% and PSE&G pays 70%. We should see a savings because energy is tracked so we can see the savings. Main Street is now fixed. Suez came back to fix the road. Pascack Road program will be going out to bid.

Borough Attorney Bossong reported that for COAH compliance, 4 conditions must be met. 3 of 4 have been met. He is waiting for a report from the CFO on COAH trust fund. Once that is received, it will be given to the special master and Bogota will be good until 2025.

The clerk announced that Packets for pregnant women with mosquito problems are available and will be advertised on the website.

The Mayor said that he met with a Bogota resident who is involved with a foundation for suicide prevention. There will be a walk on October 21 in Saddle Brook at Saddle River Country Park. The Mayor will let everyone know about it to have a team representing Bogota.

Motion to go into Closed Session was made by Councilman Napolitano, seconded by Councilwoman Murphy, so Resolution 18-112C was added to the agenda at 9:03pm. Motion carried.

When the meeting reconvened, motion to Adjourn was made by Councilwoman Gates-Ferris, seconded by Councilman Miranda. Motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 9:13pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Borough Clerk Jeanne Cook.