

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Bogota to be held on Thursday, December 7, 2017, in the Senior Center at 7:30pm.

Salute to the Flag was led by Councilwoman Gates-Ferris. Mayor Kelemen asked everyone to remain standing and to offer a moment of silence for all those that died at the Bombing of Pearl Harbor as well as all those that died during World War II.

Roll Call: Mayor Kelemen and Council members Fede, Gates-Ferris, Macfarlane, Miranda, Murphy and Napolitano were present. Other Attendees included Borough Administrator Scarpa, Borough Attorney Bossong, and Payroll and Finance Specialist Currin

The notice requirements of the Open Public Meeting Law have been satisfied as notice was sent to two newspapers and posted on the Borough Hall bulletin board on November 27, 2017.

Mayor Kelemen and Council President Napolitano presented Awards to the Bogota Recreation 5th and 6th Grade Junior Football Team Champions and to the Coaches Michael Liveo, Stephen Reccio, and Eric _____. A Proclamation was read honoring the players, coaches, and parents.

River Development Update: Warren Waters introduced representatives from the financier that will be taking over the River Development project. John Stein and Glenn Scotland, representatives for the financier, Kingstreet, explained that \$125,000 was put into an escrow account to be given to the borough. They explained that they will honor every part of the original agreement.

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

Robert Ferro asked why the Council is buying into this River Development project without discussion.

Michele Rugar asked why there is no paper trail to show that responsibilities will be taken over by this new group.

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

Councilman Miranda explained that Kingstreet Capital is the financier. He pointed out that the Resolution to approve transfer spells out that everything remains the same.

Mr. Scotland explained the original agreement with Mr. Walters had transfer and assignment agreements in it. The transfer can occur under state law provided that the Council consents to it.

Borough Attorney Bossong explained the process. There will be a first amendment executed saying that RCB Urban Renewal I responsible for everything in the agreement. The DEP matter is spelled out in the Planning and Zoning Board Resolutions. The DEP is responsible for cleanup.

Motion was made by Councilman Napolitano, seconded by Councilman Miranda, to approve the Consent Agenda. The following Consent Agenda was approved with Council members Gates-Ferris and Murphy voting No.

Consent Agenda:

- 17-170 Confirming the Endorsement of the Borough of Bogota Community Development project for Palisade Avenue Road Improvements.
- 17-171 Confirming Endorsement of the Borough of Bogota Community Development Project for Senior Citizen Activities
- 17-172 Adopting Annual Mayor and Council Meeting schedule
- 17-173 Authorizing the Holiday Schedule for 2018
- 17-174 Urging Governor Christie and Legislature to Enact Legislation to Extend 2% cap on binding interest arbitration awards
- 17-175 Hiring Recreation After care Counselor- Matthew Louis Ojeda
- 17-176 Support Amendment to Endorsement of a Community Endorsement Project Within the Borough of Bogota by Nouvelle LLC and its Request for HOME funds for the property at 360 Larch Avenue

Approval:

Motion was made by Councilman Napolitano, seconded by Councilwoman Fede, to approve the Minutes of November 9, 2017. Motion carried with Councilwoman Murphy abstaining because she was not at the November 9th meeting and Councilwoman Gates-Ferris voting No.

Reports

Mayor Kelemen announced that the invitations for the Volunteer Dinner to be held on January 6th have been mailed. He thanked Councilman Miranda for the preparations for the tree lighting. He said that the Library has a new Director, and he hopes that she will address the matter that a resident brought to his attention about the library being noisy. He requested that the Council members attend the Project Success Christmas party. He said he received a letter from a business owner on Queen Anne Road who said that some parts of Queen Anne Road need attention. He said that he is going to ask the grant writer to look for grants to revitalize Queen Anne Road. He reminded everyone that RFQs are here. He reported that there will be a Hannukah Menorah lighting at 12:30pm on December 13th at 1 Bergen County Plaza. He announced that Tony Culmone, Alex Breuss, and John Greiner were sworn in on December 2nd at the Chiefs meeting.

Councilman Miranda: Police - He announced the toy drive being conducted by the Police Department.

He said that Ray Sanchez was voted in as head of Auxiliary Police. He announced a big \$20,000 drug bust conducted by the police.

Recreation - He thanked the girl scouts for decorating the Borough Hall tree and The tree at Winter Wonderland in Van Saun Park, and he thanked all those that gave donations towards the decorations including the Mayor. He reported on the Veteran's Day event held at the VFW, and announced that Rob Foster was named Citizen of the Year at the VFW event, and he congratulated him. He congratulated the 5th and 6th grade Junior Football Team on their victory. He announced that the tree lighting will be 7:00pm Friday. He reported that there are over 60 children in the Bogota

Recreation basketball program, and a number of parents are involved. The After-School program has 65 children and is doing well. He said that grants can be found to get cameras for security.

Councilwoman Gates-Ferris: DPW - She reported that the DPW building is almost completed. One DPW worker broke his ankle.

Transportation - She reported that on November 29th a small group met to approve sending a letter to the FTA. The flight pattern is moving slightly to the left, and pilots have the option to follow the new flight pattern. She said that Teaneck is putting cameras on the bridges to keep an eye on the tracks and on crime.

Councilwoman Fede: Rescue - She participated in the doorknocker fundraiser.

Environmental Commission - The Borough received an environmental Award at the League conference. Bogota is collaborating with Ridgefield Park's Environmental group including the Green Fair. The next Green Fair is May 19. There are two associate members from Ridgefield Park and two from Bogota. She said that Bogota Beautiful will be offering Zumba classes at Bogart Memorial Church. She spoke to Suez about three properties they own and we would like to be able to build an overnight Parking lot.

Councilman Napolitano: Buildings and Grounds - The DPW building is almost done. East Fort Lee Road will be paved in March or April. The flooding problem at the Senior Housing on Leonia Avenue has been addressed. A wall was built to block the water. He said that Mr. Scarpa and Mr. Barese are working on the demolition of 203 Queen Anne Road. The water leak on McDougall Street is being monitored. He spoke to Leslie Anderson who offered to do a presentation on laws written for redevelopment and how to redevelop.

Finance - He said that he received comments from people saying that they had a 0% tax increase and in some cases a decrease in taxes. He said the Borough is working on a grant for the Fire Department. The Borough applied for grants for Project Success and Senior Bus Driver. He said that grants were not submitted late. He and Councilman Miranda spoke to the police about using technology to work on troubled areas for lighting etc. They would like to get bullet proof vests for the police auxiliary.

BACSA - I had two meetings with the Police Chief to use technology and work to keep the streets safe. Councilman Miranda attended one of the meetings to work toward keeping the streets safe.

Infrastructure - The town will be bonding for paving Leonia Avenue Phase IV. He heard that Suez will be working in town for a few more weeks.

Councilwoman Murphy: Fire Department - She reported that new fire officials were sworn in on Saturday and she thanked Chief Joe DiMauro for his service.

Councilman Macfarlane: Board of Education - He has nothing to report because the Board of Education

met in closed session and will make an announcement at a special meeting on December 19

Library- He reported that the new Library Director will start on Monday. He reported that the liaison from the Board of Education never attends the Library Board meetings. He would like the library budget to be increased by \$25,000 for more staff. He addressed the concerns that residents have about the library being noisy and suggested police doing a walk-through.

Borough Administrator Scarpa said that the Library is the only budget dictated by the state budget. He announced that they are getting their bathroom renovated and a security system, neither of which is being taken from their budget. He announced that three grants were approved: Senior Bus Driver \$12,500; Project Success \$12,500; Road Work \$80,000. Two more grants in the works include \$159,000 for Leonia Avenue and \$5,950 for Senior Activities. He said that charging stations will be installed soon. Borough Hall will be getting a new phone system, and the garbage and recycling calendar will be ready soon as well.

The Borough Attorney and Borough Clerk had no report.

Motion was made by Councilman Napolitano, seconded by Councilman Macfarlane, to go into closed session. Motion carried and the governing body went into closed session at 9:40pm to discuss contract negotiations and personnel. Motion carried and Resolution 17-176C was added to the agenda.

When the meeting reconvened, motion was made by Councilman Napolitano, seconded by Councilman Miranda, to add the following resolution to the agenda. (It was approved with Councilwoman Gates-Ferris abstaining and Councilwoman Murphy voting No.)

17-177 Consenting to Transfer of Redevelopment Agreement and financial Agreement to RCS Urban Renewal LLC as Redeveloper for West Fort Lee Road Redevelopment Area

Motion was made by Councilman Macfarlane, seconded by Councilwoman Murphy, for Administrator to advertise for a CFO. Motion carried.

Motion to adjourn was made by Councilman Napolitano, seconded by Councilwoman Murphy. Motion carried and meeting adjourned at 10:30pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Borough Clerk Jeanne Cook