



Agenda
Open Session

Borough Hall Senior Center
375 Larch Ave, Bogota, NJ 07603

January 1, 2026
6:00 p.m.

BOROUGH OF BOGOTA
Mayor and Council Re-Organization



Mayor

Daniele Fede

Councilmember

Consuelo Carpenter

Councilmember

Lisa Kohles

Councilmember

Patrick H. McHale

Councilmember

John Mitchell

Councilmember

William Hordern

Councilmember

Diana Vergara

Borough Administrator

Conall O'Malley

Borough Attorney

William Betesh

Borough Clerk

Yenlys Flores-Bolivar

I. CALL TO ORDER**II. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENT – OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT STATEMENT**

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT this meeting has been advertised in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act and posted as required.

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**IV. ROLL CALL**

Mayor Fede
Councilmember Carpenter
Councilmember Hordern
Councilmember Kohles
Councilmember Vergara

Also Attending:

Borough Administrator O'Malley
Borough Attorney Betesh
Borough Clerk Yenlys Flores-Bolivar

V. CERTIFICATION OF ELECTION CONDUCTED BY THE BERGEN COUNTY CLERK, JOHN S. HOGAN

I, John S. Hogan, County Clerk, hereby certify that on November 19, 2025, Councilmembers McHale and Mitchell were duly elected by the people of the Borough of Bogota Council.

VI. SWEARING-IN CEREMONY OF NEWLY ELECTED OFFICIALS (3 Yr Term)

Senator Johnson will administer the Oath of Office to the Newly Elected Official:

1. Councilmember John Mitchell - Term Expires: December 31, 2028

Senator Johnson will administer the Oath of Office to the Newly Elected Official:

2. Councilmember Patrick McHale - Term Expires: December 31, 2028

VII. MAYOR'S WELCOMING AND OPENING ADDRESS

Remarks from the Mayor outlining goals, priorities, and vision for the New Year.

***BRIEF RECESS TO CONTINUE WITH FORMAL MEETING**

VIII. 2026 ROLL CALL

Mayor Fede
Councilmember Carpenter
Councilmember Hordern
Councilmember Kohles
Councilmember McHale
Councilmember Mitchell
Councilmember Vergara

Also Attending:

Borough Administrator O'Malley
Borough Attorney Betesh
Borough Clerk Yenlys Flores-Bolivar

IX. CITIZEN REMARKS

One (5) minute time limit per person.

X. NEW BUSINESS**Council Appointments & Swearing-In Ceremony:**

1. Nomination and election of the Council President for the year.

Roll Call:

Councilmember Carpenter
Councilmember Hordern
Councilmember Kohles
Councilmember McHale
Councilmember Mitchell
Councilmember Vergara

2. Nomination and election of the Class III Planning Board Member

Roll Call:

Councilmember Carpenter
Councilmember Hordern
Councilmember Kohles
Councilmember McHale
Councilmember Mitchell
Councilmember Vergara

Mayoral Appointments & Swearing-In Ceremony:

3. Mayor Daniele Fede swears in the New Police Commissioner Councilmember McHale.

XI. OFFICIAL LIAISON APPOINTMENTS – 2026

BOARDS COMMITTEES	COUNCILMEMBERS	
	LIAISON	BACKUP
BUILDING AND GROUNDS	McHale	Mitchell
RECREATION	Hordern	Mitchell
VETERANS' AFFAIRS	Mitchell	Hordern
FIRE DEPARTMENT	Mitchell	Vergara
LIBRARY	Hordern	McHale
SENIOR CITIZENS	Mitchell	Hordern
HEALTH / INSURANCE	Carpenter	Kohles
POLICE / AUXILIARY POLICE / COURT/ OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MGMT	McHale	1.Vergara 2. Mitchell
PROPERTY MAINTENANCE	McHale	Hordern
DPW	Carpenter	Hordern
TRANSPORTATION	Carpenter	Kohles
FINANCE / TAX / GRANTS	McHale	Vergara
LIAISONS TO COUNTY AND STATE	Carpenter	Kohles
ADMINISTRATION / PERSONNEL	Vergara	McHale
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION	Vergara	McHale
BACSA	Carpenter	Hordern
CONSTRUCTION / PLANNING / ZONING	Kohles	Mitchell
BOARD OF EDUCATION	Kohles	Mitchell

All in favor_____

XII. MAYORAL APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS, COMMITTEES, & TEAMS**Boards:**

2026-01 Appoint/Re-Appoint Board of Health Members

Board of Health					
Appointed by: Mayor with the Advice/Consent of the Council					
Position	Member	Type of Appointment	Appointed	Term End	Term Duration
President	Term Expired	Term Expired as of 12/31/25.	-----	-----	3 years
Vice President	David Fitting	Re-Appointment	1/1/2026	12/31/2028	3 years

Roll Call:

Councilmember Carpenter
 Councilmember Hordern
 Councilmember Kohles
 Councilmember Mchale
 Councilmember Mitchell
 Councilmember Vergara

2026-02 Appoint/Re-Appoint Library Board Members

Library Board					
Appointed by: Mayor with the Advice/Consent of the Council					
Position	Member	Type of Appointment	Appointed	Term End	Term Duration
President	Rebecca Foster	Re-Appoint	1/01/2026	12/31/2030	5 years

Roll Call:

Councilmember Carpenter
 Councilmember Hordern
 Councilmember Kohles
 Councilmember McHale
 Councilmember Mitchell
 Councilmember Vergara

2026-03 Appoint/Re-Appoint Planning/Zoning Board Members

Planning/Zoning Board						
Position	Member	Type of Appointment	Appointed	Term Ends	Term Duration	Appointed by:
Class II – Borough Official	Arthur Sopelsa	Re-appoint	1/4/2025	12/31/2025	1 year	Mayor
Class III – Councilmember	TBA	Appointed by Council	1/4/2025	12/31/2025	1 year	Council

Roll Call:

Councilmember Carpenter
 Councilmember Hordern
 Councilmember Kohles
 Councilmember McHale
 Councilmember Mitchell
 Councilmember Vergara

Committees:

2026-04 Appoint/Re-Appoint Recreation Committee Members

Recreation Committee					
Appointed by: Mayor with the Advice/Consent of the Council					
Title	Member	Type of Appointment	Appointed	Term End	Term Length
Member	Sandra Ospina	Re-Appointment	1/1/2026	12/31/2028	3 years

Roll Call:

Councilmember Carpenter
 Councilmember Hordern
 Councilmember Kohles
 Councilmember McHale
 Councilmember Mitchell
 Councilmember Vergara

2026-05 Appoint/Re-Appoint Environmental Commission Members

Environmental Commission Appointed by: Mayor with the Advice/Consent of the Council					
Position	Member	Type of Appointment	Appointed	Term End	Term Length
Member	Patricia Morrone	Re-Appointment	1/1/2026	12/31/2028	3 years
Assoc.	Kristin Meberg	Re-Appointment	1/1/2026	12/31/2028	3 years

Roll Call:

Councilmember Carpenter
Councilmember Hordern
Councilmember Kohles
Councilmember McHale
Councilmember Mitchell
Councilmember Vergara

Teams:

2026-06 Re-Appoint Creative Arts Team Members

Creative Arts Team Appointed by: Mayor with the Advice/Consent of the Council Term Duration: 1 Year Appointment: 1/1/2026 - Term End: 12/31/2026	
Member(s):	
Patricia Adriance	
Isabel Bustamante	
Sara Cassano	
Christine Defazio	
Daniele Fede	
Joseph Gallagher	
Lucy Lebron	
Anthony Lopez	
Kristin Meberg	
Jodi Wu	

Roll Call:

Councilmember Carpenter
Councilmember Hordern
Councilmember Kohles
Councilmember McHale
Councilmember Mitchell
Councilmember Vergara

2026-07 Re-Appoint Green Team Members

Green Team	
Appointed by: Mayor with the Advice/Consent of the Council	
Term Duration: 1 Year	
Appointment: 1/1/26 - Term End: 12/31/26	
Member(s):	
Mayor: Daniele Fede	
Administrator: Conall O'Malley	
DPW Superintendent: Gordon Kohles	
Pauline McDonnell	
Rebecca Foster	
Diane Mancini	
Isabel Bustamante	
Robert Foster	
Joseph Gallagher	
Joseph Balducci	
Kristin Meberg	

Roll Call:

Councilmember Carpenter
Councilmember Hordern
Councilmember Kohles
Councilmember McHale
Councilmember Mitchell
Councilmember Vergara

XIII. ADOPTION OF BY-LAWS

Review and Approve Council Rules and Procedures for the upcoming year/or adopted with yearly meeting calendar changes.

All in favor_____.

XIV. DISCUSSION

None

XV. INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES

None

XVI. PUBLIC HEARING & ADOPTION OF ORDINANCES

None

XVII. CONSENT AGENDA**A. Resolutions**

All matters listed below are considered to be routine in nature by Council and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items. If any discussion is desired by Council, that particular item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and will be considered separately.

- 2026-08 Approval of the 2026 Temporary Budget
- 2026-09 Authorizing CY2026 Budget to be read by Title Only
- 2026-10 Adopt Cash Management Plan
- 2026-11 Adoption of Meeting Schedule
- 2026-12 Adoption of Holiday Schedule
- 2026-13 Authorization for Borough Attorney and Tax Assessor to Settle Tax Appeals
- 2026-14 Authorize Bank Depositories
- 2026-15 Authorize Collection of Costs for Insufficient Fund
- 2026-16 Authorize Interim Payments
- 2026-17 Authorize Signatories for Checks
- 2026-18 Establish Delinquent Tax Rate
- 2026-19 Designating Official Newspapers - The Record, The Star Ledger, and Borough's Website: Bogotaonline.org
- 2026-20 Renew Battaglia Associates Contract for 2026
- 2026-21 Re-Appoint Licensed Tree Expert – Elizabeth Stewart
- 2026-22 Approving Renewal Proposal for Grant Consulting Services – Millennium Strategies
- 2026-23 Re-Appoint Arthur Sopelsa as the Zoning Officer
- 2026-24 Re-Appoint Christopher Eilert as Qualified Purchasing Agent
- 2026-25 Re-Appoint LOSAP Plan Administrator - John Dunn
- 2026-26 Participate in Bergen County Police Mutual Aid Plan
- 2026-27 Designation of Public Agency Compliance Officer (P.A.C.O)
- 2026-28 Authorizing the Bogota Police Department to Participate in the Defense Logistics Agency, Law Enforcement Support Office 1033 Program (LESO)
- 2026-29 Re-Appoint Bogota's Wastewater Collection Operation - Jesse D'Amore
- 2026-30 Service Agreement between the Bergen County Utilities Authority (BCUA) for a Certified Recycling Professional (CRP) to Prepare the Annual Recycling Tonnage Report
- 2026-31 Re-Appoint Recycling Coordinator - Gordon Kohles
- 2026-32 Re-Appoint DPW Assistant Superintendent - Daniel Craddock
- 2026-33 Share Service Agreement between the Borough of Paramus and the Borough of Bogota for Maintenance and Repair of Vehicles for 2026
- 2026-34 Administrative Agent to Administer Affordable Housing- Piazza Associate
- 2026-35 Affordable Housing Consultant/Attorney - Surenian, Edwards, Buzak & Nolan, LLC
- 2026-36 Auditor - Lerch, Vinci & Higgins
- 2026-37 Bond Counsel - Rogut McCarthy LLC
- 2026-38 Borough Engineer - Neglia Engineering
- 2026-39 Borough Labor Attorney - Cleary, Giacobbe, Alfieri & Jacobs, LLC
- 2026-40 Borough Planner - Phillips Preiss Grygiel Leheny Hughes LLC
- 2026-41 Software & Hardware Computer Support Svcs – Smart Tech Integration
- 2026-42 Financial Advisor - Phoenix Advisors LLC
- 2026-43 Risk Management Consultant - GJEM / Division of Otterstedt
- 2026-44 Special Projects Engineer - T&M Associates
- 2026-45 Webmaster - Ray Dwyer
- 2026-46 Borough Attorney - William R. Betesh, Esq. - Boggia, Boggia & Betesh, LLC
- 2026-47 Authorizing Official Towing Companies for the Borough for the Three-Year Period (2026-2028)

B. Resolution to be Voted Separately**C. Approvals**

None

XVIII. 2ND CITIZEN REMARKS

One five (5) minute time limit per person

XIX. CLOSED SESSION

Authorizing Meeting Not Open to the Public, Pursuant to NJSA 10:4-12

- None

XX. ADJOURNMENT

Agenda is subject to change

YFB 12/30/2025