



Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Bogota, held at the Bogota Senior Center, 375 Larch Avenue, Bogota, NJ on Thursday, November 8, 2018 at 7:30pm.

Salute to the Flag was led by Councilman Miranda.

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 December 23, 2017.

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

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

Vincent Rinetti, a Teaneck resident, requested that the governing body pass a resolution in protest of the power plant being built in East Rutherford that would only serve New York and would cause dangerous and unhealthy pollution for the residents of Bergen County.

Paula Ragovan, the founder of Coalition for Banning Oil Trains spoke about the danger of oil trains passing the power plant. She also requested a resolution opposing the power plant.

Michele Rupar requested that Resolution 18-149 be read aloud.

Novia Castro asked why homeowners cannot park in front of their houses overnight.

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

Councilman Napolitano said that safety professionals discourage overnight parking for security reasons. Also, many streets in town are narrow, and it would be difficult for a fire engine to go down those narrow streets in case of an emergency in the middle of the night.

Ceremonial Swearing in of Police Sergeants Victor Negron, Hector Liriano, and Thomas Riedel: Mayor Kelemen explained that on October 18<sup>th</sup> all candidates applying for the sergeants position were interviewed and three were chosen. He commented on how proud he is of the Bogota Police Department. Police Chief Maye said that the Bogota Police Department is like a family, and he is privileged to promote these men.

Chief Maye first announced the promotion of Police Officer Devin Rivera to Detective. He saw his potential and sent him to classes, and he said that Devin Rivera earned this promotion. He also said that detectives were never recognized in the past for obtaining this position and he wanted to change that.

Chief Maye then announced the promotion of Victor Negrón to Sergeant. He said that Victor Negrón should have been promoted to Sergeant a long time ago. He said this promotion was very well deserved.

Chief Maye then announced the promotion of Hector Liriano to Sergeant. He said that he considers Hector Liriano his right hand man. He said that Detective Liriano helps with every issue and offers tremendous IT support.

Chief Maye then announced the promotion of Thomas Riedel who has less experience than the other two new Sergeants, but stepped up to the plate when injuries etc caused a shortage on the force. He did a great job and deserved to move up.

Councilman Miranda, the Police Commissioner, swore in the three new Sergeants. He served as Police Commissioner for two years and learned that police officers are genuine people who protect each other and the community and have to spend a great deal of time away from their families to carry out their jobs. He said that the Bogota Police Department is a diverse group of qualified individuals that the residents can trust.

The Mayor called for a break at 8:30pm while the families and friends congratulated the newly promoted Sergeants and Detective.

At 8:55pm, motion was made by Councilman Napolitano, seconded by Councilman Miranda, to Resume the regular meeting. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Councilman Napolitano, seconded by Councilman Miranda, to approve the following Resolutions on the Consent Agenda. Motion carried:

PC18-12 Payment of Claims

18-145 Establish Two New Bus Stops for RCB Development

18-147 Refund Senior Citizen Tax Deduction for 2018 for Block 36, Lot 6

18-148 Refund \$82.62 Escrow money for Abandoned Property

18-150 Approve Ad for RFQs

18-151 Approve amendment to TWA for RCB

18-152 Authorize the Execution of an Interlocal Agreement for the Maintenance and Repair of DPW Vehicles by and between the Borough of Paramus and the Borough of Bogota

18-153 Hire Six Part-Time Civilian Dispatchers Pending Background Check

18-154 Hire Two Part-Time Crossing Guards

The following Resolutions were voted on separately:

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

18-146 Authorizing Submission of Strategic Plan for Municipal Alliance Grant

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

18-149 Approve Corrective Action Plan for 2017 Audit

Approval: Motion was made by Councilwoman Fede, seconded by Councilman Napolitano, to approve the Minutes of October 18, 2018. Motion carried with only Councilwoman Gates-Ferris voting No.

Discussion: -Chief Maye recommended a handicap parking spot in front of 61 Palisade Avenue after an examination was done by Sergeant Riedel.

Borough Attorney Bossong explained that if a resident is handicapped, they can request a handicap spot in front of their house as long as there are no traffic issues.

An ordinance will have to be passed, and then a sign will have to be put up. Any handicapped person can use the spot.

- Chief Maye recommended a no parking area during certain hours in front of 414 Larch Avenue. The resident has a disabled son who must be picked up by bus each day.

Borough Attorney Bossong explained that the resident's son struggles walking to the bus, and when cars are parked in front of his house, he has a longer walk to the bus which is very difficult for him. An ordinance will have to be passed.

Reports: Mayor, Council Committees:

Mayor Kelemen congratulated Councilman Miranda on the great success of the Fall Festival which had 600 attendees who enjoyed 1200 hot dogs, pretzels, a line of assorted foods and drinks, games, a petting zoo, pony rides, and a photo booth. He thanked the Police Department and the Auxiliary Police for closing Larch Avenue down on Halloween. Parents were very happy because they could relax while their children trick or treated. He congratulated Connie Carpenter and Rob Robbins on winning the election. He reminded everyone that we are all Bogotians, ate dinner together, held each other's children and are here for each other. He congratulated Councilwoman Fede and Councilman Miranda on a well-run campaign and for all the spirit they had. He said that the RFQs will be opened and reviewed on December 13. He will be at Borough Hall on December 17<sup>th</sup>, so Council members can give input on the professionals who submit RFQs.

Councilwoman Gates-Ferris: Veterans – She reported that Monday, November 12, 2018 at 8pm, a Veterans' Day Ceremony will be held at the VFW.

125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary – She said that there will be events every month. In January, the oldest and youngest resident will be recognized. The Bogota Public Library will display different decades. There will be historical lectures, a picture contest in the schools, and a journal will be produced.

Councilman Miranda: Recreation Committee – He reported that the Fall Festival was held on November 3<sup>rd</sup>. He thanked the Recreation Committee, Parents, Bogota Beautiful, Rescue, Fire, Police Police Auxiliary, the Youth Academy, etc, for a successful affair. He announced that Michael Olivia had to step down as the head of the football program. The Recreation Committee chose Mr. Tito Bol to take over the program. Mr. Bol was introduced and he said that he is here to help out and get the children involved in all community events.

Police Department – He said that the Youth Academy needed help, so a fundraiser was held on November 4<sup>th</sup> on West Broad Street. It raised \$900 and was a great success. He said that Daniele Fede, Jose Hernandez, and many parents donated. Rescue Squad members helped with the hams that his company donated for the holiday. He said that he is going to continue to do the ham giveaway each year.

Councilwoman Fede: Fire Department – She reported that the Fire Chief Election will be held on December 1<sup>st</sup>. December 7<sup>th</sup> is the Christmas tree lighting.

Rescue Squad – She said that the Rescue Squad received a new computer and will be working on completing the blood borne pathogens training for this year. She reported that the DPW will be dropping off a dumpster at the Rescue building Saturday or Sunday, and volunteers are welcome to help empty out the basement of the Rescue building. The Rescue Squad attempted a Water Rescue in Hackensack. They will be distributing door knockers on November 18<sup>th</sup>.

Veterans – She said that at the Veterans’ Day Ceremony on November 12<sup>th</sup>, the Citizen of the Year will be chosen.

Environmental Commission – She reported that the Tree Planting Plan must be submitted. She ordered the Sandy Recovery trees and assured everyone that those little sticks will grow into trees. She said that she will continue to serve on the Environmental Commission and the Rescue Squad.

Councilman Napolitano: Infrastructure – He reported that the Co-op paving on East Broad Street, Maplewood Avenue, and Larch Avenue will begin soon. The milling will take place on November 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>. The paving will take place on November 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>.

Finance – He said that Finances are running well. He explained that Sheet #27 on the budget shows the principal and interest that is paid each year.

Buildings and Grounds – He said that security cameras still need to be installed in the DPW building. He said that Bogota’s Abandoned Properties program is being used now in Hackensack and Teaneck. He thanked Borough Attorney Bossong and Property Maintenance Inspector Barese for starting that successful program.

Senior Citizens – He reported that Madeline Banks is now 97 years old and asked for good thoughts and prayers for her.

Planning and Zoning – He reported that the foundation permit was issued for the River Club, so things are moving forward.

Councilman Macfarlane: Board of Education – He reported that the telephone company still has not moved the pole in the parking lot. He congratulated Mike Connors, Eileen Lewis, and Kathy VanBuren on winning the election.

The Borough Attorney had no report.

Motion was made by Councilman Napolitano, seconded by Councilwoman Gates-Ferris, to adjourn. Motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 9:25pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Borough Clerk Jeanne Cook.