

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF NETCONG HELD MARCH 14, 2013 AT THE NETCONG MUNICIPAL BUILDING, 23 MAPLE AVENUE, NETCONG, NEW JERSEY COMMENCING AT 7:30 P.M.**

Mayor Nametko presiding.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**CALL TO ORDER – STATEMENT OF OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT:**

Mayor Nametko called the meeting to order at 7:30 P.M.

The Borough Clerk read the following statement of compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act:

Adequate notice of this meeting as defined by the Open Public Meetings Act has been provided by:

1. Posting a notice of said meeting in the space provided for such announcements at the Netcong Borough Hall on January 6, 2013.
2. Publishing a notice in The Daily Record, the official newspaper of the Borough of Netcong on January 11, 2013 and mailing a copy to The Star Ledger on January 6, 2013.

**ROLL CALL**

Members of the Borough Council present at roll call were: Laureys, Hathaway, Sylvester, Still, Butler, Koster and Mayor Nametko. Ralph Blakeslee, Borough Administrator & Deputy Clerk, and Cindy Eckert, Borough Clerk were also present.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

No minutes were presented at this meeting.

**PUBLIC PORTION OF MEETING**

The Mayor opened up the meeting to the public. Seeing no one stepping forward, the Mayor asked for a motion to close.

A Motion to close the meeting to the public was made by Councilman Sylvester and seconded by Councilman Still.

Roll Call: 6 Yes

### **PUBLIC HEARING ON THE SID COST ESTIMATE**

The Mayor opened the meeting to the public for the SID cost estimate. No one stepped forward.

A Motion to close the public hearing was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Hathaway.

Roll Call: 5 Yes Abstain: Councilman Koster

### **Resolution #2013-33 - Resolution to Approve the 2013 Cost Estimate for the Borough's Special Improvement District.**

A motion was made by Councilman Hathaway to approve the 2013 cost estimate for the SID. Councilman Still seconded the motion.

Roll Call: 5 Yes Abstain: Councilman Koster

### **INTRODUCTION OF THE 2013 BUDGET**

### **Resolution #2013-34 TO INTRODUCE THE 2013 BUDGET**

The Mayor thanked the finance committee for all their efforts to compile this budget.

Councilman Still made a motion to introduce the 2013 budget and Councilman Sylvester seconded the motion.

Roll Call: 6 Yes

### **ORDINANCE ADOPTIONS**

No ordinances were presented at this meeting.

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

There was no correspondence presented at this meeting.

### **BOROUGH ADMINISTRATOR REPORT**

The Mayor asked if everyone had a chance to review the report.

Mr. Blakeslee presented a savings report on electricity for the borough. He also wanted to discuss the signage for Netcong in light of the bridge now being open. The landlord registration has been mailed out. 61 responses have been received. Mr. Blakeslee noted that a second letter is usually sent to prompt more responses.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **Finance & Insurance:**

**E. Still**

**J. Sylvester**

Councilman Still provided some details regarding the new budget.

In the month of **February** the Borough had total income in the amount of \$1,356,073.98 as compared to the previous year of \$1,417,625.10.

Year to Date:

Miscellaneous Revenue Not Anticipated (MRNA)

\$1,647.75 in 2012 vs. \$7,695.47 in 2013

*An increase of \$6,047.00. 72 Prior Year Refunds of \$1,917.45 and a \$4,214.50 payment from Byram Township under the Construction Code shared service agreement contributed to the increase.*

Other Licenses:

\$5,937.78 in 2012 vs. \$7,035.01 in 2013

*Municipal court fees increased by \$2,239.94 in 2013.*

State Aid

\$0/\$0

*State aid has not been set for 2013.*

Grants in Aid

\$8,237.89 in 2012 vs. \$7,324.52 in 2013

*The Borough received \$3,183.75 for its Dial-A-Ride program from the County and \$4,140.79 for the Safe Corridor Highway Safety program.*

Taxes Collected

\$1,401,741.68 in 2012 vs. \$1,333,827.98 in 2013.

*A decrease of \$67,913 from same time period last year.*

Income Total Year to Date:

\$1,886,686.60 in 2012 vs. \$1,931,971.82 in 2013.

*An increase in total income of \$45,285.22 over last year.*

### **Economic Development:**

**R. Hathaway**

**E. Still**

Councilman Hathaway provided the NCP Report for February:

**Media Relations** - One feature story on local businesses in the local newspapers about service providers in Netcong. The next feature story will feature businesses in Beauty, Health and Wellness.

**Website-** Continue to improve and enhance the website.  
We posted four business spotlights for Valon Productions.

**Sign Grants-** We have one application for a sign grant to review and approve for Rose's Place.

**Facebook Page-** We have 370 likes!! We have 77 visits to the Facebook page with approximately 62% new visitors and 38% returning visitors. There were 225 independent page views.

**Operations-** Our Annual meeting was February 26<sup>th</sup>. We had 7 businesses participate in the Taste of Netcong.

The development of the pocketbook company continues. There will be a meeting March 25<sup>th</sup>. Quick Chek alerted the NCP that they are not planning to make any renovations to the property. He felt zoning non compliance issues should be revisited for enforcement.

**Public Safety:  
(Police, Fire, Rescue)**

**J. Sylvester**

**E. Koster**

For the Month of February, the Fire Company had 13 general alarms, 6 drills and four meetings. 54 firefighters volunteered 368.1 hours. He noted an award that one of the firefighters received. Shannon Fluke saved a life and received an award from the Morris county 200 club.

For the month of February, the Ambulance Corps reported total calls of 52 with two of the calls out of town. Total trips to the hospital were 34 for 34 patients. Total miles travelled were 896. Total hours volunteered were 165 hours and 22 minutes. There were 0 assists.

The Netcong Police Department reported 107 motor vehicle summons and 10 local ordinances. Two grants were received for \$4,000 and \$4,300. There have been some break ins to cars and houses. There have been some arrests with more expected in the future. Two police men were awarded meritorious awards from the 200 Club. Two other policemen were awarded valor awards. Councilman Sylvester provided the detailed reports.

**Dept. of Public  
Works & Utilities:**

**E. Koster**

**R. Hathaway**

Water Department:

Read water meters, Repaired a 4" water main break on Flanders Rd.

Road Department:

Installed new street signs and parking signs as needed on Love Lane and Stoll St.

Buildings & Grounds:

Cleared snow and ice from all borough owned sidewalks as needed. Painted the conference room at town hall. Changed vacuum breakers in 1 PD bathroom and 1 Town hall bathroom.

Snow and Ice Control:

Plowed and salted roads as necessary. Called in the plowing contractor during the storm of 2/8/13 for a total of 29.5 truck hours and a total cost of \$2,707.50. Borough employees worked 161 hours overtime during the month of February for snow and ice control. DPW used 150 tons of salt for snow and ice control during the month of February

Training:

(Olivo) attended a JIF Safety meeting with the borough administrator (all DPW employees) Trench Shoring Training (all DPW employees) Storm water Management (Tim Hess) Hands on Valves, Hydrants and service connections

Other:

Took the generators from JCP&L out of storage for return

**Recreation:**

**P. Butler**

**C. Laureys**

Councilwoman Butler reported the following:

**Spiderman Bus Trip** took place this past Saturday with 50 in attendance. The show was terrific and the aerials were just unbelievable. It was a fun filled day for all.

**The Snow Tubing trip**, which was scheduled for March 10th was cancelled due to lack of interest. We will look to schedule in the earlier winter months next year.

On Saturday March 23rd, the PTA and the Netcong Recreation will combine efforts for a **Town Wide Egg Hunt** taking place at the Netcong School. Event runs from 1:00-2:00 and will include, an Easter Egg Hunt, free pictures with the Easter Bunny, Cliffs Ice Cream, games and plenty of prizes.

**The Tri Town "Camp Lenape"** will be sending out registration flyers within the next few weeks (a lot earlier than last year) which will hopefully increase camp participation. Due to flooring projects during the summer months at Netcong, the entire 6 weeks of camp will be held at the Stanhope School. This camp provides a true learning experience for all attendees with each week having its own theme.

Each week includes swimming at Hackettstown Pool, classroom time, and a bus trip to a museum, park and even a Broadway Play. Flyers will be sent through the schools and will be available at Boro Hall. (Tri Town Camp contacts are: Netcong - Sharon Still/Todd Morton, Stanhope - Patricia Zdichocki, Byram - Janet Meisner)

**911 Memorial /Intrepid Sea, Air & Space Museum bus trip** has been scheduled for Saturday May 18th with bus leaving Netcong Train Station at 10:30 sharp. 911 Memorial will be first stop and then we will spend remaining part of the day at Intrepid. Tickets are \$45 per person. Lunch is on your own. Flyer will be distributed within the next week.

**"Save The Date"** flyers have been mailed to all past Holiday Parade Attendees, hoping that they join us again this year.

**Concerts** We are now booking concerts for the summer months

We are working on a **one time big event Cruise Night**. Date yet to be determined; estimating end of August

**Junk In the Trunk** We will be joining NCP's Farmers Market Opening Day event by sponsoring a Junk in the Trunk. This is a small scale Flea Market where people load their trunks with items no longer needed at home and drive to the Netcong Train Station. Each participant will pay a fee to participate, open their trunk, set up a table if they wish and sell away. Cars will be located toward the back end of the train station keeping all Farmers Market vendors in the front. Should we find this event successful we will look to host a few more during the summer.

## **Public Services:**

**C. Laureys**

**P. Butler**

### **Recycling & Solid Waste Disposal**

Councilwoman Laureys reported the following for February:

Days of Service: 16  
Miles: 840  
# of Stops: 72  
Nutrition: 38 (5 people)  
Food Shopping: 42 (19 people)  
# Meals on Wheels: 17  
Medical Appointments: 20  
Other Appointments: 35  
People Using Services: 51  
Cancels: 16  
Denials: 4  
Units: 299  
Hours: 90

Notes: 5 new seniors  
3 new disabled  
New bus gets rave reviews!!

### **OLD BUSINESS**

#### **1. Update on Staff Workload Assessment**

Ralph Blakeslee provided the Council reports and drafts of work flow for this ongoing assessment project.

#### **2. Property Maintenance Water Loss Investigation/Notification Ordinance**

Mr. Bucco stated that he is working on a draft which should be ready to be presented next month.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **1. Social Affair Permit – Growing Stage Theatre Gala Fundraiser Dinner**

A motion was made by Councilman Koster and seconded by Councilman Hathaway.

Roll Call: 5 Yes      Abstain: Councilman Sylvester

#### **2. Fireman's Association Membership Application**

A motion to approve the Application for Brian Norris was made by Councilman Koster and seconded by Councilman Sylvester.

Roll Call: 6 Yes

A motion to approve the Application for Matthew Bonnefond was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Sylvester.

Roll Call: 6 Yes

#### **3. Blue Vista Property for Sale – Sewer Connection Agreement**

The Mayor noted that approval was provided if the use was metered. Mr. Bucco, Borough Attorney provided an explanation of the Borough's rights regarding this property and sewer connection. The TWA transfers with the land. If there are major changes to the original plan by the new owner, it can be renegotiated at a future time.

### **PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR TO THE COUNCIL**

Council President Elmer Still wished to thank the Netcong police for their great performance while apprehending suspects of the robberies noted earlier. He also wanted to thank the DPW for great job plowing during recent storms.

### **MAYOR'S COMMENTS**

The Mayor asked the Council if they would agree to have the Morris County Freeholders come to the April 11, 2013 meeting to present the County budget. The Mayor stated this would be about 15 minutes. There were no objections from the Council.

The Mayor and Council noted the bridge opening and commented on what they saw regarding traffic. They expected some adjustments would be needed for the traffic lights.

Mr. Bucco discussed the JCPL rate case. He noted the Borough's right to intervene in the case. Mr. Bucco felt it would be prudent for all the counties to have a seat and voice in this case. He noted that there would be a meeting March 25<sup>th</sup> that should be attended.

## **RESOLUTIONS**

**Resolution 2013-32** – Authorizing POL/EP: Deductible Payment Plan with Morris County Joint Insurance Fund

A motion was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Hathaway.  
Roll Call: 6 Yes

**Resolution #2013- 35** – Consenting to the Appointment of Robert Colananni for Planning Board – Alternate #2

A motion was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Hathaway.  
Roll Call: 6 Yes

**Resolution #2013- 36** To Award Contract for Bond Council

This resolution will be carried to a future meeting.

**Resolution 2013- 37** To Amend Personnel Policy – Redefine Part Time Work Hours According to New Affordable Health Care Act.

A motion was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Hathaway.  
Roll Call: 6 Yes

**Resolution 2013-38** - To Amend Personnel Policy – Professional Development Policy

Councilman Hathaway recommended clarification regarding the stipend and when it is paid.

A motion was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Sylvester to approve the policy with the addition of "Stipends to be paid at the end of the calendar year with no pro-rating."

Roll Call: 6 Yes

**Resolution 2013-39** – To Oppose S2364/A3553 – Early Voting System

A motion was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Hathaway.



Roll Call: 6 Yes

**Resolution 2013-40 – Tax Identification Statement**

A motion was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Hathaway.

Roll Call: 6 Yes

**Resolution 2013-41 – Tax Overpayment Refund - Jiminez, 25 Amendola Dr.**

A motion was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Hathaway.

Roll Call: 6 Yes

For the record, Robert Colannani was sworn in as Planning Board Alternate by the Borough Clerk at 7:49 PM.

**ORDINANCE INTRODUCTIONS**

**Ordinance 2013-4 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE POLICE CHIEF TO EXECUTE AN APPLICATION FOR A CHARITABLE SOLICITATION PERMIT FOR AMERICAN LEGION AMBULANCE CORP OF STANHOPE/NETCONG'S "COIN DROP" ON JUNE 14<sup>TH</sup>, JUNE 15<sup>TH</sup> 2013 AND ON SEPTEMBER 6<sup>TH</sup> AND SEPTEMBER 7<sup>TH</sup>, 2013 AT THE INTERSECTIONS OF ALLEN STREET AND LEDGEWOOD AVENUE AND MAIN STREET AND ROUTE 46 IN THE BOROUGH OF NETCONG, COUNTY OF MORRIS, STATE OF NEW JERSEY.**

A Motion to Introduce Ordinance #2013-4 and Read by Title Only was made by Councilman Koster and seconded by Councilwoman Butler.

Roll Call: 6 Yes

A Motion to Pass Ordinance #2013-4 on First Reading was made by Councilman Hathaway and seconded by Councilman Sylvester.

Roll Call: 6 Yes

**Ordinance 2013-5 – ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND ESTABLISH A CAP BANK.**

A Motion to Introduce Ordinance #2013-5 and Read by Title Only was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Hathaway.

Roll Call: 6 Yes

A Motion to Pass Ordinance #2013-5 on First Reading was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Sylvester.

Roll Call: 6 Yes

**Ordinance 2013-6 – AN ORDINANCE FIXING THE SALARIES OF CERTAIN OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE BOROUGH OF NETCONG, IN THE COUNTY OF MORRIS, STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

A Motion to Introduce Ordinance #2013-6 and Read by Title Only by Councilwoman Laureys and seconded by Councilman Koster.  
Roll Call: 6 Yes

A Motion to Pass Ordinance #2013-6 on First Reading was made by Councilman Koster and seconded by Councilman Still.  
Roll Call: 6 Yes

**REPORTS**

A Motion to incorporate all reports into the minutes was made by Councilman Hathaway and seconded by Councilwoman Butler.  
Roll Call: 6 Yes

**BILLS**

A Motion to pay all bills when funds are available was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Sylvester.  
Roll Call: 6 Yes

**CLOSED SESSION**

There was no closed session at this meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT**

A Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Councilman Still at 8:56 PM and carried by unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Cynthia Eckert, Borough Clerk