

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF NETCONG HELD FEBRUARY 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, 2012.
2. Publishing a notice in The Daily Record, the official newspaper of the Borough of Netcong on January 11, 2012 and mailing a copy to The Star Ledger on January 6, 2012.

**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.

**MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

The Mayor asked if anyone from the audience would like to speak at this meeting.

Mr. Ben Dellamo wanted to praise the response of the Police department when calling in a 911 emergency. It was also noted that reverse 911 was ready and available in Netcong. The Council discussed use and applications for the reverse 911 system.

A Motion to close the meeting to the public was made by Councilman Sylvester. The motion was seconded by Councilman Still.  
Roll Call: 6 Yes.

### **ORDINANCE ADOPTIONS**

**Bond Ordinance #2013-1 - BOND ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF NETCONG, IN THE COUNTY OF MORRIS, NEW JERSEY, AMENDING IN ITS ENTIRETY BOND ORDINANCE NO. 2012-11 FINALLY ADOPTED MAY 10, 2012**

A Motion to Read by Title Only on Second Reading and a Hearing Held Thereon was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilwoman Butler.  
Roll Call: 6 Yes

The Mayor asked for questions or comments from the public. There were none.

A Motion to Close the Public Hearing was made by Councilman Sylvester and seconded by Councilwoman Butler.  
Roll Call: 6 Yes

A Motion to Adopt Ordinance #2013-1 was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilwoman Laureys.  
Roll Call: 6 Yes

**Ordinance #2013-2 - AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 54, POLICE DEPARTMENT, ARTICLE IV, FEES, SECTION 54-16, FEES, PARAGRAPH F, CONTRACTED POLICE SERVICES, SUBPARAGRAPH (3) OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF NETCONG, MORRIS COUNTY, NEW JERSEY**

A Motion to Read by Title Only on Second Reading and a Hearing Held Thereon was made by Councilman Sylvester and seconded by Councilman Hathaway.  
Roll Call: 6 Yes

The Mayor solicited comments from the public. There were none.

A Motion to Close the Public Hearing was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilwoman Butler.  
Roll Call: 6 Yes

A Motion to Adopt Ordinance #2013-2 was made by Councilman Sylvester and seconded by Councilman Hathaway.  
Roll Call: 6 Yes

**Ordinance #2013-3 - AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CHIEF OF POLICE TO EXECUTE AN APPLICATION FOR A CHARITABLE SOLICITATION PERMIT FOR NETCONG VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY NO. 1's "COIN DROP" ON MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND AT THE INTERSECTIONS OF ALLEN STREET AND LEDGEWOOD AVENUE AND MAIN STREET AND ROUTE 46 AND ROUTE 183 IN THE BOROUGH OF NETCONG, COUNTY OF MORRIS, STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

A Motion to Read by Title Only on Second Reading and a Hearing Held Thereon was made by Councilman Hathaway and seconded by Councilman Still.

Roll Call: 5 Yes Abstain: Councilman Koster

The Mayor opened the meeting to the public. There was no public comment.

A Motion to Close the Public Hearing was made by Councilman Sylvester and seconded by Councilman Hathaway.

Roll Call: 5 Yes Abstain: Councilman Koster

A Motion to Adopt Ordinance #2013-3 was made by Councilman Laureys and seconded by Councilman Hathaway.

Roll Call: 5 Yes Abstain: Councilman Koster

**CORRESPONDENCE**

1. Memo from Musconetcong Sewerage Authority – Proposed Amendment to the Sussex County Water Quality Management Plan.

Councilman Sylvester explained the amendment.

2. Memo from Robert Guerin - Review of Memo from Musconetcong Sewerage Authority.
3. Letter from Netcong Fire Department- Check Book

The Mayor explained the background for this financial change in use of Purchase Orders versus a check book. The Mayor stated this was the correct way to move forward.

**BOROUGH ADMINISTRATOR REPORT**

Mr. Blakeslee presented highlights from the following report. He also spoke of a meeting with JCPL.

1. **Public Works.** Many thanks to DPW for another great job

during the "Blizzard of 2013". DPW logged in over twenty two hours over the weekend keeping the roads cleared. The snow contractor was also called in to assist.

2. **Finance. 2013 Budget.** If you have questions regarding the draft budget distributed last week, please contact me.

*2012 Audit.* The auditors were in last week to conduct their review of the 2012 finances.

*JIF Elected Officials Training.* As you may recall each year, the Municipal Excess Liability Joint Insurance Fund (MEL) conducts seminars for Elected Officials to review employment practices, liability and workers' compensation matters. Typically the seminar is held at the annual New Jersey State League of Municipalities Conference.

Since the League's convention was cancelled this year, the MEL is making this course available on-line. In order to earn the attendance credit, the course must be completed no later than May 31, 2013.

The MEL will reduce the Borough's 2013 workers' compensation claims fund assessment by \$250 (capped at 25% of the claims fund) for each elected official who completes the course by May 31, 2013. The credit is also extended to the member's.

3. **Dial-A-Ride Shuttle Bus.** The Borough has forwarded to Wolfington Body Inc. the power of attorney, insurance information and purchase order.

Delivery has received the paperwork from the Borough Attorney. The order has been placed with the factory and the Borough's bus will be built at the same time as Madison Borough's is being built. I have been informed that this will expedite the process. I hope to get a delivery date shortly.

4. **Community Development Block Grant Application.** I will be attending the CDRS luncheon meeting on February 14th in Morristown.

5. **Firehouse No. 1 Renovations.** Bid specifications are nearly complete. Once Mr. Fox's office releases the specifications I will have the Borough Attorney's office review the documents.

6. **Water Reservoir Repairs.** As you may know, both the Finance Committee and the Public Works Committee have been discussing repairs to the Borough water reservoir tank off of Mountain Road. Bob Guerin has been working with Richard Kreppel of Genesis Engineering, LLC who has submitted the attached proposal. Mr. Kreppel's proposal covers preliminary inspection, design, bidding consultation and award recommendation, along with construction support services at a compensation of \$19,600.

I have been advised by Jason that the funding can be considered preliminary construction expenses and taken from the Water Utility Capital Budget. I will discuss this further with him prior to next month's meeting. I would also like to meet with the Public Works Committee, Bob Guerin and Bob Olivo to review Mr. Kreppel's proposal further.

7. **Municipal Building. Duct Cleaning.** A review of the Borough records indicated that it has been some time since the duct work in the municipal building has been cleaned. Bob Olivo has been working on obtaining quotes for performing the work. At this point he has had only one responsive

contractor, SERVPRO has submitted a quote of \$2,990. Bob and I will be reviewing the quote and working on finding some other contractors for additional quotes and make a recommendation next month.

*Computer Network Wiring.* During a recent service call by our IT Vendor it was brought to my attention that much of the computer network wiring is at least two generations old and needs to be replaced. I have asked one of the local electricians to provide the Borough with a quote for pulling new cables.

**8. Prospect Street- Phase II.** Bob Guerin has reported that NJDOT has finished their review of the plans and the Borough is approved to go out to bid. You will recall that the project runs from Allen Street to Stoll Street and includes milling the existing pavement and resurfacing. There are also areas of the street that require cutting out and replacing full depth pavement. Also included is some limited sidewalk replacement.

This project also calls for the new red background street signs with the white lettering, which Bob Guerin and Bob Olivo and I have been discussing. There are several different street sign designs throughout the residential sections of the Borough, some which are in pretty bad shape. Since red is one of Netcong "official" colors a red street sign with white lettering would stand out. Bob Guerin has also located a source for smooth round black posts for the street signs so there will be the new street signs at Allen Street, Allen Terrace, College Road, Hillside Road, Carmine Drive and Stoll Street.

**9. Natural Gas Bulk Purchase.** You will recall that the Borough is a participating member of the New Jersey Sustainable Energy meeting (NJSEM) since its conception. The organization facilitates the bulk purchase of natural gas and electricity for 186 municipalities in New Jersey. Please see the attached press release and natural gas bid summary bulk purchase. No action by the Borough is needed at this time.

**10. Rt. 183/Circle Project.** The bridge over NJ Transit is expected to be open by the second week in March.

**11. Bond Attorney RFP.** A request for proposals will be issued by the end of the week.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Finance & Insurance:                      E. Still                      J. Sylvester

Councilman Still reported the following and noted the preliminary budget was delivered for review and questions.

In the month of **January** the Borough had total income in the amount of \$575,898.84 as compared to the previous year of \$469,061.50.

### Year to Date:

Miscellaneous Revenue Not Anticipated (MRNA)  
\$2,914.60 in 2012 vs. \$1,167.30 in 2013

*A decrease of \$1,747.30, due to a drop in Planning Board and Miscellaneous fees.*

Other Licenses:

\$29,436.54 in 2012 vs. \$18,346.60 in 2013

*A decrease of \$11,089.94, due to a drop in Rental Registration fees (\$7,875). Note that 2012 Rental Registration collected in January of that year were actually due in 2011.*

State Aid

\$0/\$0

*State aid has not been set for 2013.*

Grants in Aid

\$0/\$0

*No grants have yet to be received in 2013.*

Taxes Collected

\$436,510.36 in 2012 vs. \$575,989.84 in 2013.

*An increase of \$119,869.58, due to an increase in current year taxes collected and interest and costs on taxes.*

Income Total Year to Date:

\$469,061.50 in 2012 vs. \$556,379.94 in 2013.

*An increase in total income of \$106,837.34 over last year.*

Economic Development: R. Hathaway E. Still

Councilman Hathaway reported that an escrow deposit was collected for the Pocketbook Factory. He also distributed the following NCP meeting minutes:

Netcong Community Partnership-January Monthly Report

- **Media Relations** - One feature story on local businesses, in the local newspaper's about services in Netcong.
- **Website**- Continue to improve and enhance the website. We posted four business spotlights for Aquino Studios, Valon Productions, Netcong Florist, and Delicious Bagels
- **Sign Grants**- We have had two applications for sign grants approved and one paid out and installed.
- **Facebook Page**- We have 365 likes!! We have 120 visits to the Facebook page with nearly 60% of those new people!

- **Operations**- We have finalized our Annual meeting and have noticed the stakeholders. It will be February 26th starting at 6:00pm for a Taste of Netcong followed by the open meeting at 7:00 pm.
- **Media Relations** - A feature story on local businesses in the local newspapers about services in Netcong.

Public Safety: J. Sylvester E. Koster  
(Police, Fire, Rescue)

For the month of January, Councilman Sylvester reported a total of 54 calls for the ambulance corps, with one call out of town. There were 30 trips to the hospital. The miles travelled were 781 and the hours volunteered were 179 hours and 58 minutes.

The Netcong Police department reported 165 motor vehicle summons. There were also 28 local summons issued. A grant was received from the safe corridors fund. The Municipal court revenues for this month were \$6239.14.

The Netcong Fire department had one general alarm, one silent alarm, one mutual aid out of town and 3 RIC calls. There were 3 drills and 5 meetings. 57 firefighters volunteered 406 hours.

The Circle situation was briefly discussed at this time.

Dept. of Public Works & Utilities: E. Koster R. Hathaway

For the month of January, Councilman Koster reported the following:

Water Department: Made roof repairs at well #2 caused by damage from super storm Sandy---Turned the water service back on at Wiltop Rd. as requested--- Located several abandoned homes that had broken water lines inside due to frozen pipes and shut the services to all, the borough lost 273,000 gallons of water during the search

Road Department: Cleaned heavy leaves from the roads as needed---Patched pot holes as needed---Repaired 2 collapsed catch basins on Stoll St.

Buildings & Grounds: Shoveled snow from all borough properties as needed--- Removed the old fence and weeds from Indians Field---Took down all Christmas decorations throughout the town

Recycling: Collected 34 loads of Christmas trees (191 trees) and 2 loads of leaves from the residents

Snow and Ice Control: Used 63 tons of salt for snow and ice control in January--- DPW Employees worked a total of 40.5 hours overtime for snow and ice control in January---Called in the plowing contractor for assistance on 11/16/13 for a total of 4.75 truck hours at a total cost of \$446.25

Training: (Olivo) NJ DEP Schedule 1 and 2 sampling--- (Canfield) Well and Aquifer Testing---Storm water training for all DPW employees---  
Other: Changed the oil in 2 police vehicles---Replaced a bad brake line on the senior van

Councilman Koster asked Mr. Olivo about catch basin maintenance.

Recreation: P. Butler C. Laureys

The recreation committee discussed the upcoming events including snow tubing and an Easter egg hunt. Also planned is a trip to the Intrepid and 9-11 memorial. The concerts are being booked. There will be a "kids in the Park" night. They are working with the police department on the DARE program.

Public Services: C. Laureys P. Butler  
Recycling & Solid  
Waste Disposal)

For the month of January, 2013, Councilwoman Laureys reported the following:

Days of Service: 21

Miles: 1162

Number of Stops: 88

Nutrition: 5 People - 39.

Food Shopping: 15 people – 49

# of Meals on Wheels: 16

Medical Appointments: 10

Other Appointments: 47

People Using Services: 40

Cancels: 38

Denials: 3

Units: 300

Hours: 112.25

Additional Notes: the bus was out for repairs for 1.75 days

### **OLD BUSINESS**

1. Update Staff Workload Assessment

The Mayor noted that this was in progress and would be carried to the next meeting.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

1. Property Maintenance Water Loss Investigation/Notification Ordinance.  
Move to next meeting

The Council discussed the procedure to collect financial recovery for the water loss suffered during the winter.

2. 2013 Draft Budget

The Mayor noted that this was discussed during the meeting and advised all to review the budget.

3. Authorization to Go Out to Bid for Prospect St. Phase II.

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

Roll Call: 6 Yes

**PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR TO THE COUNCIL**

Councilman Koster noted he was pleased with the sidewalk.

Councilman Hathaway wanted to praise the road department for how they handled the snow removal.

**MAYOR'S COMMENTS**

The Mayor mentioned that Mr. Blakeslee is wrapping up the presentation that they will be giving in March. This will be for funding of the Fire Company Elevator.

**RESOLUTIONS**

1. **Resolution #2013-24** – To Redeem Tax Sale Certificate # 12-00009

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

Roll Call: 6 Yes

2. **Resolution 2013-28** – To Support the Expansion of New Jersey's Medicaid Program

This topic was open for discussion by the Council.

This resolution was carried to the March meeting.

3. **Resolution 2013-29** – To Redeem Tax Sale Certificate #12-00002

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

Roll Call: 6 Yes

**ORDINANCE INTRODUCTIONS**

No ordinances were introduced.

**REPORTS**

A Motion to incorporate all reports into the minutes was made by Councilman Sylvester and seconded by Councilman Hathaway.

Roll Call: 6 Yes

**BILLS**

A Motion to pay all bills when funds are available was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Hathaway.

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 and carried by unanimous voice vote at 8:40 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

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Cynthia Eckert, Borough Clerk