

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF NETCONG HELD DECEMBER 11, 2014 AT THE NETCONG MUNICIPAL BUILDING, 23 MAPLE AVENUE, NETCONG, NEW JERSEY COMMENCING AT 7:30 P.M.

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

STATEMENT OF OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT

The Borough Clerk read the following statement:

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 Borough Hall on January 10, 2014.
2. Publishing a notice in the Daily Record, the official newspaper of the Borough of Netcong on January 15, 2014 and mailing a copy to The Star Ledger on January 10, 2014.

ROLL CALL

Those in attendance were Councilwoman Butler, Councilman Hathaway, Councilman Koster, Councilman Laureys, Councilman Still, Councilman Sylvester and Mayor Nametko. Also present was Mr. Blakeslee, Borough Administrator and Mrs. Eckert, Borough Clerk.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

No minutes were presented at this meeting.

PUBLIC PORTION OF MEETING

Mr. Charles Cedro of 8 Allen St., Netcong: Mr. Cedro asked to find out about the meeting that took place with the Borough, the Department of Transportation and the DEP. He was told it was pretty amusing.

The Mayor stated that he felt the Parks Division of the DEP were prepared but the rest were not. The Department of Transportation brought their engineer and some assistants but he felt they provided very little to the meeting. The Mayor stated he heard a lot of the same comments. The DOT did not take the whole watershed affected into consideration. The Parks Department wanted to know why. Netcong just wants the flowing water problem to be fixed. He pointed out a pipe that goes under the New Jersey Transit train tracks. The Mayor was

disappointed that there was no representation from New Jersey Transit. There was also some discussion about the swirl chamber.

Mr. Bucco, Borough Attorney, stated that progress is being made. He felt there was a correction to the swirl chamber detailed at this meeting. They also discovered that there should have been a bypass made for smaller storms. He felt that there was realization that the detention basin built should have been bigger and does need to be cleaned out. There was also discussion of getting New Jersey Transit's approval to block a particular manhole cover. Mr. Bucco also felt that the photos taken by the Mayor and Netcong provided proof to the audience that a problem exists.

Both Mr. Bucco and the Mayor are going to be sending out formal letters to the attendees reminding them of the commitments for action made at the meeting.

A motion to close the meeting to the public was made by Councilman Hathaway and seconded by Councilman Still.

Roll Call: 6 Yes

ORDINANCE ADOPTIONS

1. **Ordinance 2014-13 – AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 75, SPECIAL IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT, BY REVISING THE EXISTING TIER SYSTEM AND ESTABLISHING A NEW ASSESSMENT RATE IN SCHEDULE A AND AMENDING SECTION 75-5, DISTRICT MANAGEMENT CORPORATION OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF NETCONG, COUNTY OF MORRIS AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

A Motion to Read Ordinance 2014-13 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 up to the public for discussion on this ordinance. No one from the audience stepped forward.

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

Roll Call: 5 Yes Abstain: Councilman Koster

Councilman Laureys expressed that he was not in agreement with the new procedure for picking SID trustees. He feels this is taxation without representation.

Before the roll call for approval Mr. Bucco provided a brief explanation on how the SID should proceed with appointing Trustees at their December meeting.

A Motion to Adopt Ordinance #2014-13 was made by Councilman Hathaway and seconded By Councilman Still.

Roll Call: 4 Yes No: Councilman Laureys Abstain: Councilman Koster

CORRESPONDENCE

No correspondence was presented at this meeting.

BOROUGH ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

Mr. Blakeslee added 3 additions to his report:

1. Community Block Grant for water main/ paving on Railroad Ave. Mr. Blakeslee discussed this with the Borough Engineer. The Mayor asked Mr. Blakeslee specifics about the locations of the water mains.
2. A Draft letter to DOT was discussed.
3. A memo has been distributed for new password and email policy

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance & Insurance:

E. Still

J. Sylvester

In the month of November the Borough had total income in the amount \$1,231,664, 94 as compared to the previous year of \$ 1,020,969.29

For the month of November:

Miscellaneous Revenue Not Anticipated (MRNA)

\$937.50 in 2014 vs. \$855.20 in 2013

Other Licenses/Borough Clerks Fees:

\$11,818.87 in 2014 vs. \$5,656.12 in 2013

State Aid

\$43,730.30 in 2014 vs. \$53,709.47 in 2013

The Borough has not received its full amount of Supplemental Energy Receipts or Senior Citizens and Veterans Reimbursement from the state.

Grants in Aid

\$3,199.30 in 2014 vs. \$4,000.00 in 2013

The Borough received its annual Fire Safety grant in November.

Taxes Collected

\$1,171,978.97 collected in 2014 vs. \$956,748.50 collected in 2013

Income Total Year to Date:

To date \$8,509,044.56 vs. \$8,398,789.06 in 2013.

Economic Development: R. Hathaway E. Still

Councilman Hathaway reported the following:

1. There was a meeting with Crown Point (Transit Village) – they are working with the owners of Quirk to purchase and develop that property.
2. Pocketbook Factory- the only road block to finishing the developer's agreement is the resolution which is on the agenda this evening for the tax appeal settlement.
3. Quick Chek – there has been a resolution on the ramp issue.

The Mayor mentioned concern about the water and sewer allocations with these larger projects. He would like a recommendation from the Borough Engineer. He wanted to know if the Railroad Ave. project has been considered.

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

Councilman Sylvester reported that for the month of November, the Ambulance Corps had 56 total calls; none of the calls were out of town. They treated a total of 36 patients and made 36 trips to the hospital. The miles traveled was 824 miles and the hours volunteered were 224 hours and 30 minutes.

The Netcong Fire Department had 14 general alarms 2 of which were out of town. There were 6 meetings, 8 Special Details and 6 drills. There were 2 firefighters in the Academy. A total of 73 fire fighters served a total of 1003 hours.

The Borough Police answered a total of 391 calls. They wrote a total of 95 motor vehicle summonses. There were also 29 local ordinances summonses, mostly for overnight parking.

Mr. Sylvester thanked the Police Department for all their help with the Holiday Parade.

Dept. of Public
Works & Utilities:

E. Koster

R. Hathaway

D.P.W. Monthly Report November 2014:

Road Department: Continued cleaning heavy leaf areas from sides of roads. Helped with the traffic cone set up for mock evacuation at Netcong School. Performed vehicle service on the Administrators car.

Water Department: Performed the fall scheduled hydrant flushing. Finished the November water meter readings. Produced monthly water reports. Assisted in the repair of a water break at 100B Stoll St. and repaired a non working valve to that property.

Buildings & Grounds: Serviced oil burners at Well House #1 and Firehouse #2. Repaired leaking toilet in ladies room at Borough Hall.

Recycling: Picked up 82 loads of leaves and grass. Picked up 14 loads of brush. Picked up 5 tires from Tri County Towing.

Snow: Plowed and salted roadways and parking lots during snow storm on 11-26-14 into 11-27-14.

Other: Mike Canfield attended the League of Municipalities Convention and received credits for his C.P.W.M license. Tom Mendel attended a class for Recycling Coordinator licensing.

Mr. Still thanked DPW for the great job they are doing and all they did with preparation for Holiday Parade.

Recreation:

P. Butler

T. Laureys

Councilwoman Butler reported the following:

1. The Holiday Parade was a great success with 30 attendees. The committee wanted to thank all the volunteers who helped with the success of this parade.
2. Mrs. Butler stated she was very proud of our Fire Department and all they do for the town.
3. The Holiday House Decorating Contest judging will be Dec. 20th.
4. The Rec. Commission is already working on the 2015 calendar; there will be additional bus trips
5. Dec. 13th will be a bus trip to NYC - \$20.00 per person. Seats are still available.

Public Services:
(Human Services
Recycling & Solid
Waste Disposal)

T. Laureys

P. Butler

Councilman Laureys reported the following for the month of November:

Days of service: 17
Miles: 796
Number of stops: 74
Nutrition for 9 people: 45
Food shopping 25 people: 8
Number of Meals on Wheels: 6
Medical Appointments: 15
Other Appointments: 48
People Using Services: 45
Cancels: 18
Denials: 5
Units: 343
Hours: 83.75
Additional Notes: 1 new senior

OLD BUSINESS

1. Tax Appeal – Wilensky- Flanders 46, LLC - 2 Flanders Rd.

There were no questions or comments from the Council regarding this item.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Appointment of Matthew Elms as a Firefighter for Fire Co. No. 1.

Mr. Bucco asked about background checks for the junior firefighters. It was discussed that Mr. Boylan was checked but Mr. Holmes was not complete. This was moved to the January meeting.

2. Appointment of Kyle Boylan as a Firefighter for Fire Co. No. 2.

This was also carried to the January meeting.

3. 2015 Community Development Block Grant Application

A Motion Was Made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Hathaway to approve the Community Development Block Grant application.
Roll Call: 6 Yes

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR TO THE COUNCIL

Councilman Sylvester: He is glad the DOT is finally replacing the trees at the at the old circle site.

Councilman Hathaway: The DPW Superintendent has made a request for a capital improvement to replace or repair the old salt shed. Councilman Hathaway would like everyone to know he feels this is a necessity. The shed is in very bad condition. Since the DPW is storing new equipment in it, it would be prudent to replace or repair it. Councilman Hathaway would also like to acknowledge all the work the DPW did in preparing for the Holiday Parade on top of completing all their regular tasks.

Councilman Koster: He is not happy with the way the Fire Co. #1 Firehouse elevator project is going. The contractor has not been cooperative. Mr. Bucco recommends a meeting with the contractor and architect so it can be brought to their attention that the Borough did not design or build this elevator and they need to fix the project or they could be facing a possible law suit. Mr. Koster states Mr. Blakeslee has been on top of this and has had to take matters into his own hands to move the project along. Mr. Blakeslee says he has now been contacting the contractor directly instead of going through the architect. Mr. Still states we need to have a Clerk of the Works for all of our projects. The Mayor stated that this is an embarrassment and we need to take action.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS

The Mayor thanks the Police Department, DPW and Recreation Commission for all the work they did for the Holiday Parade. He wants to especially thank the Rec. Commission. They spend the entire year preparing and organizing this event.

RESOLUTIONS

- 1. Resolution #2014 –113** - A Resolution Authorizing the Award of a Contract to Computer Systems and Methods for the Purchase and Installation of a Security Camera and Related Equipment to be Installed at the Municipal Building
- 2. Resolution #2014 – 114** -Resolution Authorizing Settlement of the 2012 and 2013 Tax Appeals Entitled Arie Wilensky and Flanders 46, LLC, Involving Block 19, Lot 14, Located at 2 Flanders Road
- 3. Resolution #2014 – 115** –To Redeem Tax Sale Certificate 12-00008

4. Resolution #2014 – 116 -To Redeem Tax Sale Certificate 13-00001

The 4 resolutions were voted together in a block:
Councilman Sylvester made a motion to approve the above mentioned resolutions and Councilman Still seconded the motion.
Roll Call: 6 Yes

ORDINANCE INTRODUCTIONS

No ordinances were presented at this meeting.

REPORTS

A Motion to Incorporate All Reports into the Minutes was made by Councilwoman Butler 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 at 8:37 PM by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Hathaway. The motion was carried by unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cynthia Eckert, Borough Clerk