

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF NETCONG HELD MARCH 12, 2015 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 2, 2015.
2. Publishing a notice in the Daily Record, the official newspaper of the Borough of Netcong on January 7, 2015 and mailing a copy to The Star Ledger on January 2, 2015.

ROLL CALL

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

Auditor Valerie Dolan –To Address Council

- 2015 Budget
- 2014 Audit

Mrs. Dolan provided the details of the 2015 Budget and 2014 audit. Items noted were several fully funded capital ordinances that may merit cancellation, the purchase order approval process and the decline in dog licenses (animal control funding.) Mr. Blakeslee provided additional information regarding what research the staff had completed regarding the licensing. He also discussed alternative approval processes.

Councilman Still thanked Mrs. Dolan and all others involved with the budget for a good job.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Agenda Meeting – February 5, 2015
- Regular Meeting – February 12, 2015

A Motion to Approve the Above Listed Minutes, as corrected (Feb 12th page 3, requested by Councilman Hathaway) was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Sylvester.

Roll Call: 6 Yes

PUBLIC PORTION OF MEETING

The Mayor opened the meeting to the public for comment.

- Charles Cedro – 6 Allen St. – He thanked Mike Canfield, DPW Superintendent and Ralph Blakeslee, Borough Administrator for their quick response opening the drain by his house during the last storm.

Mr. Cedro also requested an update on the drainage issues. The Mayor, Councilman Hathaway and Mr. Bucco provided Mr. Cedro with a brief update. Councilman Hathaway and Mr. Bucco had a discussion regarding ice and the drainage system. Councilman Hathaway discussed plans for the meeting that was taking place on March 31st. Mayor Nametko requested that Cindy Randazzo from DEP also attend this meeting.

- Ray Sylvester – 129 Ledgewood Ave. – Mr. Sylvester requested an update on the Pilot truck stop situation. He explained the heavy truck traffic continues to pass his house on a daily basis. Mayor Nametko explained that the Borough has had multiple meetings with Roxbury officials and have been unable to come to a resolution on this matter. Discussion continued regarding the history of this problem.
- Kerry Santalucia – 11 Dell Ave. – She was interested in some suggestions from the Mayor and Council to resolve the financial issues affecting the Netcong Elementary School. The Mayor and Council explained to her that the school is a separate entity and there is not much the Borough Council can do. There was a lengthy discussion by the Council Members regarding the school.

During this discussion, Councilman Laureys offered to monitor future meetings in order to properly prepare for the following year's budget. The motion was made by Councilwoman Butler and 2nd by Councilman Hathaway to approve this function.

Roll Call: 6 Yes

- Kathy Renegar – 29 Dell Ave. – Mrs. Renegar was also concerned with the school budget issues. There was lengthy discussion regarding School Board

meetings and executive session procedure. She would like the Mayor and Council to write a letter to the school in regard to closed session procedures. Mr. Bucco, Borough Attorney will draft a letter.

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

Roll Call: 6 Yes

INTRODUCTION OF THE 2015 BUDGET

Resolution #2015- 35 - TO INTRODUCE THE 2015 BUDGET

The Mayor commented that he felt everything went smoothly regarding this year's budget.

A motion to introduce the 2015 budget was mad by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Sylvester.

Roll Call: 6 Yes

ORDINANCE ADOPTIONS

- 1. Bond Ordinance 2015-2** – Bond Ordinance to Authorize the Undertaking of the Church Street Water Main Replacement Project In, By and For the Water Utility of the Borough of Netcong, in the County of Morris, State of New Jersey, to Appropriate the Sum of \$350,000.00 to Pay the cost Thereof, to Appropriate State and Federal Grants, to Authorize the Issuance of Bonds to Finance Such Appropriation Notes in Anticipation of the Issuance of Such Bonds

A Motion to Read Bond Ordinance 2015-2 by Title Only on Second Reading and a Hearing Held Thereon was made by Councilman Hathaway and seconded by Councilman Still.

Roll Call: 6 Yes

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

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

Roll Call: 6 Yes

A Motion to Adopt Bond Ordinance #2015-2 was made by Councilman Sylvester and seconded by Councilman Still.

Roll Call: 6 Yes

2. **Ordinance 2015-3** – 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 5TH, JUNE 6TH 2015 AND ON SEPTEMBER 11TH, AND SEPTEMBER 12TH, 2015 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 Read Ordinance 2015-3 by Title Only on Second Reading and a Hearing Held Thereon was made by Councilwoman Butler and seconded by Councilman Sylvester.

Roll Call: 6 Yes

The Mayor opened for public comment.

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

Roll Call: 6 Yes.

A Motion to Adopt Ordinance #2015-3 was made by Councilman Sylvester and seconded by Councilwoman Butler.

Roll Call: 6 Yes

CORRESPONDENCE

1. NJDOT – Way Finding Signs

Mr. Blakeslee reported that he was able to obtain a grant for way finding signs. He purchased the signs. But when the town wanted to put them up they were told by the NJDOT they were not regulation signs. All were a bit confused by this.

2. Netcong Planning Board – Resolution 2015-3 – 2014 Variance Report

The Mayor noted that no variances were granted.

3. Netcong Planning Board - Resolution 2015-5 – Reviewing Capital Improvements Described in Bond Ordinance 2015-2 for Master Plan Consistency and Comments

The Mayor provided an overview of this resolution.

4. Musconetcong American Legion Post 278 – Request to conduct Memorial Day Parade on May 25, 2015

A motion to approve the request was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Koster.
Roll Call: 6 Yes

5. County of Morris – Community Block Grant Compliance Letter

The Mayor reported that this meeting went well.

BOROUGH ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

Mr. Blakeslee wished to highlight:

1. USDA planning on egg addling in April and goose culling in June. The only areas that will be completed are those within the Borough's control.
2. Bob Guerin, Borough Engineer's plans for Church St. has been given to the Public Works Committee.
3. The State will be paving Routes 206 and 183 from Chester to Stanhope. Replacing curbing will begin next week. Project should be done by October 2015.
4. Prospect St. Pot holes were discussed as well as other issues related to potholes in the Netcong area. There was some brief discussion regarding the snow ordinance.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance & Insurance: E. Still J. Sylvester

In the month of February the Borough had total income in the amount \$1,280,142.38 as compared to the previous year of \$1,380,851.03

For the month of February 2015:

Miscellaneous Revenue Not Anticipated (MRNA)

In 2015 the Borough received \$770.70 vs. \$779.95 in 2014

Other Licenses/Borough Clerks Fees:

In 2015 the Borough received \$6,918.04 vs. \$6,409.60 in 2014

State Aid

In 2015 the Borough received \$0.00 vs. \$0.00 in 2014

Grants in Aid

In 2015 the Borough received \$0.00 vs. \$7,038.34 in 2014

Taxes Collected

In 2015 the Borough collected \$1,272,453.64 vs. \$1,366,623.14 in 2014

Income Total Year to Date:

2015's total revenue is \$1,968,488.45 vs. \$1,923,547.41 in 2014

Economic Development: R. Hathaway E. Still

Councilman Hathaway briefly addressed the following:

- A new antique business on Main Street.
- Transit has gone through the first step of the process of excising their property so it can be available to a developer. There will be a meeting to discuss the language in their RFP.
- Crown Point will be attending the April meeting. The LOI will be completed by then.
- The pocketbook factory was briefly mentioned
- There will be a meeting on the 31st which was mentioned earlier this evening.
- NCP Report as follows:

On February 26th the Netcong Community Partnership held its Annual Meeting and reorganized the leadership team with the following officers: Stephen Fredericks as President; Maria Patamia as Vice President; Kathy Robbins as Treasurer; and Leigh Ann Von Hagen as Secretary. Frank Koval, Dr. Ginter, and Vic Pocarobba fill out the remaining Trustee positions along with Mayor Nametko and Councilman Hathaway's continued representation of the Borough of Netcong. The attached budget was approved by the NCP as well and is before you now for final approval. Our original Annual Meeting date in January was delayed due to weather.

On Friday, March 13th the newly formed Executive Committee will be holding its first meeting at which point we will be addressing the following issues:

- Retention of a new accounting firm.
- Retention of the administrative/bookkeeper position.
- Clarification regarding the responsibilities to the position of Executive Director.
- Re-organization of our committee structure to engage more members of the business and local community.
- Status report on the ongoing IRS negotiations.

Further clarification on the budget will be provided to the Council when the positions listed are filled, but will not exceed the budgetary limits set by the NCP.

Road Department: Registered and installed new plates on the new Mason Dump truck ...Removed snow from various locations around town....Removed snow from the front of Netcong School ... Replaced broken stop sign at Allen Terrace and Ledgewood Ave ... Performed a complete service of the Terex backhoe and the Senior van...Replaced brakes and u joint on the 2002 pickup truck . Scheduled road sweeping with Roxbury for the first week in May...

Water Department: Performed February water meter readings.. Replaced leaking chlorine line at #1 well house ... Performed monthly water sampling...

Sewer Department: Made sewer clean out repair at 28 Hillside Ave ...

Buildings & Grounds: Installed remote access keypad for garage door at # 1 F.H.... Installed new thermostat at #1 well house ...Removed low hanging icicles and snow slides from Borough Hall, Firehouse #2 and DPW garage...

Recycling: Installed contamination covers on two single stream containers at the recycle center ... Performed annual tonnage reports

Snow: Performed clean up of roads and sidewalks from snow and ice events on February, 2nd, 3rd, 5th, 9th, 10th, 14th, 15th, 17th, 21st and 22nd. Used 141 tons of salt for deicing of roadways...

Other: Tom Mendel attended Recycling Coordinator classes...Tim Hess and Joe Fiorello attended a NJ One Call class at the Morris County Fire Academy ...

Recreation: P. Butler T. Laureys

In the essence of time constraints, no report was presented at this meeting.

Public Services: T. Laureys P. Butler
(Human Services
Recycling & Solid
Waste Disposal)

Councilman Laureys reported the following for the month of February:

Days of service: 17
Miles: 856
Number of stops: 74
Nutrition for 5 people: 21
Food shopping 21 people: 52

Number of Meals on Wheels: 14
Medical Appointments: 13
Other Appointments: 58
People Using Services: 44
Cancels: 32
Denials: 3
Units: 297
Hours: 86.5

OLD BUSINESS

1. Emergency Communication Policy

Mr. Blakeslee noted that a resolution will be presented at the next meeting. Councilman Sylvester and Mr. Blakeslee discussed the procedure for where this information would be posted. Other members of the board provided their thoughts.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Social Affairs Permit – Netcong Fire Department – Anniversary Celebration

A motion was made by Councilman Hathaway and seconded by Councilwoman Butler to approve the appointment.

Roll Call: 3 Yes Abstain: Councilmen Koster, Still, Sylvester

2. Social Affairs Permit – Netcong Columbus Club – St. Patrick’s Day Party

A motion was made by Councilman Hathaway and seconded by Councilwoman Butler to approve the appointment.

Roll Call: 5 Yes Abstain: Councilman Sylvester

3. Appointment of James Compano as a Firefighter for Fire Co. No. 1

A motion was made by Councilman Hathaway and seconded by Councilwoman Butler to approve the appointment.

Roll Call: 5 Yes Abstain: Councilman Koster

4. Appointment of Sean Moros as a Junior Firefighter for Fire Co. No. 1

A motion was made by Councilman Hathaway and seconded by Councilwoman Butler to approve the appointment.

Roll Call: 5 Yes Abstain: Councilman Koster

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR TO THE COUNCIL

The Council President had nothing to report at this time.

Councilman Hathaway asked if the Council could provide some clarification on sidewalk clearing to Mike Canfield and the DPW. There is brief discussion among the Council and the Borough Attorney. Discussion also included how to set priority for the sidewalks to be cleaned.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS

The Mayor had no comments at this time.

RESOLUTIONS

1. **Resolution #2015 – 36** – Approval of Self-Examination of Budget
2. **Resolution #2015 – 37** – To Authorize Submission for the Netcong Municipal Alliance Grant for Fiscal Year 2016
3. **Resolution #2015 – 38** – A Resolution Authorizing the Conveyance of an Easement and Right of Way Agreement to New Jersey Natural Gas Company for the Installation and Maintenance of a Natural Gas Pipeline Along Terrace Street in the Borough of Netcong

A motion to approve resolutions 2015-36 and 2015-38 was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Sylvester
Roll Call: 6 Yes

A motion to approve resolutions 2015-37 was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Sylvester.
Roll Call: 5 Yes No: Councilman Laureys

ORDINANCE INTRODUCTIONS

1. **Ordinance 2015-4** - An Ordinance to Exceed the Municipal Budget Appropriation Limits and to Establish a Cap Bank

A Motion to Introduce Ordinance #2015-4 and Read by Title Only was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Sylvester.
Roll Call: 6 Yes

A Motion to Pass Ordinance #2015-4 on First Reading was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilwoman Butler.
Roll Call: 6 Yes

REPORTS

A Motion to Incorporate All Reports into the Minutes was made by Councilwoman Butler and seconded by Councilman Still.
Roll Call: 6 Yes

BILLS

A Motion to Pay All Bills When Funds are Available was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilwoman Butler.
Roll Call: 6 Yes

CLOSED SESSION

WHEREAS, Section 8 of the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231 P.L. 1975, permits the exclusion of the public from a meeting in certain circumstances; and

WHEREAS, this public body is of the opinion that such circumstances presently exist.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Borough Council of the Borough of Netcong, County of Morris, State of New Jersey, as follows:

1. The public shall be excluded from discussion of an action upon the specified subject matter.
2. The general nature of the subject matter to be discussed is as follows:
 - **Contract Negotiations – Flanders 46 LLC**
3. It is anticipated that the minutes on the subject matters of the closed session will be made public upon conclusion, dismissal or settlement of litigation; or final resolution of agreements on personnel matters; and in any event, when appropriate pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4-7 and 4-13.
4. The Council will come back into open session and may take further action.

A motion to go into closed session was made by Councilwoman Butler and seconded by Councilman Hathaway.
Roll Call: 6 Yes

A motion to come out of closed session was made at 10:33PM by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Sylvester.
Roll Call: 6 Yes

ADJOURNMENT

A Motion to Adjourn the Meeting was made at 10:33 PM by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Hathaway. The motion was carried by unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cynthia Eckert, Borough Clerk.