

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF NETCONG HELD JUNE 11, 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 7:29 PM

**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 Laureys, Councilman Still, Councilman Sylvester and Mayor Nametko. Also present were Mr. Blakeslee, Borough Administrator and Mrs. Eckert, Borough Clerk.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

No minutes were presented at this meeting.

**PUBLIC PORTION OF MEETING**

The Mayor opened the meeting to the public for comment.

- Charles Cedro – 6 Allen St. - Requested results from today's phone conference with the State. The Mayor and Councilman Hathaway gave a brief description of the discussion along with the related action items taken from the meeting. There was an agreement to make the lid of the swirl chamber larger. Councilman Hathaway noted that the permit has been approved; the related paperwork has to be completed. He feels the Commissioner they are working with now will hold up to her commitments. Mr. Cedro thanked them for their time.

A Motion to Close the Meeting to the Public was made by Councilman Hathaway and seconded by Councilman Still.

Roll Call: 5 Yes

### **MAYOR TO ADDRESS NETCONG FIRE DEPARTMENT OFFICERS**

*Gentlemen, thank-you for coming. I am sure you know why you were invited.*

*Last October, I noticed the light turn out of firemen at the Annual Inspection. I was disappointed to see the low turnout for the Fire Department parade.*

*I was embarrassed for the FD and the town when one fireman decided to display a banner on his house the day of the parade for all attending fire departments to witness the extend of the bickering between fire companies.*

*Over the last year or so, things have been said on both sides that need to be forgotten and get back to acting as ONE fire department.*

*One item that concerns me is: On RIC calls it is not acceptable to send to pieces of apparatus AND two teams of fire fighters out of town when protocol dictates only one unit and team should roll.*

*The fire department is leaving the Borough of Netcong exposed in the event of a fire or accident in the Borough of Netcong.*

*Recently there was an issue with one of the companies wanting to drill in vacant building. For one reason or any other, that did not happen. Yet, the other company previously drilled in the building. I have heard from many of your fireman, **when it comes to fighting a fire, we act as a team.** If that is the case, I would think both houses should drill as a team, especially when it comes to drilling in a structure. I know this is YOUR CALL, but I think it is time for you gentlemen to consider drilling together.*

*Shortly after the fireman's parade, 3 chiefs or past chiefs who recognized me from previous Inspection dinners mentioned the fighting between the two houses.*

*Each one of them told me I NEED TO MAKE IT STOP.*

*One of the chiefs said with all seriousness, the Netcong Fire Department in-fighting is known County wide and many firemen just laugh about it. That should be embarrassing to each of you. It certainly is an embarrassment to the Borough of Netcong.*

*Last year I asked both house to get together. Now I am telling you, it is time to stop the senseless bickering and move on.*

*From where I see it, there are a handful of trouble makers in the Netcong Fire Department, the OFFICERS of the Netcong Fire Department and the Presidents of each house need to put an end to that bickering.*

*If the trouble makers don't stop, I strongly suggest you act as a team and remove them from the department.*

*Over the last few years the bickering has escalated. Now is the time for you gentlemen to stop the fighting.*

*I am more than will to help facilitate any discussions you have. Either way, I implore you to do what needs to be done.*

The Fire Chief wished to clarify some points made with the Mayor. An explanation was provided as to why two trucks are set out instead of one. The Mayor expressed his concern about leaving the Borough exposed if two trucks are out at the same site. The Mayor and firemen continued discussion. The Mayor understood the firemen's point of view but still wished for a professional and congenial attitude at all times.

### **PUBLIC HEARING ON THE SID BUDGET**

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

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

Roll Call: 4 Yes      No: Councilman Laureys

The Mayor asked for comments from the Council.

Mr. Laureys made several comments on his opinion of the SID budget. He referred to a copy of the 2014 budget that he brought. He was concerned with administrative expenses. He presented the 2015 budget and noted the increase in administrative expenses. He felt this budget was insufficient. The Mayor provided more detail on this year's numbers indicating that there were cuts that were made, however some expenses will not go down.

**Resolution #2015-58** – Authorizing the Adoption of the 2015 Budget of the Netcong Community Partnership Special Improvement District.

A motion was made by Councilman Hathaway to approve this resolution and Councilman Still seconded the motion.

Roll Call: 3 Yes      No: Councilwoman Butler and Councilman Laureys

## **ORDINANCE ADOPTIONS**

- 1. Capital Ordinance 2015-7** – CAPITAL ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF NETCONG, IN THE COUNTY OF MORRIS, NEW JERSEY AUTHORIZING THE MAKING OF VARIOUS PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS AND ACQUISITIONS IN, BY AND FOR THE BOROUGH, APPROPRIATING THEREFOR THE SUM OF \$226,214 AND PROVIDING THAT SUCH SUM SO APPROPRIATED SHALL BE RAISED FROM CAPITAL FUND BALANCE OF THE BOROUGH.

A Motion to Read Capital Ordinance 2015-7 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

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

Roll Call: 5 Yes

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A Motion to Adopt Capital Ordinance #2015-7 was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Hathaway.

Roll Call: 5 Yes

- 2. Bond Ordinance 2015- 6** – BOND ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE MAKING OF A PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT AND THE ACQUISITION OF A NEW AUTOMOTIVE VEHICLE, INCLUDING ORIGINAL APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT, 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 \$77,000 TO PAY THE COST THEREOF, TO AUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS TO FINANCE SUCH APPROPRIATION AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE ISSUANCE OF BOND ANTICIPATION NOTES IN ANTICIPATION OF THE ISSUANCE OF SUCH BONDS.

A Motion to Read Bond Ordinance 2015-6 by Title Only on Second Reading and a Hearing Held Thereon was made by Councilman Sylvester and seconded by Councilwoman Butler.

Roll Call: 5 Yes

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

Roll Call: 5 Yes

A Motion to Adopt Bond Ordinance #2015-6 was made by Councilman Sylvester and seconded by Councilman Hathaway.

Roll Call: 5 Yes

## CORRESPONDENCE

No Correspondence was presented at this meeting.

## BOROUGH ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

Mr. Blakeslee highlighted the following:

- Introduction of an engineer that he vetted.
- A Public Works leak issue

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance & Insurance:                      E. Still                      J. Sylvester

In the month of May the Borough had total income in the amount \$1,469,539.20 as compared to the previous year of \$1,325,490.91.

Revenue received for the month of May:

### Miscellaneous Revenue Not Anticipated (MRNA)

In 2015 the Borough received \$1,669.75 vs. \$2,207.20 in 2014

### Other Licenses/Borough Clerks Fees:

In 2015 the Borough received \$6,664.05 vs. \$11,594.82 in 2014

### State Aid

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

### Grants in Aid

In 2015 the Borough received \$6,605.71 vs. \$5,434.00 in 2014

*The Borough received its 2015 Clean Communities grant in May.*

### Taxes Collected

In 2015 the Borough collected \$1,454,599.69 vs. \$1,306,254.89 in 2014

### Income Total Year to Date:

2015 total revenue is \$3,996,032.97 vs. \$3,991,780.79 in 2014

Economic Development:                      R. Hathaway                      E. Still

Councilman Hathaway reported the following:

- Met with Crown Point who is still in negotiations with the owners of the Quirk property.

- Had a meeting with the Pocketbook Factory developer. He is getting his documentation in order and will be filing permits shortly. He is waiting for JCP&L to cut the power so he can proceed with electrical plans.
- Discussed the possibility for a greenway with a new contact. Mr. Bucco provided some guidance on this project. This may facilitate a hook up to the Trade Zone water system.
- Interest was also expressed in the Stoll Street property.

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

For last month, the Ambulance Corps had a total 68 calls; 5 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 942 and the hours volunteered were 302 and 30 minutes.

The Borough Police answered a total of 369 calls. They wrote a total of 206 motor vehicle summonses. There were 130 “click it or ticket” summonses from that group. There was 1 local summons written.

The Netcong Fire Department had a total of 10 calls, 5 Drills, 7 Meetings, 9 Special Details and 1 Fire Fighter in Academy. There were at total of 62 Fire Fighters performing a total of 1567 hours.

Councilman Sylvester thanked all the departments, organizations and individual volunteers for their help with the parade.

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

**D.P.W. Monthly Report May 2015**

**Road Department:** Roxbury was in to provide our town wide annual street sweeping... Provided bi-weekly vacuuming of Main St and Maple Ave...Made repairs to 3 collapsed storm drains...

**Water Department:** Performed May water meter readings ...Northeast Water Technology completed a comprehensive leak detection study...Identified working valves for Church Street project...

**Sewer Department:** Cleared a backed up sewer main in the area of Helen Way and Rt. 183...

**Buildings & Grounds:** Sprayed Borough properties for bugs and pests ...removed dead plants across from Shop Rite and installed new soil for new grass and mulch ...Prepared for Fireman's and Memorial Day Parades by hanging banners and flags, planting flowers, picking

up barricades and message boards from the county, cleaning and placement of mobile stage, placement of trash and recycling containers, installing new stone and mulch, and mobilization of traffic cones ... Watered Borough flowers 3 times a week including 1 feeding...Serviced central air conditioning units at Borough Hall ...

**Parks & Recreation:** Performed weekly lawn maintenance of Parks and Borough properties...

**Recycling Department:** Picked up 36 cubic yards of grass, 54 cubic yards of leaves, 28 cubic yards of brush, and 16 cubic yards of chipped brush...

**Other:** Obtained employee photo identification placards through the Police Dept....

Recreation: P. Butler T. Laureys

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Councilwoman Butler reported the following:

1. On May 30th Recreation hosted a bus trip to Kinky Boots on Broadway. The show was fabulous –a great story line and terrific music. We now have a sold out bus for our next trip to see Jersey Boys on Sunday August 2nd. Names are being added to a waiting list.
2. Our first concert begins next Friday, June 19th. It is our "teen" night with entertainment by "Half Normal".
3. On Friday June 26th we will host our annual Kid's Color in the Park Contest with entertainment by Jo Jo. Signups now being taken for the chalk contest.
4. July 4th we will host two concerts with the first beginning at 4pm and second at 7pm.

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

Councilman Laureys reported the following:

Days of service: 18  
Miles: 984  
Number of stops: 85

Nutrition for 5 people: 32  
Food shopping 26 people: 56  
Number of Meals on Wheels: 15  
Medical Appointments: 16  
Other Appointments: 61  
People Using Services: 43  
Cancels: 22  
Denials: 5  
Units: 333  
Hours: 92.5  
Additional Notes: None

**OLD BUSINESS**

No old business was presented at this meeting.

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. Appointment of Brandon Reis as a Junior Firefighter for Fire Co. No. 2.

A Motion was made by Councilman Hathaway and seconded by Councilman Sylvester to approve the appointment.

Roll Call: 5 Yes

**PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR TO THE COUNCIL**

- President Still – Wished to thank all Borough employees for assistance with the Fire Dept. parade.
- Councilman Sylvester – requested that a letter or resolution be sent to the State asking they repeal the statute that does not allow volunteers who sit on Councils to vote on certain resolutions and ordinances. Councilman Sylvester repeated his gratitude to all those involved in making the Fire Dept. parade a success.
- Councilman Hathaway provided an update on the herbicide treatments and the condition of the Lake. He also mentioned the upcoming collection of geese by the USDA.
- Councilman Butler thanked Mr. Blakeslee for allowing the Dial a Ride to use the town car while repairs were being made on the senior van. The senior citizens were appreciative.

**MAYOR'S COMMENTS**

The Mayor had no comments at this time.



## **RESOLUTIONS**

1. **Resolution #2015-62** – To Appoint Robert Olivo as Member of the Netcong Recreation Commission
2. **Resolution #2015-63** – Authorizing the Borough Attorney to File a Declaratory Judgment Action with the Superior Court Seeking a Judicial Determination that the Borough has Complied with its Affordable Housing Obligation
3. **Resolution #2015-64** – Authorizing the Award of a Professional Service Contract to Richard C. Kreppel, P.E. of Genesis Engineering, LLC for Professional Engineering Services Related to the Foundation Repair of Fire Company No. 1

The three resolutions were voted together (as a block.)

A motion was made by Councilman Sylvester and seconded by Councilwoman Butler to approve the three resolutions.

Roll Call: 5 Yes

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## **ORDINANCE INTRODUCTIONS**

1. **Ordinance 2015-8** - 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 Introduce Ordinance #2015- 8 and Read by Title only was made by Councilman Sylvester and seconded by Councilwoman Butler.

Roll Call: 5 Yes

A Motion to Pass Ordinance #2015-8 on First Reading was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Sylvester.

Roll Call: 5 Yes

## **REPORTS**

A Motion to Incorporate All Reports into the Minutes was made by Councilman Sylvester and seconded by Councilwoman Butler.

Roll Call: 5 Yes

## **BILLS**

A Motion to Pay All Bills When Funds are Available was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Hathaway.

Roll Call: 5 Yes

## **CLOSED SESSION**

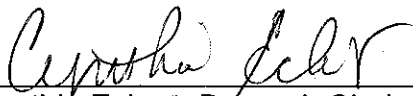
There was no closed session at this meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT**

A Motion to Adjourn the Meeting was made at 8:39 PM by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Hathaway.

Roll Call: 5 Yes

Respectfully Submitted,

  
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Cynthia Eckert, Borough Clerk