

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF NETCONG HELD NOVEMBER 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 was Mr. Blakeslee, Borough Administrator and Mrs. Eckert, Borough Clerk.

**PROCLAMATIONS**

1. Residents from 3 Highland Ave. – August Fire at 5 Highland Ave.

The Mayor called the residents up to acknowledge their bravery and actions by reading this proclamation. Gratitude and praise to these individuals was expressed by all. Assemblyman Bucco also made a presentation.

2. John DeLuca – Eagle Scout Award Recipient

The Mayor read the proclamation and acknowledged Mr. DeLuca's achievement. Assemblyman Bucco also made a presentation.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

No minutes were presented at this meeting.

## **PUBLIC PORTION OF MEETING**

- Michael Obremski JCP&L Representative - 13 Rich Boyton Rd. Dover –Wished to explain what the loud “crack” and outage last night was all about. The team found a broken “cut out.” He brought the fuse to provide a visual for the audience. He noted that this was not a simple fix and a large piece needed to be replaced. This process requires two men to facilitate the repair. JCP&L sent three men in last night. Mr. Obremski also noted that the speaker bureau program will be resurrected after the first of the year. He would be happy to make a presentation to Council. The Council found favor with this request. Mayor Nametko noted his experience after seeing a tour at JCP&L. Councilman Sylvester wished to comment that the outage reporting on cell phones is wonderful.

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

Roll Call: 6 Yes

## **ORDINANCE ADOPTIONS**

1. **Bond Ordinance 2015-12** - BOND ORDINANCE TO APPROPRIATE AN ADDITIONAL SUM OF \$40,000 FOR THE CHURCH STREET WATER MAIN REPLACEMENT PROJECT IN, BY AND FOR THE BOROUGH OF NETCONG, IN THE COUNTY OF MORRIS, NEW JERSEY, TO AUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS TO FINANCE SUCH ADDITIONAL 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 2015-12 by Title Only on Second Reading and a Hearing Held Thereon was made by Councilman Koster and seconded by Councilman Hathaway.

Roll Call: 6 Yes

The Mayor opened the hearing to the public.

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

Roll Call: 6 Yes

A Motion to Adopt Bond Ordinance #2015-12 was made by Councilman Koster and seconded by Councilman Hathaway.

Roll Call: 6 Yes

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

- Students of Netcong School- Letter about Color Run

The Mayor read the letter and then thanked the Chief, DPW and Fire Department for volunteering their time

## **BOROUGH ADMINISTRATOR REPORT**

Mr. Blakeslee discussed the Recycling Contract. There was consideration about moving pickup to Tuesdays instead of Monday. Mondays are a conflict with grass pickup. Also, an advantage moving to Tuesday is that it saves the Borough about \$1500.00 per year. Mr. Blakeslee wanted to know if the Council would like to revisit Tuesday pick-ups. DPW manager Mike Canfield was interested in the savings of \$1500.00. Also, Mike Canfield noted that the largest conflict is grass pickup; it would save time because they would not have to look through all containers to check for grass. The Mayor noted that this will also eliminate businesses leaving out recycling on Friday. Councilman Laureys asked about the number of holiday pickups. Mr. Canfield replied there would be holiday savings and an easier run for their drivers. Mr. Bucco asked about the bidding process and Mr. Blakeslee responded that this was a shared service. The Council discussed all factors and felt it was prudent to move the pickup to Tuesday. A resolution will be prepared for the next meeting.

A mention was made about the way finding sign installation which will start this week with the rest to be installed in the next several weeks.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Finance & Insurance:                      E. Still                      J. Sylvester

In the month of October, 2015, the Borough had total income in the amount \$572,612.44 as compared to the previous year of \$646,615.81.

Revenue received for the month of October:

Miscellaneous Revenue Not Anticipated (MRNA):

*In 2015 the Borough received \$1,353.00 vs. \$2,778.04 in 2014.*

Other Licenses/Borough Clerks Fees:

*In 2015 the Borough received \$5,278.28 vs. \$13,139.36 in 2014*

State Aid:

*In 2015 the Borough received \$58,785.90 vs. \$58,785.90 in 2014*

Grants in Aid:

*In 2015 the Borough received \$565.00 vs. \$562.00 in 2014*

Taxes Collected:

*In 2015 the Borough collected \$505,372.51 vs. \$570,091.35 in 2014.*

Income Total Year to Date:

*Total income to date in 2015 is \$7,072,291.48 vs. \$7,277,379.62 in 2014.*

Economic Development:      R. Hathaway      E. Still

Councilman Hathaway reported that Crown Point has a secure contract on the Quirk property. There will be a meeting next Monday. The Pocketbook Factory was demolished this week. Mr. Wilensky has provided information on a company interested in buying the property. The Excess letter was signed from the Transit Property. An RFP will follow hopefully by end of first quarter next year and there are hopes for a new developer by next summer.

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

Ambulance Corps, October 2015

- Total Calls: 65, 4 out of town
- Trips to hospital: 34
- Total patients: 34
- Miles Travelled: 922
- Hours Volunteered: 267 hours and 33 minutes
- 3 assists

Fire Department, October, 2015

- 9 calls
- 3 alarms, 1 fire
- 3 assists for the Squad
- 10 drills
- 8 meetings
- 14 special details
- Total firefighters 58

- Total Man Hours: 1,286
- (Total of 40 FD involvements)

The fire trucks were ordered. The purchase orders will be sent tomorrow and they anticipate five to six weeks for arrival.

Police Department, October, 2015

- 285 calls
- 51 motor vehicle summonses
- 3 grants
  - One for \$1067
  - Armored vest \$1257
  - VWI task force \$2400

Councilman Sylvester noted that a couple of things may be required to purchase next year, an alcohol test may be mandated by state and the RAPID recognition system: stolen property second hand sales system. Councilman Sylvester noted that this would be a great asset to our department

The Mayor also brought up the treatments of Narcan (Naloxone) for heroin overdoses. Chief Blesson made sure all men were trained in proper administration of this product. They had the first incident to use this: Keith Flaherty on patrol heard Roxbury call for a possible overdose, Mr. Flaherty acted immediately and correctly applied the Narcan (Naloxone) and the person was revived in a matter of minutes. This person survived thanks to the correct training and quick action on the part of Mr. Flaherty. Thanks to the Chief for his work in this area.

Dept. of Public  
Works & Utilities:

E. Koster

R. Hathaway

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

**Road Department:** Made permanent paving repairs to Allen St. from previous water break repairs. ...Replaced serpentine belt on the Ford F-450 ...Installed Handicapped parking sign at 81 Allen St...Installed new steel bed liner in the dump body of the Ford F-450...

**Water Department:** Performed large area mark out request for NJ Nat Gas along Allen St, Stoll St, Highland Ave, Hillside Ave, Kings Rd and College Rd ...Made repair to Ikes Lane water line ....Installed new water services to 7 and 9 Flanders Rd ...Replaced broken water box at 19 Cross St...

**Sewer Department:** Installed new sewer lateral at 22 Church St. ...

**Buildings & Grounds:** Performed weekly generator reports ...Moved flower pots to recycle center for winter storage...Fix broken steps at recycle center ...Advanced Mechanical in to service gas heaters at FH #1 and Borough Hall ...Edge Property Maintenance started foundation work and brick facade at FH #1 ...Removed Welcome to Netcong Banners from Main St and Maple Ave ...Scheduled oil delivery for all boilers and generators ...Northwood Mechanical came in to service oil burners at WH 1 and FH 2....

**Parks & Recreation:** Close bathrooms for the winter at Arbolino Park and DiRenzo Park.

**Recycling Department:** Performed multiple compactions to single stream containers to save money by requiring less pick ups ...Picked up 44 cy of leaves ...Picked up 46 cy of brush ... Picked up 48 cy of grass...

**Snow:** Installed new rubber cutting edges on plows where needed...

**Other:** Picked up and returned message boards for Inspection dinner at FH #2

Recreation: P. Butler T. Laureys

1. This year's Trunk or Treat was held on Saturday October 24th, with over 400 in attendance. We had about 18 decorated trunks and an abundance of children in their Halloween costumes. Recreation served over 150 pretzels, 350 hotdogs, and the 300 cookies donated by the Quick Chek. A special thanks to the Growing Stage for donating our first place prizes.
2. On Thursday November 5th, we hosted our annual Great Wolf Lodge Trip with 62 parents/children in attendance. A great time was had by all.
3. Saturday November 7<sup>th</sup> was the 911 bus trip along with an afternoon stop at Eataly. The 911 museum included the history of the twin towers, the attack on 911, and the rebuilding of the Freedom tower. It was a somber morning and one could hear a pin drop while walking through the museum. Our afternoon ended with shopping as well as eating at Eataly. Eataly is an indoor Italian Market which offers various restaurants, homemade breads, cheese, coffee, gelato, as well as pasta's and sauce from some of the most famous Italian chefs. Fine Wines and chocolates were also available.
4. We are well underway with our upcoming Parade planning. Anyone attending our parade will need to register. Forms will be forwarded to Ralph to be uploaded to the town website. We have already sent email blasts to anyone who attended prior parades.



Mr. Bucco outlined the processes to achieve this. He sent a letter to the Mayor and Council explaining the process to follow which takes approximately three years. He noted that it requires total agreement among the parties or more negotiations are needed to settle the terms of the agreement.

Another way to approach this is to contact Cable Vision and ask for a meeting with them. The Council may be able to negotiate a better franchise agreement. If that doesn't work, the process will need to be accelerated. He recommended that the Borough not wait three years to commence the process. Roxbury was able to get concessions from Cable Vision. Mr. Bucco recommended that the Borough survey other towns to see what they are getting. Mr. Bucco can get in touch with Cable Vision to set up the meeting. We should be looking at more free service or an increased franchise fee.

Mr. Blakeslee noted that the new IT vendors were in this week. After clearing up internet speed for extra \$5.00 a month he noted we can get higher speed service. Anything above minimum must be charged. We may be able to ask for more franchise fee instead.

The Mayor stated that if the Council is ok with it, an appointment will be made with Cable Vision.

Mr. Blakeslee will compose a list of what exists now to avoid wasting time.

Councilman Sylvester offered that we get basic TV and channel lineup and one free box now. The Council needs to act on this now so we don't end up with what we had last time.

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

Councilman Sylvester – Ordinance for apartment inspections was killed by courts. Mr. Bucco clarified that there was no enabling legislation to allow municipalities to do that. It was struck down because municipalities have no authority to do this.

Councilman Sylvester asked if the state will be doing anything to address this issue and requests legislators put legislation together for this. He wanted to know if this would ever get to the floor. This is a safety issue. Mr. Bucco was not sure the legislature would take this up.

Councilman Hathaway noted that basic inspections are only done when needed. This ordinance was helping and the court took major control out of our hands. HUD money involved state inspections to be done every year. Mr. Bucco will check on this.

Mr. Blakeslee noted the positives for the inspections.



Councilman Laureys ask for clarification on this issue. Mr. Bucco explained that legislation dictates what municipalities can enact.

Councilman Sylvester also wanted to know as the year comes to close, will the Borough be receiving new proposal for dispatch services. The Council continued discussion on this topic.

### **MAYOR'S COMMENTS**

The Mayor had no comments at this time.

### **RESOLUTIONS**

#### **1. Resolution 2015- 98 – Authorizing the 2016 Holiday Schedule**

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

Roll Call: 6 Yes

#### **2. Resolution 2015- 99 – Authorizing the Borough Administrator to Seek Competitive Bids for Improvements to the Borough's Water Distribution System**

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

Roll Call: 6 Yes

#### **3. Resolution 2015- 100 – Authorizing the Award of a Contract to Peterson Tree Service for Snow Plowing and Salting Services**

Mr. Bucco stated that he has issues with this resolution. He asked if the Council has notified Andy Matt that we are rescinding the award of the contract. Mr. Blakeslee advised that he looked up the state website and there was no valid business registration certificate recorded at the state level. Mr. Bucco recommended that we write a letter to Andy Matt advising them that the Borough will rescind the award of the contract and award to the next lowest bidder if the vendor cannot produce a valid Business Registration Certificate.

Mr. Blakeslee was concerned with timing as there is no coverage if there is a snow storm. Mr. Bucco offered that when the contracts expire, they can be extended to provide coverage.

Mr. Blakeslee stated that Peterson did not submit a quote.

Councilman Sylvester asked what could be done tonight. The Board and Mr. Bucco continued discussion.

Mr. Bucco advised that the Andy Matt contract should not be rescinded tonight. He will compose two resolutions if needed. He noted that the Borough needs to be protected from all negative issues. The Council continued discussion. Mr. Bucco suggested that the matter be further discussed in closed session.

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

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:

#### **Attorney/Client Privilege: Snowplowing Contract**

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 Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Hathaway.

Roll Call: 6 Yes.

The Council resumed the public session at 8:58PM. The Mayor noted that no decision was made.

### **ORDINANCE INTRODUCTIONS**

No ordinances were introduced at this meeting.

**REPORTS**

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

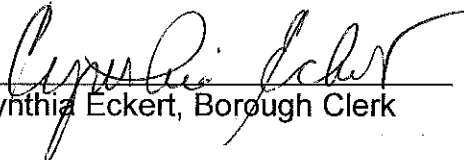
**BILLS**

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

**ADJOURNMENT**

A Motion to Adjourn the Meeting was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Hathaway at 9:00PM.  
Roll Call: 6 Yes

Respectfully Submitted,

  
Cynthia Eckert, Borough Clerk