

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF NETCONG HELD APRIL 14, 2016 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 8, 2016.
2. Publishing a notice in the Daily Record, the official newspaper of the Borough of Netcong on January 13, 2016 and mailing a copy to The Star Ledger on January 8, 2016.

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.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

No minutes were presented at this meeting.

PUBLIC PORTION OF MEETING

Seeing no one coming forward from the public, the Mayor asked for a motion to close.

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

Roll Call: 6 Yes

RESOLUTION TO HIRE CLASS II SPECIAL POLICE OFFICER

1. **Resolution #2016-53** -To Hire Joseph Beach as Class II Special Police Officer of the Netcong Police Dept.
A motion was made by Councilman Sylvester and seconded by Councilman Koster.
Roll Call: 6 Yes

SWEARING IN OF JOSEPH BEACH AS CLASS II SPECIAL POLICE OFFICER

Mrs. Eckert performed the swearing in ceremony with Joseph Beach.

BOROUGH AUDITOR TO ADDRESS THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL

Valerie Dolan provided a review of the audit. She thanked the Borough for allowing them to perform the audit and noted that everything was in great order. She provided a synopsis in detail of the Budget.

The following highlights were mentioned:

- The fund balance increased
- The tax collection decreased by a very small amount
- Details were provided on the reserves
- Older ordinances were cleaned up using current capital
- Animal Control is still a concern regarding funds in the dog reserve. The Mayor noted there is staff effort to remedy this.

Ms. Dolan continued to the budget. She mentioned these highlights:

- The Borough budget is fiscally sound.
- The budget is under both caps.
- The water budget is up for capital improvements.
- The sewer budget is up for the final payment of the mason dump truck.
- There are four general improvements with no debt being authorized for the general fund.

The Mayor asked if a water rate increase should be expected. Ms. Dolan stated "yes" and noted that they are still working on the water study.

Councilman Still maintained that this was a good budget.

PUBLIC HEARING AND ADOPTION OF THE 2016 MUNICIPAL BUDGET

PUBLIC HEARING ON THE 2016 BUDGET

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

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

1. **Resolution 2016- 38-** To Read the 2016 Budget by Title Only.

A motion was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilwoman Butler.
Roll Call: 6 Yes

2. **Resolution 2016–39** - To Adopt the 2016 Budget.

A motion was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Sylvester.
Roll Call: 6 Yes

ANNUAL AUDIT

1. **Resolution #2016- 51-** Certification of the Annual Audit.

A motion was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Hathaway.
Roll Call: 6 Yes

2. **Resolution #2016- 52-**To Approve the 2016 Corrective Action Plan.

A motion was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilwoman Butler.
Roll Call: 6 Yes

PUBLIC HEARING ON THE SID ASSESSMENTS

Seeing no one coming forward from the public, the Mayor asked for a motion to close.

A Motion to close the public hearing was made by Councilman Hathaway and seconded by Councilman Sylvester.
Roll Call: 5 Yes No: Councilman Laureys

1. **Resolution #2016-40-**Resolution to Approve the 2016 Property Assessments for the Netcong Community Partnership Special Improvement District of the Borough of Netcong.

Councilman Laureys stated that he was asked about the \$30,000 carryover. The Mayor explained the carryover was completed because the SID spent so much time trying to defend itself, they did not have time to use the funds and be productive. Councilman Laureys asked for specifics on the plans for the use of the funds. The Mayor noted that the money will be used to improve the Christmas decorations and replace/improve the areas around the "Welcome to

Netcong” signs. Councilman Hathaway added that the tree plantings are slated to take place as well. The SID could not enact the programs due to the delays caused by multiple mailings and surveys.

Councilman Laureys continued that people are talking to him and questioning items in the SID budget. He mentioned a few of the budget items and added that it appears the most expensive items are the ones that are least explained.

The Mayor expressed concern as to why these people are calling Councilman Laureys but have never come to the regular NCP meetings or the Council meetings. He stated there just was an open public meeting that was preannounced.

Councilman Laureys was also curious why he was getting these questions and why these people felt more comfortable asking him than asking the SID board members at their meetings.

Councilman Hathaway offered that they could be submitting emails to the organization that would be reviewed.

The Mayor repeated that these people should come to the next SID meeting and get their questions answered.

Councilman Hathaway noted that the priorities such as the Christmas decorations were made by the membership.

The Mayor determined that the Council was not the correct group to answer specific questions for the SID. Mr. Steve Fredericks, the president of the SID, was in the audience and offered to speak. He started by addressing the carryover in the budget and saw that as an opportunity to put funding back into the town and be a community resource. The special initiative began after the New Year. This included new stone work by the signs. Also he wanted to mention that not all the money has been allocated at this time and that’s why there is not a full itemized list. Mr. Fredericks continued to explain in detail the budget questions posed by Councilman Laureys. He added that he is readily available if anyone has any questions about the SID. He encourages people to come to the monthly SID meetings with questions. The SID would like to make a presentation in the future showing a study that they had done. He explained that the taxes charged are looked at as an investment in our community. At Councilman Hathaway’s request, Mr. Fredericks expanded on the marketing initiatives and the special events for Netcong Day and the Recreation Committee.

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

Roll Call: 5 Yes No: Councilman Laureys

- 2. Resolution 2016-41** -Resolution Approving the Introduction of the 2016 Budget of the Netcong Community Partnership Special Improvement District and Authorizing a Public Hearing to be Held Thereon.

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

Roll Call: 5 Yes No: Councilman Laureys

ORDINANCE ADOPTIONS

- 1. Capital Ordinance 2016-5** - Authorizing the Making of Various Public Improvements and Acquisitions In, By and for the Borough, Appropriating Therefor the Sum of \$63,000.00 and Providing that Such Sum So Appropriated Shall Be Raised from Capital Fund Balance of the Borough.

A Motion to Read Capital Ordinance 2016-5 by Title Only on Second Reading and a Hearing Held Thereon was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Sylvester.

Roll Call: 6 Yes

The Mayor opened the meeting to the public for any comments. No one stepped forward.

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

Roll Call: 6 Yes

A Motion to Adopt Capital Ordinance #2016-5 was made by Councilman Koster and seconded by Councilman Still.

Roll Call: 6 Yes

- 2. Bond Ordinance 2016-6** - Bond Ordinance to Authorize the Making of Various Public Improvements in, by and for the Water Utility of the Borough of Netcong, to Pay the Cost Thereof, to Appropriate a Federal Grant, to Fully Fund an Appropriation from the Water Utility Capital Improvement Fund, 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 2016-6 by Title Only on Second Reading and a Hearing Held Thereon was made by Councilman Koster and seconded by Councilman Still.

Roll Call: 6 Yes

The Mayor opened the meeting to the public for any comments. No one stepped forward.

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

Roll Call: 6 Yes

A Motion to Adopt Bond Ordinance #2016-6 was made by Councilman Koster and seconded by Councilman Hathaway.

Roll Call: 6 Yes

CORRESPONDENCE

1. Letter from Netcong School Students – NEF St. Patrick’s Day Fundraiser

The Mayor read the thank you letter to the Council from the students.

2. Letter from Netcong School – 2016 Color Run

The Mayor provided some background regarding his work with the police chief about the costs for police presence. Volunteers will do as much as they can to offset areas where supervision is needed. He did note that the school may be asked to pay something to offset the costs to the Borough.

A Motion to approve was made by Councilman Koster and seconded by Councilman Hathaway to approve this fundraiser.

Roll Call: 6 Yes

BOROUGH ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

Mr. Blakeslee provided the following updates:

He wanted to remind the Council about the online training. They can take the course and bring the certificate copy to Borough Hall. The Mayor asked if there was any credit for those that went down to the training at the League. Mr. Blakeslee replied affirmatively.

Mr. Blakeslee also wanted to talk about last week’s conversation regarding the reservoir demolition. He noted that the \$300,000 cost figure was erroneous. He got an engineer estimate of about \$144,000 and he would like to have a meeting with the DPW to discuss.

Mr. Blakeslee also wanted to thank the Finance Committee and professionals for guidance and help in preparing the budget.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance & Insurance:

E. Still

J. Sylvester

In the month of March the Borough had total income in the amount \$64,730.39 as compared to the previous year of \$98,976.41.

Miscellaneous Revenue Not Anticipated (MRNA)

In 2016 the Borough received \$8,373.50 vs. \$3,674.25 in 2015

The Borough experienced a significant increase in building permit fees in March of 2016.

Other Licenses/Borough Clerks Fees:

In 2016 the Borough received \$8,507.80 vs. \$15,968.14 in 2015

In 2015 the Borough received \$2,625 in Rental Registration Fees and \$5,602 in Auction Fees. This accounts for the difference between 2015 and 2016 revenues.

State Aid

No state aid has been received as of this date.

Grants in Aid

In 2016 the Borough received \$1,060.75 vs. \$1,590.50 in 2015

The Borough received a \$1,590.50 Highway Safety/Safe Corridor grant in March.

Taxes Collected

In 2016 the Borough collected \$46,788.34 vs. \$77,743.52 in 2015

Income Total Year to Date:

In 2016 the Borough had total income, year to date of \$2,098,853.98, as opposed \$2,067,464.86 in 2015.

Councilman still was happy to report that Netcong received a grant for Railroad Avenue. Because they were not expecting they would receive any funding this made them very happy.

Economic Development: R. Hathaway E. Still

Councilman Hathaway mentioned that all received Paul Phillips' report on the transit village needs and changes. He wanted the Council's permission to authorize Paul Phillips to rework the plan for the transit area. Councilman Still stated that this plan will give more options than the original plan. The Council agreed.

Councilman Hathaway also noted that the Shop Rite is planning a significant expansion of their facility. They are looking for approval from the Borough regarding their ideas. He expects the project proposal to come within this quarter.

Crown Point completed the Quirk environmental investigation. So far there are no road blocks for this redevelopment.

Mr. Bucco asked about developers agreements for all these projects. Councilman Hathaway says we don't have any at this time. The Pocketbook Factory is moving slowly. A survey has been completed on that property recently.

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

For March, 2016:

Ambulance Corps:

Total Calls: 59 with 1 out of town

Total Patients: 34

Total trips to the hospital: 34

Total Miles Travelled: 1016

Total Hours Volunteered: 300 hours and 40 Minutes

Total Assists to the NJ State Police: 1

Fire Department:

In town Alarms: 2

MV As/Haz-Mat: 1

Mutual Aid: 3, Roxbury

RIC: 1 Mt. Arlington

Squad Assist: 4

Total Calls: 11

Drills: 5

Meetings: 5
Other: 4
Special Details: 1
Training: 1
Mandatory: 1
Total Firefighters: 53
Total Involvements: 28
Total Man Hours: 566.5

Police Report:
Total Calls: 293
Motor Vehicle Summons: 83
20 local summons
47 parking Summons
Municipal Court: \$ 17048.47 (*slightly ahead of last year*)

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

D.P.W. Monthly Report April 2016

Road Department: Cleaned heavy debris from curb lines on Main St and Maple Ave. .Replaced damaged 25 mph signs on Stoll St... Sold the 1989 Chevy Blazer to Roxbury Auto Wreckers ...Picked up and put in to service the new Public Works utility truck ...Cold patched pot holes throughout town ...Repaired catch basins at 4 Allen Terrace and Helen Way at Family Ford...

Water Department: Repaired a broken water box at 41 Dell Ave and 60 Wiltop Rd... Cleared brush from the area between our 2 reservoirs ...Found, exposed and repaired 4 curb boxes that were buried on Old Budd Lake Road. ...Installed a new flow control valve at WH #5 ...Repaired a broken water meter at 19 College Rd....

Buildings & Grounds: Performed weekly generator monitoring. Dug a trench for the gas line realignment at the DPW garage for the new building ...Graded and prepped the area for the new DPW buildingInstalled the new leader drain tie in at Firehouse #1 ... Cut back the ornamental grass across the street from Shop Rite....

Other: The DPW watched several safety training videos recommended by the JIF...Delivered Dial a Ride meals while Wendy was on vacation....

Recreation:

P. Butler

T. Laureys

Recreation Monthly Update

1. Signups for the annual Town Wide Garage Sale took place on Saturday April 9th
2. Tickets for our upcoming "Beautiful" Broadway show bus trip sold out in 4 days. We therefore decided to book a second bus and now only have 24 seats left! This is the first time ever we have run two buses to any theater show. Trip is scheduled for Saturday, August 6th. Tickets are \$85 per person which includes theater ticket and round trip transportation into the city. For tickets reach out to Sharon.
3. We have changed the date for our annual Junk In the Trunk event -we are slated for Saturday June 11, 2016 from 9-2 at the Train Station with a rain date of Sunday June 12th Applications on are the town website and cost is \$10 per spot.
4. Concert schedule will be available for next meeting.

Public Services:
(Human Services
Recycling & Solid
Waste Disposal

T. Laureys

P. Butler

Dial a Ride Report for March, 2016

Days of Service: 15
Miles: 772
Number of Stops: 61
Nutrition (1 person): 7
Food Shopping: (18 People):60
of Meals on Wheels: 16
Medical appointments: 21
Other Appointments: 38
People using Services: 46
Cancels: 9
Denials: 2
Units: 271
Hours: 87.5
Additional Notes: 1 new disabled

OLD BUSINESS

No Old Business was presented at this meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Social Affair Permit – Netcong Columbus Club Inc. – Comedy Night

A motion to approve the permit was made by Councilman Koster and seconded by Councilwoman Butler.

Roll Call: 4 Yes

Abstain: Councilmen Hathaway and Sylvester

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR TO THE COUNCIL

President Koster wished to congratulate everyone who was involved with the budget and noted all the years he's been here what a great job they have been doing.

Councilman Laureys read from some correspondence he received which included an imitation at an event to present an award to Cissy Laureys for her volunteer work with seniors. The presentation will be at the County Arboretum and he will forward this correspondence to Mrs. Eckert.

Councilman Hathaway wanted to mention a large tree that needed removal and he was looking for assistance from the Borough. He noted that this was state property but he knew the state would not be helping with this.

Councilman Hathaway also wanted to know about the fire truck delivery and when it was planned. A "wet down" was discussed. Councilman Koster expressed concern that the Borough is paying for vehicles we don't have. The Mayor requested that Mr. Bucco send a letter. Mr. Bucco requested some background information. Councilman Sylvester offered that the lettering seems to be a holdup. Mr. Blakeslee will follow up on this.

Councilman Hathaway wished to discuss some zoning issues. This revolved around restrictions on the road near Polo's restaurant and there was some flack with parking that had been approved. Mr. Polo would like to know what the Council can do. The Mayor noted that the Council and Mr. Polo have proceeded with everything to plan. People can park on the street except for the areas specified in the ordinance. Councilman Hathaway assures the Council that there will be no changes to the parking. Councilman Sylvester stated that this is normal for a new establishment. The parking has been labeled properly. Mr. Blakeslee had one resident come in. He maintained that all neighbors were noticed at the time of the Planning Board application. No one came to question it then. The police can be called if there is an issue getting out of one's driveway. The bar has no responsibility to explain the parking. The Mayor says just let them know all this was done legally.

Councilman Hathaway also wanted to discuss the PMZ Landscaping property. Because they are competitors, Councilman Hathaway has been hesitant to bring

up this issue. The activities on this property are beyond the code of good conduct. He would like to see more enforcement with this property. The Mayor stated that there are 2 cases opened up by Mr. Blakeslee with the DEP on this property. They have done nothing other than come and look at it. The site continues to be expanded into wetlands without permission. Councilman Hathaway feels the Council needs to take action as people are complaining. The Mayor stated he wants all issues related to this to be referred to Mr. Blakeslee. Mr. Blakeslee provided some information regarding the latest issue he was dealing with regarding this property. The latest issue is the replacement of the trailer with a much larger trailer without any zoning review. He sent it to the construction office as well. He has sent them an abatement letter explaining how to resolve this issue. He will contact the DEP. One positive note is that a tenant has left and removed their items. Councilman Sylvester asked if they are encroaching on Transit property. The Lake Board is also concerned. Mr. Blakeslee noted that the site currently has an application before the planning board. Will this complicate their application? Mr. Bucco stated that this should not affect the application status. Councilman Still offered that they do not have an application in at this time for a site plan, they came for a pre-approval. There is no actual application. Mr. Blakeslee stated that he needs to work with the Borough Engineer on this. The Mayor offered that it can take 5 years for DEP application to go through. Councilman Sylvester offered that any violations should be formally written up.

Councilman Still wanted to bring up the history of fundraisers. He didn't feel that they ever had to charge the Fire Department and schools for police coverage. Councilman still wanted to know why this is changed. Why is the community being charged for police support? The Mayor replied that the Borough ran out of overtime money last year.

Councilman Hathaway noted that there are so many events currently which require policing. We need to know what the costs are for police coverage on these events. Councilman Still said that the Council didn't vote on this issue. The Mayor was the one that requested the report of the costs. Why was this issue not brought up and discussed at budget time. The Mayor replied that we don't always know what events will take place and the costs involved. Councilman Still would like to have more details regarding this situation. The Council and Staff continued discussion on the topic of what party is really paying or not paying for services at length.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS

The Mayor mentioned that he was asked along with other mayors in Morris County to sit on St. Clare's committee. They had their first meeting last week. He will be interviewed for future topics next week. The Mayor discussed some issues of his interest and solicited ideas from the Council:

- there are no resources close to Morris County to help veterans
- requested documentation of all the programs that are provided
- outreach communication representative

Mr. Bucco mentioned that he received a letter from the New Jersey Conference of Mayor's that he will be honored by them this year.

RESOLUTIONS

1. **Resolution #2016- 42**-To Redeem Tax Sale Certificate 15-00009-Criscuolo
 2. **Resolution #2016- 43** -Endorsing the Housing Element and Fair Share Plan as Adopted by the Netcong Borough Planning Board and Authorizing the Submission of the Plan to the Superior Court for Approval
 3. **Resolution #2016- 44** - To Redeem Tax Sale Certificate 15-00014- Joanna Olivo
 4. **Resolution #2016- 45** – To Redeem Tax Sale Certificate 15-00006 - Wallace
 5. **Resolution #2016-46** - Authorizing the Execution of a Municipal Court Shared Service Agreement between the Borough of Netcong and the Township of Mount Olive
 6. **Resolution #2016- 47** -To Redeem Tax Sale Certificate 15-00013 – Velma Hodge
 7. **Resolution #2016-48** - Authorizing the Sale of Municipal Surplus Property
 8. **Resolution #2016- 49** –Tonnage Grant Application Resolution
 9. **Resolution #2016- 50**-Refund Tax Overpayment – DeFeo – 6 Union Street
 10. **Resolution #2016- 54**- Authorizing the Execution of a Shared Service Agreement Between the Borough of Netcong and the Netcong Board of Education
- All ten Resolutions noted above were voted in one Block:**
 A motion was made by Councilman Koster and seconded by Councilman Hathaway.
 Roll Call: 6 Yes
11. **Resolution #2016- 55**- Opposing Assembly Bills 1475 and 326 Which Propose that Funds Generated from a Payment in Lieu of Taxes Program (PILOT) be Reallocated from the Municipal General Fund

Councilman Laureys asked the Council to consider his concerns about the allocations. The rest of the Council provided their opinion's of what the programs were about and their thoughts about the allocation.

A motion was made by Councilman Koster and seconded by Councilman Still.
Roll Call: 4 Yes No: Councilwoman Butler and Councilman Laureys

ORDINANCE INTRODUCTIONS

1. Ordinance 2016-7- AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 228, "RENTAL PROPERTY", OF THE REVISED GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE BOROUGH OF NETCONG, COUNTY OF MORRIS, STATE OF NEW JERSEY

A Motion to Introduce Ordinance #2016-7 and Read by Title Only was made by Councilman Koster and seconded by Councilman Sylvester.
Roll Call: 6 Yes

Councilman Laureys expressed concern about the length of this ordinance. Mr. Bucco explained that this is essentially the same content as what is already in the books with minor revision.

A Motion to Pass Ordinance #2016-7 on First Reading was made by Councilman Koster and seconded by Councilman Hathaway.
Roll Call: 5 Yes No: Councilman Laureys

2. Ordinance 2016-8- AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ORDINANCE NO. 2013-6 FIXING THE SALARIES OF CERTAIN OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE BOROUGH OF NETCONG, IN THE COUNTY OF MORRIS AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY

A Motion to Introduce Ordinance #2016-8 and Read by Title only was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Sylvester.
Roll Call: 6 Yes

A Motion to Pass Ordinance #2016-8 on First Reading was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Sylvester.
Roll Call: 6 Yes

REPORTS

A Motion to Incorporate All Reports into the Minutes was made by Councilman Koster 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.

CLOSED SESSION

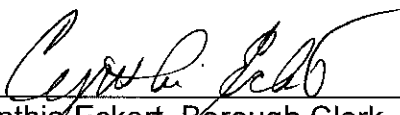
No closed session was held at this meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

A Motion to Adjourn the Meeting was made by Councilman Still at 9:29 PM seconded by Councilman Hathaway and was carried by unanimous voice vote.

Roll Call: 6 Yes

Respectfully Submitted,



Cynthia Eckert, Borough Clerk