

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF NETCONG HELD JUNE 2, 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 7:25 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 Sylvester, and Mayor Nametko. Also present were Mr. Blakeslee, Borough Administrator and Mrs. Eckert, Borough Clerk.

Absent: Mr. Still

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Agenda Meeting – May 5, 2016
- Regular Meeting – May 12, 2016

A motion to approve the May 5, 2016 minutes was made by Councilman Koster and seconded by Councilman Hathaway.

Roll Call: 4 Yes Abstain: Councilman Sylvester

A motion to approve the May 12, 2016 minutes was made by Councilman Koster and seconded by Councilman Hathaway.

Roll Call: 5 Yes

PUBLIC PORTION OF MEETING

Noting no one in the audience, a motion to close the meeting to the public was made by Councilwoman Butler and seconded by Councilman Sylvester.

Roll Call: 5 Yes

ORDINANCE ADOPTIONS

No ordinance adoptions were presented at this meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. Letter from Mr. and Mrs. Grobe – 26 Hilts Lane

The Mayor commented that there were some good points made in this letter. He was not certain if the road was paved to the end. Councilman Sylvester stated that also with Herrick Road, he recalls it being paved, but not to the end. The Mayor concluded that the Borough will need to complete both Herrick and Hilts Roads at the same time.

Mr. Blakeslee reported that there is a system, and Mr. Bucco should advise, in which the Borough can borrow funds and then assess the property owners to cover the cost. He added that the owners of property on this currently private road would have to give up their rights to the road so the Borough can assume responsibility of it. The roads would have to be brought up to code.

Councilman Hathaway noted that there is no mailbox or driveway on Hilts Lane. Councilman Koster added that there are three houses on Britton Street which need access to Hilts Lane.

Councilman Hathaway stated that the letter suggests that the property owners want to have the road improved. As Mr. Blakeslee suggested, there should be a mechanism created for the property owners affected which deems they are responsible for the costs of improvement. Councilman Hathaway did not feel the rest of the tax payers should have to pay for an improvement to these roads. He added that they are asking for more than just a basic improvement. Plus, this work will increase the value of their homes.

The Mayor recalled an incident before and there were assessments to the property owners. He requested an estimate for the drainage, curbs and paving to bring it up to code.

Mr. Blakeslee detailed the process noted above and suggested that Mr. Bucco is contacted to set up a schedule. All parties should be notified before the engineer is hired to do a study.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Water Rate Ordinance

Councilman Hathaway wanted to confirm the rate hike will include the expenses for the reservoir improvements. Mr. Blakeslee provided details on what was included. He also asked about the potential water supply issue. Councilman Hathaway was interested if this also affected these proposed rates. Mr. Blakeslee will look into this and get back to the Council.

Councilman Sylvester mentioned that the rates have not been raised for at least 6 years. Considering the undertaking with the trust fund, the new rates will bring solvency to the fund. Mr. Blakeslee agreed and stated that some of these improvements done through the trust fund will help improve the system overall.

Councilman Hathaway wanted to go on record that the increased supply issue is not attached to this.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Communication Antenna Ordinance

The Mayor said this issue came from the Planning Board and originated by the observations of the two satellite dishes in a front yard in town. Councilman Hathaway mentioned that Mr. Bucco stated he had a boiler plate document for this issue.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR TO THE COUNCIL

Councilman President Koster inquired why this year there are two meetings in July instead of one. It was discussed and there will be two meetings.

Councilman Sylvester asked about 10 Main Street. Mr. Blakeslee replied that there were discussions regarding issues with probate. Councilman Sylvester replied that Mr. Blakeslee should tell them to fill the hole in and plant grass.

Councilman Sylvester discussed some property maintenance issues.

Councilman Hathaway reported that micro probiotic treatment of the lake will begin next week. If this treatment works, they will go to the county for more support. There are two harvesters on the lake now. He noted that the Lake Board has been arguing about different strategies to manage the lake. The Mayor stated that he has heard from several property owners that the harvesting has not been taking place near homeowner's properties because the areas are considered private. Councilman Hathaway replied that this is true to some degree. The tax payers are the ones paying for the bulk of the care. The public areas are the ones that take top priority then the areas in front of people's homes will be treated. Lakefront owners usually have the funds to take care of their own properties. Councilman Hathaway noted that they are trying to give the maximum benefit to the tax payer portions of the lake. The Mayor says the machine being used should go right to the shores. Councilman Hathaway replied that they do and this works, however that piece is not a top priority. Councilman Hathaway stated that the harvesting is being fairly handled. If special events were taking place in front of homes they would be sure to take care of it. He offered that the machinery is also available to the Lake Association to use on their own. Councilman Hathaway noted that he spoke with the Association and they are aware of the procedure. So far, they have chosen not to take advantage

of this equipment. The Mayor noted that Councilman Hathaway provided information that he had not heard before.

On the topic of the Netcong Education Foundation, Councilman Hathaway reported that a talent show will be held at Growing Stage June 3rd, 2016. Twenty acts by Netcong School students. In addition, prizes will be awarded.

MAYORS COMMENTS

The Mayor reported two upcoming events:

- Sunday July 3rd Revolutionary War Encampment
- July 4th reading of Declaration of Independence at the square in Morristown.

RESOLUTIONS

1. **Resolution #2016-63** – Support Submission of Application for New Jersey Department of Transportation Safe Routes to School Program

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

Roll Call: 5 Yes

2. **Resolution 2016- 64** – Authorizing Execution of an Agreement with the Morris County Cooperative Pricing Council to Renew Membership Therein for the Period of October 1, 2016 through September 30, 2021

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

Roll Call: 5 Yes

ORDINANCE INTRODUCTIONS

No ordinances were presented at this meeting.

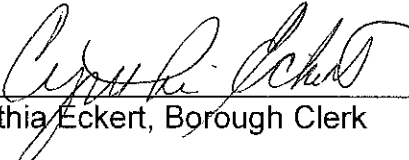
CLOSED SESSION

No closed session was presented at this meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

A Motion to Adjourn the Meeting was made by Councilman Hathaway and seconded by Councilman Koster at 8:00PM and was carried by unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,


Cynthia Eckert, Borough Clerk