

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF NETCONG HELD SEPTEMBER 1, 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 Sylvester, and Mayor Nametko. Also present were Mr. Blakeslee, Borough Administrator and Mrs. Eckert, Borough Clerk.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Agenda Meeting – August 4, 2016

A motion was made by Councilman Koster and seconded by Councilman Sylvester to approve the August 4, 2016 minutes.

Roll Call: 4 Yes Abstain: Councilman Hathaway

- Regular Meeting – August 11, 2016

A motion was made by Councilman Koster and seconded by Councilman Sylvester to approve the August 11, 2016 minutes.

Roll Call: 5 Yes

PUBLIC PORTION OF MEETING

Noting no one stepping forward, the Mayor asked for a motion to close the meeting.

A motion was made by Councilman Hathaway and seconded by Councilman Koster.
Roll Call: 5 Yes

ORDINANCE ADOPTIONS

1. **Ordinance 2016- 13** -AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 54, POLICE DEPARTMENT, OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF NETCONG REGARDING POLICE DEPARTMENT ASSIGNMENTS

This ordinance was carried to the September 8th Meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE

No correspondence was presented at this meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Station Area Redevelopment

Mr. Blakeslee reviewed the points made at last month's meeting and provided the update to the plan. Councilman Hathaway reminded all that the Council has asked the planner to also give info on other areas to be redeveloped. The Mayor noted that if there are no objections this will be prepared for ordinance introduction next week. No objections were heard.

2. Private Roads

The Mayor reminded the Council that they have had estimates prepared on these roads. He explained that this is a lot of money for these private roads. The Council needs to get an assessment from the engineer on how to approach the repairs of these roads. At this point we need to figure out where to begin. Councilman Hathaway stated these should remain private roads even if we do some repairs on them. Mr. Blakeslee said the real issue with these roads would be drainage issues after paving. The Mayor noted that once we own these streets we would be responsible for sidewalks and curbs etc. Councilman Hathaway responded that some projects are more urgent than others and some need extensive work. These would have to be handled one at a time. The Mayor explained that the report from the engineer is preliminary and provides us with an idea of what needs to be done. Mr. Blakeslee replied that if he understands correctly, we need to go back to the engineer for a more detailed report and to ask the Borough attorney what possible problems could arise from our future actions. The Mayor felt that the Council will need to do some kind of assessment from the property owners to do these repairs. Councilman Laureys stated that if the roads continue to be private, the homeowners will continue to be responsible for the liability. We shouldn't spend public

money on it. Mr. Blakeslee says we need clarification from the Borough attorney on the borough's liability. Councilman Laureys offered that there seem to be some instances where town residents are expecting the Borough to pay for their private needs. He feels we should resist the inclination that the Borough should be paying for this. The Mayor explains this was discussed with the engineer and the bulk of the cost would fall on the property owners not the other residents of the town through tax revenue. Councilman Hathaway noted the two ways of looking at this situation: through assessment to the cost of the property owners or having the roads deeded to the borough and then being responsible for them. The Mayor reminded all that this work could also cause more work for the Borough and noted the issue of drainage.

Further discussion ensued on this topic. Mr. Blakeslee reminded the Council there is already wording in the original ordinance that the Borough has limited responsibility to make the roads safe for the public. It was noted that this topic will be placed on the agenda for next week.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Memo from Fred Semrau – Foreclosure of Existing Borough Liens

Mr. Blakeslee explains Mr. Bucco will take care of this. The Council gave permission to move forward.

2. Quirk Redevelopment Plan

Mr. Blakeslee provided the revised plan to the Council today. Some revisions were questionable. He responded with some particulars on this. The Mayor brought up several points of contention the fire chief has with the potential problems with this new development as pertaining to firefighting issues. Councilman Hathaway explained the developer is willing to make sure all the firefighting needs are met.

Further discussion took place among the Council. It was noted that the Council is trying to introduce this ordinance because of the tight time frame. All were in agreement that they needed to notify Mr. Bucco to proceed with this.

3. Hillside Ave. Water Quality

The Mayor began by noting that we are not the only town with this issue. We have found a temporary solution to this problem. The company will be available on Sept. 26th to perform a corrective procedure. They will cut the pipe in 3 places and flush the line. He feels we need to consider replacing this water line to permanently fix this problem. Councilman Hathaway said Mr. Guerin feels we need to add this to the Trust Fund project. Mr. Blakeslee said the engineer has called the Trust to see if it could be added. The Mayor noted that he thinks we need to start preparing now to replace this line.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR TO THE COUNCIL

Council President Koster: Wished to congratulate Jack and Joy Sylvester on birth of their grandson.

Councilman Hathaway : Wished to discuss the condition of roads the gas company is leaving on the 5k race route. This area needs to be swept before the race.

Councilman Koster noted that someone asked why they milled and paved Allen St. but not Center St. The Mayor asked if Mr. Blakeslee can reach out and ask why.

MAYORS COMMENTS

The Mayor had no comments at this time.

RESOLUTIONS

No resolutions were presented at this meeting

PROCLAMATION

There were no proclamations made at this meeting.

ORDINANCE INTRODUCTIONS

No ordinances were introduced at this meeting.

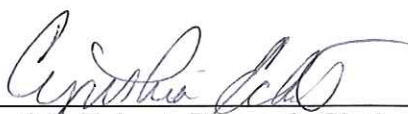
CLOSED SESSION

There was no closed session at this meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

A Motion to Adjourn the Meeting was made by Councilman Hathaway and seconded by Councilman Koster at 8:07 PM and was carried by unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,



Cynthia Eckert, Borough Clerk