

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF NETCONG HELD NOVEMBER 10, 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**

No members from the public stepped forward.

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

Roll Call: 6 Yes

## **ORDINANCE ADOPTIONS**

- 1. Ordinance 2016-16-** Establishing a Redevelopment Plan Entitled "Redevelopment Plan for Block 16.01, Lots 24 and 25.01" Dated September 2016 (Quirk Property)

A Motion to Read Ordinance 2016-16 by Title Only on Second Reading and a Hearing Held Thereon was made by Councilman Hathaway and seconded by Councilman Still.

Roll Call: 6 Yes

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

Roll Call: 6 Yes

A Motion to Adopt Ordinance #2016-16 was made by Councilman Hathaway and seconded by Councilman Still.

Roll Call: 6 Yes

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

No correspondence was reviewed at this meeting.

## **BOROUGH ADMINISTRATOR REPORT**

Mr. Blakeslee reported that the Council has received the draft request for proposals from NJ Transit for seeking a developer on their property.

Councilman Sylvester asked for an update on improvements to Fire Co #2. Mr. Mike Canfield, DPW Superintendent, provided the update.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Finance & Insurance:                      E. Still                      J. Sylvester

In the month of October, 2016 the Borough had total income in the amount \$736,994.61 as compared to the previous year of \$572,613.44.

For the month of October 2016:

### **Miscellaneous Revenue Not Anticipated (MRNA)**

In 2016 the Borough received \$1,658.15 vs. \$1,353.00 in 2015

### **Other Licenses/Borough Clerks Fees:**

In 2016 the Borough received \$5,590.84 vs. \$5,278.28 in 2015

### State Aid

The Borough received its 2016 Energy Receipts payment in the amount of \$53,333.85 and \$5,452.05 in CMPTRA aid from the state. No change over last year's payment.

### Grants in Aid

In October the Borough received a \$1,221.79 Body Armor grant from the state and \$562 in Library Aid.

### Taxes Collected

In 2016 the Borough collected \$669,175.94 vs. \$505,372.51 in 2015.

### Income Total Year to Date:

Total income to date in 2016 is \$7,416,856.18 as opposed \$7,080,370.44 in 2015.

Economic Development: R. Hathaway E. Still

The Quirk property project has been advanced this evening. They are hoping to break ground this spring. Another milestone from NJ Transit is receiving the document draft which means the Council will be able to begin to find a developer for the Transit property. It has taken six years to advance to this point. Councilman Hathaway noted that Netcong will be able to do a large development in the borough.

The Mayor asked about the Pocketbook Factory drainage issue. Mr. Blakeslee replied that he is not sure but there is dialog with Norfolk Southern and Mr. Wilensky. He considers this a large step forward since the issue between Norfolk Southern and Transit is resolved. Councilman Hathaway provided additional details on this update.

Mr. Blakeslee will try to contact someone with the developer's attorney's office for an update. Discussion on this topic continued within the Council.

Public Safety:  
(Police, Fire, Rescue)

J. Sylvester

E. Koster

### **Police**

The new charger is in service, The old Crown Victoria is being prepared for auction.

Calls: 343

Tickets: 63

Local ordinance: 1

1221.71

**Ambulance Corps:**

Calls Answered: 62  
Out of Town: 2  
Total Calls: 64  
Total Patients: 45  
Total trips to Hospitals: 36  
Mile Travelled: 979  
Hours Volunteered: 557 Hours, 55 Minutes  
Assists: 2, Stanhope Fire Department

**Fire Department:**

Alarms: 5  
RIC: 2  
Total Calls: 7  
Drills: 6  
Meetings: 4  
Other: 2  
Special Details: 5  
Training: 3  
Total Fire Fighters: 53  
Total Involvements: 26  
Total Man Hours: 973.9

Dept. of Public  
Works & Utilities:

E. Koster

R. Hathaway

**D.P.W. Monthly Report November 2016**

**Road Department:** Started winter maintenance and repairs to vehicles and equipment in preparation of upcoming winter. ...Picked up 100cy of leaves..... Picked up 28cy of grass..... Picked up 64cy of brush.....

**Water Department:** Disconnected and clamped the old water service line to Don Jose restaurant ....Performed mark outs for gas line install on Allen St...Repaired a broken water service line on Burt St during gas main install ....The Stothoff Co was in to perform the rehabilitation of Well 1....John Jacke was in to train the DPW on new software for water meter readings ....Montauk Services was in to perform hydro flushing on 575 ft of water main on Hillside Ave ....

**Buildings & Grounds:** Built a new flower box at the park and ride ....Cut grass at all Borough properties .... Moved all the flower pots from Borough roadways into storage....Planted the first of 3 new trees on Maple Ave donated by the NCP ....

**Parks & Recreation:** Installed a new lock on the storage room door at Arbolino Park ....Closed and winterized bathrooms at Borough parks ....

**Snow:** Set up new account with the Morris County Coop salt vendor and placed order to fill up salt shed....

**Other:** Tim Hess attended the NJ Water Association convention in Atlantic City...Assisted with the removal of the weed harvester from the lake....

Councilman Koster noted that the well that was rehabilitated is pumping more water. It was well worth doing the rehabilitation. The Mayor asks if there is an update on the Hillside Ave. residents. Mr. Canfield says there have been no complaints and the residents say there is an improvement. The Mayor wondered if this is considered a 'success.' He feels we should do a follow up so we can decide if we need to replace that water main. The Mayor inquired about the location of well # 6. Councilman Still says it is behind Sam's club and they own it now. The Mayor asked if we can remove that from the report. Mr. Blakeslee says maybe we can update the operator report to make it a bit more user friendly.

Recreation: P. Butler T. Laureys

The Mayor explained that the Recreation Commission and Growing Stage will be doing a joint venture. The Mayor added that it would be great if the Council members could attend this event.

1. The annual Trunk or Treat and Costume contest was a huge success. This year the event was combined with the Illumination Parade (hand carved pumpkins were lit up on a flatbed and children wore decorated masks which they made in school) and families paraded from Main Street at the Train Station down to the Gazebo. There were approximately 500 people in attendance.
2. The Cirque du Soleil Bus Trip is sold out and will take place on Saturday Nov. 19<sup>th</sup>.
3. We are now working on the annual holiday parade (December 4) and business decorating contest. Flyers have gone out.
4. The Restaurant Showcase event is being finalized with more details to follow.

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

For the Month of October:  
Days of Service: 19  
Miles: 914  
Number of stops: 55  
Nutrition for 3 people: 14  
Food shopping for 23 people: 52

Number of Meals on Wheels: 11  
Medical appointments: 16  
Other Appointments: 50  
People using services: 45  
Cancels: 30  
Denials: 2  
Units: 315  
Hours: 106.5

Councilman Still asked if we had issues with Gaeta. Mr. Blakeslee explained we sat down with Gaeta to discuss these issues. They assured us they would be improved. The office will be making a complaint form for the office to monitor problems.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

No old business was presented.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

No new business was presented.

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

Council President - Following up on the red and blue line. The Mayor noted many towns have been running a blue line on their streets for police support. If the Council is OK with it, Mike Canfield can obtain quotes or see if it can be done in house. Mr. Canfield was concerned about the way it will look. The big trucks can do this in any weather and the lines dry quickly. The Mayor and Council preferred that the line is put down on Main Street. Councilman Still said get quotes and wait until next month's meeting to make the decision.

Councilman Still – The Borough needs to clean our roads before Thanksgiving. Leaves need to be removed. He asked about using Roxbury's sweeper. Councilman Laurey's agreed this is a safety issue which should be performed. Councilman Still said we really need to do this in the fall when the leaves are everywhere. Councilman Hathaway stated that the timing will be important. It may need to be performed twice. Councilman Hathaway asked how much the sweeping costs. Mr. Blakeslee will look this up. Councilman Hathaway said we should do it right before Thanksgiving. Councilman Hathaway asked if this isn't a zoning issue. Mr. Blakeslee will check on this. Councilman Hathaway stated that some residents are using the street to dispose of their leaves. Further discussion by the Council ensued regarding this issue. Everyone agreed the leaves should be removed before the winter arrives. The Mayor offered that he is concerned that people will not bag their leaves because they will wait for the sweeper to clean it up.

Councilman Hathaway wanted to speak about the trunk or treat. He thanked all involved for the great success of this event including the NCP, Recreation, Morris Arts Council, Jazz band, Growing Stage. It was great to see so many people working together.

There will be a shore cleanup at the Lake November 20th since the lake is drawn down. Councilman Hathaway reported that the shoreline is no longer muck but sand and gravel. He feels the biologic they have put in the lake is eating it. He also added that help is needed.

### **MAYOR'S COMMENTS**

The Mayor wanted to talk about pictures he brought tonight. There is a group called Walk America that gives grants up to \$1500.00 that could be given to an official Non Profit group, such as the NCP. The Borough could put a walk/bike lane by the lake to support the recreation project, Mayor's wellness campaign and continue so a trail could be made right to Waterloo. There is a traffic calming process to put on the street. Artists would design something and school children would come to do the painting. He suggested a test could be completed by the new electric panel on Koclas Dr. If it works well, the Borough may be able to do this in other areas. Councilman Still says he has no problem with it. No municipal funds will be used. Councilman Sylvester was concerned about the bike lane. He felt people would not stay in the bike lane and this could cause issues with traffic. The Council discussed this. The Mayor said he walks the street at least 5 times a week. He does not see too many bikes. Councilman Koster offered that a bike lane may help to keep bikes off the road.

The Mayor asked if there were any objections. Councilman Hathaway was very in favor for improving the walkability in that area. He noted there are already many people who use it and bringing people into the community is a good thing. Councilman Koster asked if the grant would cover the cost of the painting. The Mayor explained this is the primary purpose the grant will be used. He further explained the purpose of this. Councilman Koster was still concerned about the cost. Everyone agrees it is something the Borough should consider. The Mayor said there is also a grant for the Mayor's wellness program.

### **RESOLUTIONS**

**1. Resolution 2016-98 – To Redeem Tax Sale Certificate 12-00005**

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

Roll Call: 6 Yes

**2. Resolution 2016-99 – Authorizing the Abatement of Property Maintenance Ordinance Violations by the Borough**

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

Roll Call: 5 Yes      No: Councilman Laureys

**ORDINANCE INTRODUCTIONS**

- 1. Ordinance 2016-17 – To Amend Chapter 262, Towing, of the Code of the Borough of Netcong Regarding Applications for Towing Operators**

A Motion to Introduce Ordinance #2016-17 and Read by Title Only was made by Councilman Koster and seconded by Councilman Sylvester.

Roll Call: 6 Yes

A Motion to Pass Ordinance #2016-17 on First Reading was made by Councilman Koster and seconded by Councilman Koster.

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 Sylvester.

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:

- **Contract Negotiations – Fraternal Order of Police**



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 at 8:27 PM was made by Councilman Sylvester and seconded by Councilman Still.

Roll Call: 6 Yes

A Motion to come out of closed session was made by Councilman Still at 8:31 PM and seconded by Councilman Sylvester.


Roll Call: 6 Yes

### **ADJOURNMENT**

A Motion to Adjourn the Meeting was made at 8:32 PM by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Hathaway.

Roll Call: 6 Yes

Respectfully Submitted,

  
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Cynthia Eckert, Borough Clerk