

**BOROUGH OF NETCONG  
MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEETING**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF NETCONG HELD MARCH 8, 2018 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 12, 2018.
2. Publishing a notice in the Daily Record, the official newspaper of the Borough of Netcong on January 17, 2018 and mailing a copy to The Star Ledger on January 12, 2018.

**ROLL CALL**

Those in attendance this evening were Councilman Albensi, 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**

Ms. Dorothy Newman, Cross St.- Reported that there are four dogs in her neighborhood running free. They are urinating and defecating on other neighbor's property. This has been going on for years. Animal control has been notified many times and they have issued summons but the problem continues. She went into detail about this situation. She has called the police as well. She has even spoken to the owner of one of the dogs.

Ms. Patricia Leone – Amendola Ct. – Has the same complaint as Ms. Newman. She said the animals are quite aggressive when they are together. Mr. Blakeslee asked what time of day this happened. She said it is at all different times. She said this past weekend the dogs were chasing a neighborhood cat. She said the dogs wander at will. She provided extensive detail regarding the loose dogs. She wondered if the fine should be more aggressive. The Mayor asked if a complaint could be filed. The Police Chief will follow up with Tom Mendel tomorrow.

Mrs. Leone also complimented the DPW on the great job on plowing.

Dr. Ginter stepped forward representing the NCP on behalf of Stephen Fredericks, read a statement about the improvements made by the NCP in 2017. He requested a \$7500.00 contribution from the town for 2018. He offered to answer any questions the Council may have.

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

Roll Call: 6 Yes

### **PUBLIC HEARING ON THE SID COST ESTIMATE**

The Mayor opened the meeting regarding the SID Cost Estimate.

A Motion to close the public hearing was made by Councilman Hathaway and seconded by Councilman Still.

Roll Call: 5 Yes      No: Councilman Laureys

**Resolution #2018-34 - Resolution to Approve the 2018 Cost Estimate for the Borough's Special Improvement District.**

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

Roll Call: 5 Yes      No: Councilman Laureys

### **ORDINANCE ADOPTIONS**

- 1. Ordinance 2018-1- AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CHIEF OF POLICE TO EXECUTE AN APPLICATION FOR A CHARITABLE SOLICITATION PERMIT FOR NETCONG VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY NO. 1's "COIN DROP" ON MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND AT THE INTERSECTIONS OF ALLEN STREET AND LEDGEWOOD AVENUE AND MAIN STREET AND ROUTE 46 AND ROUTE 183 IN THE BOROUGH OF NETCONG, COUNTY OF MORRIS, STATE OF NEW JERSEY.**

A Motion to Read Ordinance 2018-1- by Title Only on Second Reading and a Hearing Held Thereon was made by Councilman Hathaway and seconded by Councilman Sylvester.

Roll Call: 6 Yes

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

Roll Call: 6 Yes

A Motion to Adopt Ordinance #2018-1 was made by Councilman Albensi and seconded by Councilman Hathaway.

Roll Call: 6 Yes

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

No correspondence was presented at this meeting.

### **BOROUGH ADMINISTRATOR REPORT**

Mr. Blakeslee gave an update on the Crown Point project. The information arrived late so no action can be taken this evening. He noted Councilman Laureys found one discrepancy which will be adjusted. Councilman Hathaway asked if there was a copy of the rendered picture. The Council had a brief discussion on this topic.

Mr. Blakeslee noted that the monthly update on the infrastructure project was added.

The status of the cable agreement was also updated. Mr. Oostdyk provided information regarding the franchise operation in detail with the Council. The Mayor intervened to say the Borough had met with the new company Altice but they did not schedule another meeting. Mr. Oostdyk explained the process. The Mayor asked if we should wait for the public hearing to discuss issues with them or do we meet ahead of the public hearing. Mr. Oostdyk is hoping the hearing date will prompt them to contact us.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Finance & Insurance:                      E. Still                      J. Sylvester

Councilman Still thanked Mr. Blakeslee and Jason for all the work they did preparing the budget. He explained we are waiting to introduce the budget and waiting on the Governor.

In the month of February 2018 the Borough had a total income in the amount of \$895,886.57 as compared to February 2017 of \$1,470,870.76.

For the month of February 2018:

Miscellaneous Revenue Not Anticipated (MRNA):

In 2018 the Borough received \$1,313.08 compared to \$720.44 in 2017

Other Licenses/Borough Clerks Fees:

In 2018 the Borough received \$11,137.07 compared to \$6,139.30 in 2017.

State Aid:

No state aid was received in February 2018 or in 2017 for that matter.

Grants in Aid:

There was no Grants in Aid money received during February 2018 compared to February 2017 where there was \$1,100.00 received.

Taxes Collected:

The Borough collected \$883,316.42 in 2018 compared to \$1,462,646.02 in 2017

*As mentioned last month two of the larger banks remitted 1" quarter taxpayments before the end of January in 2018 and those same banks sent their payments in February of 2017.*

Income Total Year to Date:

The Total Income Year to date for 2018 is \$2,025,925.88 as opposed to \$2,056,622.64 in 2017.

He also read a letter which stated Netcong has received a grant for Carolyn Way.

Economic Development:        R. Hathaway        E. Still

Councilman Hathaway provided a summary since the Administrative report covered the detail. He highlighted Shop Rite and noted that the Crown Point project is moving forward with a start day (currently) in May-June.

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

Councilman Sylvester read the fire and police reports

Fire Department:

Total Calls: 9

Drills: 6

Administrative Details: 4

Total Members: 33

Total Time Volunteered: 427 hours, 29 minutes

Police Report  
Total Calls: 274  
Motor Vehicle Summons: 81  
Local Summons: 8

The Fire Dept. received a \$19,000.00 Grant which will go directly to the company selling equipment.

A Safe Corridor Grant was received for \$690.00.

Councilman Sylvester thanked our OEM coordinator Wayne Anthony for all his work during the winter storm. He was instrumental in getting our power back. He also thanked the police and DPW for all their hard work.

The Mayor added the Police Department was fully engaged with our OEM during the storm. The Police Chief was also instrumental in engaging JCP&L in restoring the power.

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

Councilman Koster read the DPW report and Water Operator report

Road Department: Cut low hanging branches on Wiltop Rd ....Cleared clogged storm drains at the Park and Ride and Koclas Dr....Repaired collapsed storm drains on Bank St and Locust St....Repaired broken bollard on the corner of Prospect and Allen Terrace ....Patched pot holes as needed ....Repaired a broken valve riser on Main St near Jenny Lind ....Installed LED lights on the F-700 . ...Cleaned storm drain lids around town before heavy rains....

Water Department: Performed February meter readings ....Repaired a broken water main on Rt 46 near Elston Oil. ...ABB Meter service performed bi annual meter calibration at Borough wells ....Installed new radio meter at Netcong Heights, and 17 Highland Ave....

Buildings & Grounds: Scheduled replacement of front door handle at Borough Hall and scheduled replacement of broken glass for FH 1 garage door ....Confirmed the street sweeping date with Roxbury for the pt week of May ...

Snow: Plowed snow on February 17th and performed salt runs on February 1st, 4th, 5th, 8th, 14th, 17th...

Other: DPW attended a back safety class, a landscape safety class and a fast track to safety class....Tom Mendel attended a Recycle Coach webinar....

Recreation: J. Albensi T. Laureys

Councilman Albensi read the Recreation report.

1. **Rec and the Netcong Student Council is hosting a Family Fun Nite** for grades 2-4 on Friday March 16th from 5:30 – 7:30. The Council will teach the young students how to do the most recent dances, play some games, etc Recreation will offer "make your own sundae".
2. **Waitress Bus Trip** –sold out! (This Saturday March 10th).
3. We are working on a few additional trips for this year -we have Feast of San Genaro already booked for Saturday Sept 15th; hoping to book "Book of Mormon" in November and then possibly a Sands Casino Bus trip in June or July.
4. We are in the planning stages for our "**Kids Day**" to be held on Saturday June 9th. This event will include our annual color in the park contest, **DJ** entertainment, games, hot dogs, face painter, visits from the Fire Department (need to be asked) as well as Emergency Squad- event will be both educational and fun.
5. **Easter Egg Event with the PTA** will be held on Saturday March 24th from 1-3. Recreation will provide photos with the Easter Bunny and Cliffs Ice Cream.
6. Rec will be meeting with the Stanhope Council on Monday, March12th to continue conversation of a combined **Netcong/Stanhope summer camp**. Stanhope is removing themselves from their relationship with Byram.
7. **Paint & Sip Fundraiser**-Rec will be hosting a paint & sip fundraiser on Friday June 1st from 7-9pm, hopefully at Hilltop Firehouse. The cost is \$40 per person with fundraiser proceeds (\$20 per person) going to our local church foodbanks. (St. Michael's, Grace Baptist, Methodist, First Presbyterian). If we sell out, which we should (40 people) the 4 churches will split \$800! We will also look for donations for those who cannot attend this event.
8. **Tai Chi** will resume on the first Saturday, April 7th.Tai Chi begins at 10 am and will run every Saturday thru the end of September. Classes in April will most likely be held at Boro Hall, unless weather will be ok at DiRenzo Park.

9. **Annual Garage Sale sign-ups** scheduled for Saturday April 7th from 10 – 12.
10. **Concert planning has begun.** Hoping to start the season, beginning last Friday in June 29th.

He also described several programs for Municipal Alliance; A running program. The Council discussed this briefly. Also discussed was a program regarding bullying. Councilman Albensi described the agenda and invited the Mayor and Council to attend.

Public Services:                      T. Laureys                      J. Albensi  
(Human Services  
Recycling & Solid  
Waste Disposal

Councilman Laureys read the Dial A Ride report for February

Days of Service: 19  
Miles: 1033  
# of Stops: 69  
Nutrition: 3 people: 11  
Food Shopping: 36  
# of Meals on Wheels: 11  
Medical Appointments: 26  
Other Appointments: 56  
People Using Services: 35  
Cancels: 19  
Denials: 0  
Units: 271  
Hours: 106.25

The Mayor mentioned St. Clare's has a program that may combine with our Dial a Ride program.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

No old business was presented.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

No new business was presented

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

Council President Still thanked the Road Department and Police Department for the great job they did during the storm.

Councilman Sylvester brought up the topic of marijuana legalization. He wants to know if it has been brought to the attention of the Planning Board. Councilman Still said we are waiting for our attorney's opinion on this topic. There was brief discussion on this issue. Councilman Laureys asked if we can say we follow the Federal laws and not singling out any specific industry.

### **MAYOR'S COMMENTS**

The Mayor informed the Council that a letter was received from the Historic Preservation office. This party is holding up the Community Development Grant because it is saying Arbolino Park is a Historic site under Stanhope Borough. Mr. Blakeslee called the Historic office and they were not very agreeable. Mr. Blakeslee sent the information to Senator Bucco's office they will try to rectify this situation. Mr. McNeilly, Stanhope Administrator, will write a letter in our support. Councilman Still asked if this has to do with the Morris Canal. Mr. Blakeslee explained this will require an extra level of review. There is lengthy discussion on this issue.

### **RESOLUTIONS**

1. **Resolution #2018-35** -To Redeem Tax Sale Certificate 17-00002 assessed to William and Margaret Hamlin, 80 Allen Street.
2. **Resolution #2018-36** - Rescinding the Award of a Contract to HRS Drilling Co., Inc. For the Rehabilitation of Well No. 2 in the Township of Mount Olive and Authorizing the Borough Administrator to Solicit Additional Quotations.
3. **Resolution #2018-37- GOVERNING BODY CERTIFICATION OF COMPLIANCE WITH THE UNITED STATES EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION'S "Enforcement Guidance on the Consideration of Arrest and Conviction Records in Employment Decisions Under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964".**
4. **Resolution #2018-38-** Approval to Submit a Grant Application and Execute a Grant Contract with the NJ Department of Transportation for the Safe Corridor Project.

Councilman Still made a motion which was seconded by Councilman Albensi to approve the four resolutions noted above.  
Roll Call: 6 Yes

### **PROCLAMATIONS**

No proclamations were issued at this meeting.



## **ORDINANCE INTRODUCTIONS**

- 1. Ordinance 2018-2-**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE POLICE CHIEF TO EXECUTE AN APPLICATION FOR A CHARITABLE SOLICITATION PERMIT FOR AMERICAN LEGION AMBULANCE CORP OF STANHOPE/NETCONG'S "COIN DROP" ON JUNE 8<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 9<sup>TH</sup> 2018 AND ON SEPTEMBER 7<sup>TH</sup>, AND SEPTEMBER 8<sup>TH</sup>, 2018, AT THE INTERSECTIONS OF ALLEN STREET AND LEDGEWOOD AVENUE AND MAIN STREET AND ROUTE 46 IN THE BOROUGH OF NETCONG, COUNTY OF MORRIS, STATE OF NEW JERSEY.

A Motion to Introduce Ordinance #2018-2- and Read by Title Only was made by Councilman Sylvester and seconded by Councilman Hathaway.  
Roll Call: 6 Yes

A Motion to Pass Ordinance #2018-2- on First Reading was made by Councilman Sylvester and seconded by Councilman Hathaway.  
Roll Call: 6 Yes

- 2. Ordinance 2018-3-** AN ORDINANCE FIXING THE SALARIES OF CERTAIN OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE BOROUGH OF NETCONG, IN THE COUNTY OF MORRIS, STATE OF NEW JERSEY.

A Motion to Introduce Ordinance #2018-3- and Read by Title Only was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Sylvester.  
Roll Call: 6 Yes

A Motion to Pass Ordinance #2018-3- on First Reading was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Hathaway.  
Roll Call: 6 Yes

- 3. Ordinance 2018-4-** AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE REVISED GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE BOROUGH OF NETCONG BY THE INCLUSION OF A NEW CHAPTER 56 TO BE ENTITLED "PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT".

A Motion to Introduce Ordinance #2018-4 and Read by Title Only was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Hathaway.  
Roll Call: 6 Yes

A Motion to Pass Ordinance #2018-4 on First Reading was made by Councilman Hathaway and seconded by Councilman Albensi.  
Roll Call: 6 Yes

**REPORTS**

A Motion to Incorporate All Reports into the Minutes was made by Councilman Hathaway and seconded by Councilman Albeni.  
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

**PUBLIC PORTION OF MEETING**

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


**CLOSED SESSION**

There was no closed session this evening.

**ADJOURNMENT**

A Motion to Adjourn the Meeting was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Hathaway at 8:26PM. The motion was carried by unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

  
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Cynthia Eckert, Borough Clerk