

BOROUGH OF NETCONG

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF NETCONG HELD APRIL 5, 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 Laureys, Councilman Still, Councilman Sylvester and Mayor Nametko. Also present were Mr. Blakeslee, Borough Administrator and Mrs. Eckert, Borough Clerk.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Agenda Meeting – March 1, 2018

A motion to approve the above listed minutes was made by Councilman Hathaway and seconded by Councilman Sylvester.

Roll Call: 4 Yes Abstain: Councilman Albensi

- Regular Meeting – March 8, 2018

A motion to approve the above listed minutes was made by Councilman Hathaway and seconded by Councilman Sylvester.

Roll Call: 5 Yes

PUBLIC PORTION OF MEETING

Mr. Brian Schack – 60 Stoll St. Mr. Schack requested if there is anything we can do to deter speeding on Stoll St. particularly on the curve by 60 Stoll St. His car was struck Sunday. He described an incident that could have caused major damage to his property. He is concerned that this is a dangerous situation. The Mayor said we will pass this information on to the Chief of Police so they can put the radar speed detector in that area. The Mayor and Mr. Schack discussed installing a speed bump or something similar to slow down traffic. Mr. Schack wants to know how he can follow-up on the progress of the solution to this situation. The Mayor suggested he contact Mr. Blakeslee, Borough Administrator.

Margaret Ross, 60 Stoll St. – Mrs. Ross would like to know if Stoll St. can be made a one-way street. She provided her reasons for this request. The Mayor questioned her on specifics of this situation. She is concerned for the young children who live on the street and use that area to walk to school. Councilman Hathaway suggested we contact Bob Guerin Borough Engineer for an engineering review on this topic.

A Motion to close the meeting to the public was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Albensi.

Roll Call: 5 Yes

PRESENTATION – DEBRA MERZ FROM THE COUNTY OF MORRIS

STIGMA-FREE COMMUNITY INITIATIVE

Debra Merz, on behalf of the Stigma-Free Community Initiative, introduced this program to the Mayor and Council. She spoke about the issues of mental health, suicide, alcoholism and the stigma that comes with it. She went on to describe how this program originated and the specifics of the program. She noted that their committee meets monthly and where some of their locations are. She offered information and the links that the Borough can put on the website to connect with the county, so residents have access to programs that are available. She asked if the Council has received enough information from her about this program. Councilman Sylvester stated he noticed that many towns are doing this but not many schools. She explained that it is more difficult to get this program into the schools because they do not have enough time in their schedule to put this into effect. There was a brief discussion. She explained their next program will be helping people to learn how to approach this in a sensitive manner.

The Mayor asked what the Council needs to do besides pass a resolution. He asked what other steps the Council can take to put this into action. Ms. Merz suggested using the Health Nurse or Alliance program to start, and then get the message out to the public that these programs exist. Groups that could be included are Church groups, Girl or Boy Scouts. A booth at Netcong Day could be provided with this program's information. Business can be encouraged to treat their employees and customers with compassion and respect. She explained our town can be very active or not very active;

it is really up to the Borough. There was a lengthy discussion on the possibilities. The Mayor asked if there are any questions and thanked Ms. Merz for coming.

PUBLIC HEARING ON THE SID ASSESSMENTS

This will be carried to the April 12th meeting.

ORDINANCE ADOPTIONS

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 8TH, JUNE 9TH 2018 AND ON SEPTEMBER 7TH, AND SEPTEMBER 8TH, 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.

Carried to the April 12th meeting.

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

Carried to the April 12th meeting.

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".

Carried to the April 12th meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE

No correspondence was presented.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business presented at this meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

1. 2018 Budget

Mr. Blakeslee apologized for the typographical errors in his memo. He asked if anyone had any questions.

There were no questions from the Council.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR TO THE COUNCIL

The Council President reminded everyone that the budget needs to be supported. Councilman Hathaway acknowledged that this budget was a lot of work due to the tax revenue drop.

Councilman Hathaway mentioned that the school is interested in becoming more involved with the stigma free initiative. Mr. Costanza from the school board explained how the school would like to approach this and how they are behind in this initiative. He also mentioned the school is suffering both academically and financially. He said the school needs money and they are one of the lowest locally funded schools in the State. Mr. Costanza gave a lengthy discussion on possible solutions to these problems. The Council suggested that the school raise their budget by 2% every year instead of holding flat for several years and then trying to raise funds. There was lengthy discussion on school budget issues. Councilman Hathaway suggested that we use the Stigma Free program to benefit the school as well as the town. There was discussion among the Council to challenge the school to participate in this program. Councilman Albensi added that we are already doing many things for this through the Alliance.

Mr. Blakeslee noted that Project Self Sufficiency will be in town next Friday, April 13 for a kick off program from 1-3. The Sherriff Hope vehicle will also be here. Councilman Hathaway asked if we can do an email blast for this.

MAYORS COMMENTS

The Mayor had no comments at this time.

RESOLUTIONS

No resolutions were presented.

ORDINANCE INTRODUCTIONS

1. **Ordinance 2018-5-ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK (N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.14)**

Carried to the April 12th meeting.

2. **Ordinance 2018-6–To Amend Chapter 54, “Police Department” of the Revised General Ordinances of the Borough of Netcong Relayed to Requisites for appointment and Promotion in the Department.**

Carried to the April 12th meeting.

PUBLIC PORTION OF MEETING

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

Roll Call: 5 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 8:12pm.

Roll Call: 5 Yes

Respectfully Submitted,



Cynthia Eckert, Borough Clerk