

BOROUGH OF NETCONG

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF NETCONG HELD JULY 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 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

Agenda Meeting – June 7, 2018
Regular Meeting – June 14, 2018

Councilman Hathaway provided a correction on page 3.

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

Roll Call: 6 Yes

PUBLIC PORTION OF MEETING

A Motion to close the meeting to the public was made by Councilman Hathaway and seconded by Councilman Sylvester.

Roll Call: 6 Yes

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ORDINANCE ADOPTIONS

1. **Ordinance 2018-11-** AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 54, POLICE DEPARTMENT, ARTICLE IV, FEES, SECTION 54-16, FEES, PARAGRAPH F, CONTRACTED POLICE SERVICES, SUBPARAGRAPH (3) OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGHOF NETCONG, MORRIS COUNTY, NEW JERSEY.

This ordinance was carried to the July 12 meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. Netcong Fire Department – Letter – Food Truck Festival

A motion was made by Councilman Hathaway to approve and seconded by Councilman Albensi.

Roll Call: 3 Yes Abstain: Councilmen Koster, Still and Sylvester

2. Memo from Netcong Planning Board - Copy of Resolution Concerning the Determination of an Area in Need of Redevelopment – Shop Rite

Mr. Jim Scott Attorney for Shop Rite stepped forward to speak. He explained they did not come to this meeting with a report, they are just here to listen to any discussion that would take place. The Mayor explained there will be a resolution approved at the next meeting. He went on to discuss with Mr. Scott the next steps in the process. Mr. Blakeslee added to the discussion regarding next steps. Councilman Hathaway spoke with Mr. Scott about their concerns regarding redevelopment as well. Mr. Scott thanked the Council for their time.

3. Grace Church on the Mount – Letter – Sewer Connection

Mr. Sylvester asked if he has a right to allow a connection. The Mayor replied “no.” The Mayor will have several comments for this in the Mayor Comment portion of this meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

No old business was presented this evening.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Social Affair Permit – St. Cesario Fireworks

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

Roll Call: 6 Yes

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2. . Discussion – Determination Area of Redevelopment – Shop Rite Properties

The Mayor explained he tried to be clear to the attorney that they don't want the redevelopment to turn into a warehouse to help the other locations. Councilman Hathaway explained this is non-negotiable. There was discussion among the Council about the particulars of this project. Councilman Hathaway was especially concerned about the parking. All agreed that the Council needs to have control over this redevelopment area.

Councilman Albensi reported comments about the discussion at the Planning Board level. There was discussion on the particulars of the process after the resolution is passed next week.

The Mayor decided to provide his comments now instead of during the Mayor's Comment portion of this meeting. There will be a point the developers on all of the current potential projects will be coming to the Council with actual plans of their building both inside and out. Councilman Sylvester wanted to see the actual materials that will be used in these projects. Councilman Albensi said they did see renderings and they are in the conference room. Councilman Hathaway requested that everything be clearly defined. There was lengthy discussion within the Council. Councilman Sylvester said we still have time to discuss this. Councilman Hathaway stated that it had been suggested that the Council go to Harrison to see the developer's current project.

3. Set Penalties for Property Maintenance Violations

The Mayor sees a potential problem because we have many repeat offenders. Mr. Blakeslee explained the details of this subject and the possible changes that can be made to simplify and update the process. Councilman Still asked questions about the process and why we have two people working this. He wanted to know why people are not receiving tickets. The Council and Mr. Blakeslee had lengthy discussion about the process. Mr. Blakeslee is asking to change the structure of this process so people can just pay the tickets and not have to go to court. Councilman Still was adamant that we should only have one employee for this job. Councilman Hathaway made several comments about the current system. He asked Mr. Blakeslee to present the Council with a plan and procedure to make the steps clear. Councilman Sylvester expressed his concerns regarding what he felt needed to change. It was noted that most pervasive problem is the repeat offenders.

Councilman Still said the finance committee needs to meet and discuss this situation. The Council discussed the cost of the ordinance changes. Councilman Hathaway would like to know what all the changes are that need to be made so the ordinance can be changed. Mr. Blakeslee gave an example of one of these situations in detail. It was noted that the current ordinance does not have a fine schedule and is considered vague. Mr. Blakeslee would like to change it so there is a graduated scale of fees. The Chief of Police provided his opinion on this

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situation. Lengthy discussion among the Council continued. Councilman Hathaway requested a clear plan from Mr. Blakeslee so the Council can have an intelligent discussion on this subject.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR TO THE COUNCIL

Councilman Albensi reported that people are going on the website to find events and are having a hard time finding the information they need. He has someone who has volunteered to operate the recreation web page at no cost. It was decided that the volunteer should contact Mr. Blakeslee.

Councilman Hathaway provided an update regarding the grant for the boardwalk by the lake and stated that a letter of intent has been completed. A resolution that the Council agrees with participating is required. The Mayor and Mr. Blakeslee provided an explanation of this process. Councilman Hathaway said they will have a pre-application meeting for this. Mr. Blakeslee said many of these grants need a resolution and follow the same guidelines. There was discussion of the property in question.

Councilman Albensi asked if there is a way the Recreation Dept. can have control of what they send on Nixle. The Mayor explained that they try to keep a limited number of Nixle notifications. Councilman Albensi preferred to not interrupt the Netcong staff to put these announcements on the site. Mr. Blakeslee will look into a modification of the process.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS

The Mayor provided his comments earlier.

RESOLUTIONS

- 1. Resolution 2018-70** - Covenanting to Comply with the Provisions of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, Applicable to the Exclusion from Gross Income for Federal Income Tax Purposes of Interest on Obligations

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

Roll Call: 6 Yes

- 2. Resolution 2018-71** - Authorizing a Public Display of Fireworks by the St. Cesario Society at Arbolino Park

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

Roll Call: 6 Yes

ORDINANCE INTRODUCTIONS

No ordinances were introduced at this meeting.

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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: 6 Yes

CLOSED SESSION

There was no closed session.

ADJOURNMENT:

A Motion to Adjourn the Meeting was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Hathaway at 8:56PM and was passed by unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,



Cynthia Eckert, Borough Clerk