

BOROUGH OF NETCONG

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF NETCONG HELD OCTOBER 4, 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 – September 6, 2018
- Regular Meeting – September 13, 2018

A Motion to Approve the September 6, 2018 Minutes was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Sylvester.

Roll Call: 6 Yes

A Motion to Approve the September 13, 2018 Minutes was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Sylvester.

Roll Call: 4 Yes Abstain: Councilmen Koster and Laureys

PUBLIC PORTION OF MEETING

Mrs. Elaine Narby – 15 College Rd. – Mrs. Narby reported about the intersection of Stoll St and College Rd. She maintained that it is dangerous and difficult to see when you have to turn right from College onto Stoll St. She would like a stop sign put on Stoll St. The Mayor said he will follow up on this issue. Councilman Hathaway said he spoke with the police chief today and he will call Mrs. Narby to resolve this problem. She also mentioned there is a problem with speeding and large trucks coming through on College Rd.

Mrs. LaFalce – 17 College Rd. - Mrs. LaFalce stepped forward to support Mrs. Narby and stated the traffic on College Rd. has become ridiculous. Mr. Blakeslee said there are signs ordered to put on Stoll St. The Mayor suggested Mr. Guerin Borough Engineer come to a Public Works meeting to discuss this issue. There is discussion among the Council on this matter. The Mayor stated Mr. Blakeslee would send a letter to Mrs. Narby by October 22nd with a solution to this problem. Mr. Blakeslee explained signs have been ordered to deter large trucks from going on the side streets in town. The Mayor asks if anyone on the Council has an issue with putting in the speed tables. There is no objection from the Council. Mrs. LaFalce wanted to know if there is anything that can be done with the left-hand turn at the Rt. 46 intersection when turning onto Rt. 183. It is very short and does not allow more than 3 cars to go through the light. Mrs. Narby thanked the Council for their time.

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

Roll Call: 6 Yes

ORDINANCE ADOPTIONS

There were no ordinance adoptions presented.

CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence submitted.

OLD BUSINESS

No old business was presented.

NEW BUSINESS

No new business was presented.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR TO THE COUNCIL

Council President: There is a disconnection between committees. He feels there needs to be a better system of communication between the two groups after the individual

committee meetings. The Mayor suggested we need to use caution to avoid quorum issues. Councilman Still suggested the agenda meeting should be used for discussion and votes should be held for the Regular meeting. Mr. Blakeslee suggested notes being distributed to all council members after each committee meeting. There was lengthy discussion about this subject among the Council. Mr. Blakeslee restated the resolutions and business should just be listed on the agenda meeting for discussion and then voted on at the next meeting.

Councilman Hathaway agreed with sharing the meeting notes. The Mayor suggested the Administrator report should be provided at the agenda meeting so discussion could take place on the important issues. The Council agreed that there needs to be a change.

Councilman Albensi: Looking for a Municipal Alliance Coordinator. The job has a large volume of paperwork. This position would not be expected to be at the events. He would like to know if someone in the office can handle this. The Mayor suggested we need to offer this to someone in the public as the office staff is already busy and does not have time to handle the additional paperwork. Councilman Hathaway suggested offering it to the part time employees in the Police Department.

Councilman Sylvester: Would like to revamp the property maintenance program. He would like a committee to be formed to research and improve our current program because it is not working at this time. Councilman Sylvester and the Mayor would like to be on this committee. They will need a volunteer. Mr. Blakeslee has started gathering information on this subject. Councilman Still suggested a procedure should be developed and then presented to the Council for a vote.

MAYORS COMMENTS

There will be a short-closed session this evening on the NJ Transit MOU. The Mayor is concerned that the letter does not list the number of units. The Mayor read a portion of the agreement letter that may be a problem. Councilman Hathaway made several comments on this. There was lengthy discussion among the Council on this matter. It is agreed this agreement should not be signed at this time. Councilman Hathaway suggested we have another meeting with NJ Transit.

RESOLUTIONS

In light of discussion under privilege of the floor, the Council will discuss each resolution at this meeting.

- 1. Resolution 2018 - 96** – Authorizing the Abatement of Property Maintenance Ordinance Violations by the Borough.

Mr. Blakeslee filled the Council in about the particulars of this property and the process that has already taken place.

A Motion was made to approve this resolution was made by Councilman Sylvester and seconded by Councilman Hathaway.
Roll Call: 6 Yes

2. **Resolution 2018 - 97-** Authorizing the Execution of a Lease Purchase Agreement between the Borough of Netcong and First Hope Bank.

The Mayor explained the Administrator vehicle has over 140,000 miles and needs to be replaced. He explained the vehicle will not only be used by the Administrator but also for other borough functions. Mr. Blakeslee explained the particulars on the co-op that is offering the availability of this vehicle. Mr. Blakeslee explained that the current vehicle has been used during the day for various activities. Councilman Laureys asked if the vehicle is always here. Mr. Blakeslee explained it is here when he is. The Mayor stated the vehicle was part of the original contract negotiated with Mr. Blakeslee when he started his employment here. Councilman Hathaway asked what the lease payment is. It is a 5-year lease for \$5,800.00 per year. There is discussion on the particulars of the financing options. There was also discussion on the necessity for this. Councilman Koster wanted to know why this was not put in the budget. Mr. Blakeslee explained how this was decided and it will be coming out of the water/sewer budget. There is discussion among the Council on the need for the vehicle. Councilman Sylvester stated it was discussed in the spring if there was money left at the end of the year the car could be purchased. There was further discussion on this issue. Councilman Hathaway did research into the life left on the car. It needs approximately \$2,000.00 in repairs at this time which is why they are considering a new one. Councilman Still said all departments are well provided with vehicles and they see no reason to not purchase this lease. There was discussion among the Council on the current vehicles and how they are used and the timeline for purchase. Mr. Hathaway also stated it was his understanding this would not have any impact on the purchase of vehicles for other departments in 2019. The Council agreed.

A Motion was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Sylvester.
Roll Call: 6 Yes

3. **Resolution 2018-98-** Authorizing a Refund for a Water/Sewer Overpayment for the Year 2018 – Mr. and Mrs. Webb - 72 Stoll St.

A motion was made by Councilman Hathaway and seconded by Councilman Albensi to approve this resolution.
Roll Call: 6 Yes

4. **Resolution 2018-99-** Authorizing Sanitary Sewer and Water Allocations to FJZ Properties, LLC for Block 8, Lot 28 More Commonly Known as 126 Allen Street in the Borough of Netcong.

Mr. Blakeslee provided an explanation on this which has already been approved. Councilman Hathaway wants to know if we will now be able to enforce the site plan. He is concerned this property will continue to be a problem.

A motion to table this resolution for further discussion was made by Councilman Still and seconded by councilman Sylvester.

Roll Call: 5 Yes Abstain: Councilman Hathaway

5. **Resolution 2018-100-** Approval to Submit Grant Application and Execute a Grant Contract with the Department of Transportation for the Brookside Rd., Locust Road & Dogwood Road Resurfacing Project.

Councilman Still asked if this came out of committee. The Mayor suggested the committee people should be making the motion for things discussed at their committee meeting. It was determined this was discussed at a Council meeting. Councilman Hathaway said it was determined by the Engineer that these were the necessary projects to be addressed. There was discussion among the Council on how these projects are chosen.

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

Roll Call: 6 Yes

6. **Resolution 2018-101-** Approval to Submit a Grant Application and Execute a Grant Contract with the New Jersey Department of Transportation for the Wiltop Area Sidewalk Program- Phase I.

Councilman Hathaway does not remember this being discussed. He would like to have a report submitted with an explanation so the Council understands how this was chosen.

A Motion to table for this resolution for further discussion was made by Councilman Sylvester and seconded by Councilman Still.

Roll Call: 6 Yes

7. **Resolution 2018-102-** Authorizing the Execution of a Revised Memorandum of Understanding Between the Borough of Netcong and Crown Point Development Group, Inc. for Certain Riparian Mitigation Work to Be Completed at Arbolino Park.

Councilman Hathaway can give a summary on this. Mr. Blakeslee also received an update on an issue with the block and lot for Arbolino Park. Councilman Hathaway gave details on this subject. There is lengthy discussion among the Council on this matter.

Mr. Blakeslee asked for this to be tabled at this time.

A Motion to table this resolution for further discussion at the next meeting was made by Councilman Hathaway and seconded by Councilman Still.
Roll Call: 6 Yes

PROCLAMATION

No proclamations were read during this meeting.

ORDINANCE INTRODUCTIONS

1. Ordinance 2018-12 – To Amend Ordinance 2018-3 Fixing the Salaries of Certain Officers and Employees of the Borough of Netcong in the County of Morris and State of New Jersey

This ordinance will be carried to the October 11, 2018 meeting.

Mr. Blakeslee explained the reason for this change. They would be switched to salary instead of hourly. There is discussion among the Council on this subject. Councilman Still requested we consult our Borough Attorney on this matter. Mr. Blakeslee will pull model ordinances for next week's meeting. Councilman Hathaway asked if the Police Chief is ok with this plan. The Mayor suggested we advertise for crossing guards every year. Councilman Hathaway suggested there would be a new contract to outline the particulars. Councilman Hathaway suggested that we have the Police Chief's opinion since he will be running the program. There was lengthy discussion on this subject.

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

The Borough Clerk read the resolution to go into closed session:

ADJOURNMENT INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION

WHEREAS, Section 8 of the Open Public Meetings' Act (N.J.S.A. 10:4-12) permits the exclusion of the public from a Meeting of the Mayor and Council in certain circumstances: and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Netcong are of the opinion that such circumstances exist.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Netcong, County of Morris, State of New Jersey that:

1. The public shall be excluded from discussion of any action on the closed Session.
2. The general nature of the subject matter to be discussed: Contract Negotiations – Woodmont Properties
3. It is anticipated at this time that the above-stated subject matter will be made public as soon thereafter as it is deemed in the public interest to do so;
4. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

A Motion to go into closed session was made by Councilman Sylvester and seconded by Councilman Hathaway.

Roll Call: 6 Yes

A Motion to close the Executive Session was made by Councilman Hathaway and seconded by Councilman Sylvester.

Roll Call: 6 Yes

A Motion to come out of closed session was made by Councilman Hathaway and seconded by Councilman Sylvester.

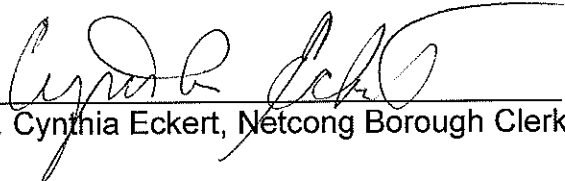
Roll Call: 6 Yes

ADJOURNMENT

A Motion to Adjourn the Meeting was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Hathaway at 9:16 pm.

Roll Call: 6 Yes

Respectfully Submitted,



Mrs. Cynthia Eckert, Netcong Borough Clerk