

BOROUGH OF NETCONG

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF NETCONG HELD OCTOBER 11, 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 this evening.

GRACE CHURCH – Sewer Tie in Request

Mr. Tim Leonard Executive Director from the church thanked the Council for inviting him to speak at this meeting. He mentioned that he had spoken with Mr. Blakeslee about the specifics of this project. He said the church has minimal usage. Their septic system is 40 years old so they are motivated to move forward. The Mayor explained we are still working with our professionals. He asked if there was anything else the church could do.

PUBLIC PORTION OF MEETING

Mr. Bob Colannani 4 Chestnut St.: He inquired about what can be done about the overflow of traffic from Polo's Bar. His once quiet street is now crowded with cars and

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traffic that travels beyond the speed limit on a regular basis. People are coming out with food, cigarettes etc. leaving litter behind. The restaurant clients are constantly turning around in his driveway. When he has guests, there is no parking available. The Mayor explained this was discussed this evening in the Public Safety Committee's meeting. He continued providing the particulars about this issue. He noted that the Council hears their concerns and will work on a solution. Mr. Bucco stated he had been contacted by the Borough Administrator and he is looking into the laws so they can handle this situation properly. He provided details on the steps that will be taken to resolve this situation. Mr. Colannani continued to explain the frustrations involved with this issue.

Mrs. Linda Esposito: 2 Chestnut St. stepped forward to let the Council know the difficulties she has been having. She has a hard time getting in and out of her driveway and garbage/food is being left in her driveway. Mr. Blakeslee explained the sign is placed according to state statute and cannot be removed from her property. Councilman Hathaway suggested the sign could be moved a bit away from her driveway. Mrs. Esposito will now have to put her garbage cans in her driveway in order to keep people out of her driveway.

Mrs. Linda Colananni: 4 Chestnut St. - she would like to know why they can't have valet parking at Polo's. This would allow them to double park and contain more vehicles in their own parking lot. The Mayor said the Council is looking into solutions to this problem which will include residential parking only. The Mayor likes this recommendation and will have it considered.

Mr. John Reilly: 3 McMullen St. explained how his property floods and when cars come by his house, it forces the water into his property and home. He wants the Council to know his house takes the brunt of the traffic and flooding. It has been years of flooding. Councilman Hathaway explained this is difficult because the state is not easy to work with.

Mrs. Kim Arbolino: The Color Run is next Saturday. She is here to invite the Council to observe. She asked if the Mayor would open the event like he did last year. She thanked the Council as well as the DPW and Police for their support.

Mr. Colannani stepped forward again and asked if the fire hydrant on their road is working. Councilman Sylvester said if there was no bag on it; yes. It was established the hydrant is working properly. The parking is being violated as many cars are parking and blocking the hydrant. Mr. Blakeslee suggested painting the curb in front of the hydrant.

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

Roll Call: 6 Yes

ORDINANCE ADOPTIONS

There were no adoptions of Ordinances.

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CORRESPONDENCE

No correspondence was presented at this meeting.

BOROUGH ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

Mr. Blakeslee highlighted several topics in his report that he felt should be discussed. He suggested adopting a resolution each year for the new meeting prep procedures. He also highlighted the property maintenance issues and that he has prepared a binder with information.

Mr. Guerin, Borough Engineer was invited by Mr. Blakeslee to discuss the College Rd./Stoll St. traffic issue. The Mayor asked about putting a stop sign on Stoll St. Mr. Guerin gave the particulars on the process involved in putting a stop sign in this area and the problems that will arise. Mr. Guerin said DOT will return the resolution for this sign because stop signs cannot be used for speed control. Councilman Hathaway said the concern for the residents was sight issues not necessarily speed. Mr. Guerin stated the problem is a large bush by the house on the corner. Councilman Still asked if a flashing light would work. Councilman Sylvester asked about speed tables. He said you could use a speed bump or hump which would be the possible scenario for this situation. He continued to list possible solutions to this situation. Councilman Sylvester felt speed humps would slow the traffic down. Mr. Guerin said the detriment to this is it slows down emergency vehicles. There was lengthy discussion on the particulars of possible solutions and their locations. The price of the speed humps was also discussed as well as the impact on the residents on the street were the speed bumps would be installed. There is liability involved with speed bumps as well. Councilman Hathaway stated we have had two groups of residents asking for a remedy to this situation, one being the condo association at the curve on Stoll St. Mr. Blakeslee said we will be adding the funds for speed bumps into the 2019 capital budget. Councilman Hathaway was in favor of coming up with criteria to make this decision so it is not a demand from other residents in town. Councilman Still is in favor of signs over speed bumps. He said a radar sign might be a better solution. There is further discussion on the down side to the speed bumps. He suggests polling the residents in this area may be a benefit to establishing the criteria. Councilman Koster asked if we can change the speed limit on this road. Mr. Bucco said the laws have changed on that. The Engineer can do a study and make a recommendation. Mr. Guerin said the signs may be a cheaper option than speed bumps. The Mayor said a decision needs to be made. Councilman Hathaway suggested we put a speed radar sign in this area to see if it facilitates a change. He is afraid if we start putting in speed humps everyone will want them on their street. Councilman Still agreed. Councilman Still asked the Police Chief to come forward. He will put the portable sign on the corner and track the data for two weeks and then give a report on the results.

Mr. Blakeslee will send a letter to Mrs. Narby with the results of this conversation.

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COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance & Insurance: E. Still J. Sylvester

Councilman Still read his report.

For the month of September 2018 the Borough had a total income in the amount of \$235,918.27 as compared to September 2017 of \$200,545.77.

For the month of September 2018:

Miscellaneous Revenue Not Anticipated (MRNA):

In 2018 the Borough received \$3,227.21 compared to \$1,901.00 in 2017

Other Licenses/Borough Clerks Fees:

The Borough received \$21,733.59 compared to \$14,647.34 in 2017.

State Aid:

We received \$117,571.80 in state aid in September 2018 however in September 2017 we received the same amount of \$117,571.80.

Grants in Aid:

There were no grants in aid received during September 2018 compared to September 2017 where there was \$780.50 received.

Taxes Collected:

The Borough collected \$93,385.67 in 2018 compared to \$65,645.13 in 2017

Income Total Year to Date:

The Total Income Year to date for 2018 is \$7,160,645.95 as opposed to \$6,802,793.95 in 2017.

Economic Development: R. Hathaway E. Still

Crown Point: Councilman Hathaway reported that this is under 'old business' but he will summarize here. Mr. Bucco stated he does not see how this will be accomplished by Nov. 1st. He does not feel this in the best interest of the Borough to rush through just so they can have their closing. He feels this PILOT offer is minimal at best. There is much at stake and he feels this should not be rushed. The Committee will not have time to review and understand these agreements fully by Nov. 1st. The Mayor stated he has just started to review the red lined copy sent by Mr. Bucco. He feels this needs to go through the Committee and to our professionals before this can come to the full Council. Councilman Hathaway concluded we cannot make any schedule to complete this. There is too much to review quickly. Mr. Bucco went on to explain in detail the particulars on this subject. Councilman Hathaway said it had been discussed to have a special meeting in October and a November meeting will not help the deadline either. Mr. Bucco said there is also the issue with the mitigation plan due the lack of a block and lot number for Arbolino Park. We will need to establish one and find out how the

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Borough acquired it. Councilman Hathaway restated there is much work to be done on this and may not be accomplished by November 1st. Mr. Rasmussen, representative for Crown Point is in the audience and Mr. Bucco spoke to him about the issues on this matter.

Mr. Blakeslee asked if he should schedule a meeting with Mr. Bucco, Mr. Goldstein, the Committee and Council President. It was agreed a meeting should take place. There was further discussion on this and the Mayor wanted to make sure it is right; it is owed to the taxpayers.

Pocketbook Factory: the new developer will be coming back to the Planning Board to amend the site plan. Mr. Guerin explained some of the details of the application one of which is additional units. There was further explanation by Mr. Guerin on this subject. Councilman Hathaway said this can be discussed in the Committee meetings. Mr. Bucco also suggested Mr. Guerin keyed in on the COAH units and consistency in that area with Mr. Paul Phillips our planner. There was lengthy discussion on this. Mr. Guerin added to this discussion in reference to the COAH percentages in other towns.

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

Councilman Sylvester read the police department report. There were no reports for Fire Department or Ambulance Squad. Councilman Sylvester explained patrolman Hardiman made a stop that resulted in a large haul of drugs and money.

Police:
Total Calls: 439
Motor Vehicle Summons: 110
2 overweight vehicles:
 One was pulled over by police and discovered drugs (cocaine and heroin)
 and cash.
DWI Grant \$3500.00

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

Councilman Koster read the DPW report.

Road Department: Repaired 3 storm drains ... Took down the American Flags on Main St and Maple Ave ... Repaired a sink hole on Maple Ave ... Installed more no parking signs on Chestnut and McMullen St.. .. Picked up 52 cy of grass Picked up 3 6 cy of brush

Water Department: Performed multiple utility mark out requests ... Had a pre-construction meeting for new reservoir roof project and the water main extension in to

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Mt. Olive The old reservoir project on Church St was completed Performed monthly water samples

Sewer Department: Raise sewer clean outs on RR Ave for new sidewalk installs

Buildings & Grounds: Peterson tree service cut down dead trees and trimmed overgrown branches behind Boro Hall

Snow: Performed equipment inspection with plow contractor. .. Installed and tested all the sanders on our trucks

Other: DPW performed all tasks associated with Netcong Day Mike Canfield attended a JIF Managers meeting in Montville and quarterly safety meeting at Boro Hall. ... The new John Deere 310 backhoe was delivered Performed pick up and return of county equipment for Netcong Day and Food Truck Festival. .. Signed up for an annual weather service called Weather Works out of Hackettstown

New Back-hoe was delivered and the old one traded in.

The Mayor asked about the reservoir demolition at the top of Church St. Mr. Guerin said the project is almost complete. The Mayor wanted to know what we would need to do to put the lot up for sale. It is about 15,000 SF. Mr. Guerin provided explanation about the steps that would be taken to prepare. Mr. Bucco added additional details to the process. There was discussion among the Council on this subject. Councilman Koster asked if the Assessor can give us an appraisal. Mr. Bucco explained the details regarding this. Mr. Blakeslee said we could have Mr. Guerin start the work on the meets and bounds. Mr. Guerin explained what he would prefer to do before the meets and bounds would be done. He gave details on this as well as possibilities. Mr. Bucco commented regarding this. There is lengthy discussion among the Council and professionals on the subject of a cul-de-sac in the plan. Mr. Bucco asked for a copy of the tax map of that area so he could better understand the situation.

Recreation: J. Albeni T. Laureys

Councilman Albeni read his report.

1. We will have our last Broadway Show Bus trip of the season on 11/3 - Book of Mormon.
2. We have also booked Pretty Woman for 3/2/2019.
3. We are looking into the possibility of a Painted Barn Fundraiser- details to follow.
4. Trunk or Treat - will be Oct 27, with new start time of 4pm. Entertainment by Jojo.
5. On Sunday Feb 24th, 2019 Recreation will host their second Netcong Recreation Restaurant Showcase. We will help celebrate the Growing Stage's 100th anniversary!! Details to follow.
6. Recreation is working on revising the "use of field" guidelines. Most likely will have something to share before end of year.

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7. Holiday Parade is just around the corner. We will start our emails blasts and advertising immediately after Trunk or Treat. Save the dates were sent out in June.

Councilman Albensi asked if we could get an additional light at DiRenzo Park and roof repair on the gazebo. He said the Field House at Lenape Football Field could use some clean up. He would like to know if there is extra money to make these repairs. Councilman Still suggested this be put on the budget list to be submitted to the Finance Committee. Councilman Sylvester suggested these things should be considered under building and grounds budget. The Mayor reiterated this should be submitted in writing to the committee for the 2019 Capital Budget.

Councilman Albensi asked if there was interest in Volunteer Hours, Municipal Alliance and Part Time Employees. Mr. Blakeslee replied that the Chief spoke with the Police Secretary. She requested more details about the job. Councilman Albensi noted that Ms. Vervaet is still a member of the Alliance even though she has stepped down as Coordinator. He asked for direction on how to make sure there is reimbursement for volunteers when they purchase supplies for the committee projects. Mr. Blakeslee responded. Councilman Still asked about the matching funds. He wanted to know if the Chief had come up with DARE funds. Mr. Blakeslee is taking care of this.

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

Councilman Laureys read the Dial A Ride report.

Days of Service: 18
Miles: 982
of Stops: 58
Nutrition for 3 people: 18
Food Shopping: 52
of Meals on Wheels: 16
Medical Appointments: 12
Other Appointments: 88
People Using Services: 43
Cancels: 8
Denials: 0
Units: 298
Hours: 90
Additional notes: 2 days no dial a ride: Labor Day and day off

Mayor Nametko noted that we would have an additional cost added to our recycling.

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OLD BUSINESS

1. Crown Point – Developer’s Agreement, PILOT and Arbolino Park MOU

This topic was discussed during Economic Development reports

NEW BUSINESS

No new business was presented.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR TO THE COUNCIL

Council President Still -Thanked the Chief on the great job done with the drug bust and thanked Mike for the help with Netcong Day.

Councilman Hathaway–The state will not be lowering the lake or cleaning the swirl chamber this year. It was understood this should be done at least once per year. The swirl chamber is close to being out of spec and will not make it through the winter and it is diffusing silt into the lake. He provided details on this concern. He asked Mr. Canfield to explain the conversation he had with park officials this week. He has asked our attorney to become involved. Mr. Bucco asked if we can take photos of the inside of the chamber. Mr. Canfield explained that under water pictures are not able to be taken. He does measure it every month. Councilman Hathaway continued to provide details on this. Mr. Guerin gave some details on this subject as well. Mr. Blakeslee stated there was refusal to put this agreement in writing. Mr. Bucco suggested a letter be sent to the DEP and if they don’t respond we can clean the chamber ourselves. The only problem with this is we cannot do that when the lake is not lowered. There was further lengthy discussion on this issue. A letter will be sent.

MAYOR’S COMMENTS

The Mayor had a couple of comments but decided to hold them at this time.

RESOLUTIONS

1. **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.

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

Roll Call: 6 Yes

2. **Resolution 2018 – 103** – Authorizing a Display of Fireworks by Joseph Zaccarino at St. Michael’s Church.

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Mr. Bucco said we need to be named as additional insured on the fireworks company. Mrs. Eckert explained that this was not Netcong property. Discussion within the Council continued. Mr. Bucco explained that since we are approving this, we need to be named as an additional insurer.

A motion was made by Councilman Albensi and seconded by Councilman Sylvester.

Roll Call: 6 Yes

- 3. Resolution 2018 – 104 - Authorizing the Award of a Contract to Gaeta Recycling Co., Inc. for Garbage Collection and Disposal Services.**

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

Roll Call: 6 Yes

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

A Motion to Table Ordinance #2018-12 and Read by Title Only was made by Councilman Sylvester and seconded by Councilman Still.

Roll Call: 6 Yes

REPORTS

A Motion to Incorporate All Reports into the Minutes was made by Councilman Albensi 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

PUBLIC PORTION OF MEETING

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

Roll Call: 6 Yes

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ADJOURNMENT INTO CLOSED SESSION

WHEREAS, Section 8 of the Open Public Meetings' Act, Chapter 231, PL 1975 permits the exclusion of the public from a Meeting under 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 and State of New Jersey as follows:

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. As nearly as can now be ascertained the matter or matters to be discussed at this time will be disclosed to the public when such matters are resolved.

A motion to go into Closed Session was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Hathaway at 9:24 pm.

Roll Call: 6 Yes

The closed session ended at 9:52 pm.

A Motion for the Engineer to create a report for Sewer Pipe under Railroad Tracks was made by Councilman Albensi and seconded by Councilman Hathaway.

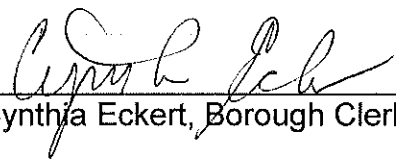
Roll Call: 6 Yes

ADJOURNMENT

A Motion to Adjourn the Meeting was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Hathaway at 9:54pm.

Roll Call: 6 Yes

Respectfully Submitted:


Cynthia Eckert, Borough Clerk