

BOROUGH OF NETCONG

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF NETCONG HELD JULY 11, 2019 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 4, 2019.
2. Publishing a notice in the Daily Record, the official newspaper of the Borough of Netcong on January 9, 2019 and mailing a copy to The Star Ledger on January 4, 2019.

ROLL CALL

Those in attendance this evening were Councilman Albensi, Councilman Hathaway, Councilman Koster, Councilman Still and Mayor Nametko. Also present were Mr. Blakeslee, Borough Administrator and Mrs. Eckert, Borough Clerk.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Agenda Meeting – June 6, 2019
- Regular Meeting – June 13, 2019

A motion was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Albensi to approve the minutes.

Roll Call: 4 Yes

(For the record, Mr. Bucco arrived at 7:40PM)

PUBLIC PORTION OF MEETING

Mr. Ray Sylvester – 129 Ledgewood Ave. read his letter (he had previously dropped off to Borough Clerk) to the Council. (Letter is posted in the Correspondence Section) In response to the details in the letter, the Mayor said new larger signs were ordered. Mr. Sylvester stated that is not enough. He said there are trucks that stay in the Knights parking lot all night long with their vehicle running. He would like to get the DOT involved. He gave details about the situations he has been dealing with for a long time. He requested traffic be diverted down the other side of the hill instead of through Netcong. The Chief confirmed the trucks parking at the Knights can be ticketed and towed because they are on private property. He gave further details on the situations that occur each day. Mr. Blakeslee let the Mayor and Council know he had written a letter to Roxbury about Netcong's position with this situation. The Mayor said we had contacted Roxbury about moving the trucks down to the other side of the hill and met with disagreement. Mr. Sylvester stated there are not many homes on that side of the highway which would make more sense. There was continued discussion on this subject. The Mayor agrees with Mr. Sylvester's complaints. Mr. Bucco asked if Mr. Blakeslee has spoken with the Roxbury town manager. Mr. Blakeslee stated he had. Mr. Bucco said the DOT could be contacted but they may have issues because of the commerce rules. Mr. Bucco feels many of these existing rules are grandfathered which is why they now have to get variances. Councilman Still suggests Mr. Sylvester go to the Planning Board meeting in Roxbury to complain about the current situation. Mr. Bucco asked the Chief of Police if we can get a report on the number of traffic accidents that have occurred in that spot.

The Chief stated that he could do a traffic survey. Mr. Dellamo (in audience) stated the State Police will provide a report within 2 weeks. There is lengthy discussion on this subject. Mr. Sylvester stated it is the local truckers that cause the most problems. Councilman Hathaway stated the owner of the PILOT property is willing to put a sign directing the trucks to the other side of the location. The Chief will go ahead and complete a traffic study. The Mayor asks if we can write summons for these trucks. The Chief requested that Mr. Sylvester call the police instead of trying to handle these things on his own. Mr. Blakeslee will contact Roxbury for an update on the status of this project.

Mr. Ben Dellamo-30 Church St. – Mr. Dellamo spoke to Mr. Blakeslee about old reservoir lot which is near his house. Mr. Dellamo asked if this could be sold to the surrounding neighbors without going to auction. Mr. Dellamo asked if subdividing creates a hardship so the Borough can sell the lot. Mr. Bucco explained how this lot can be sold. Mr. Bucco gave an explanation of the options that can take place to sell this property. There was discussion between Mr. Dellamo and Mr. Bucco. Mr. Bucco would have to do a bit of research on this. The Mayor gave comments on the reasons for the Borough wanting to sell this property. There is lengthy discussion on this subject. Mr. Bucco made a drawing for Mr. Dellamo to give details on how this would be done. They would be selling small pieces to eliminate encroachments and then selling the remaining lot by auction. Mr. Dellamo asked about access. Mr. Bucco stated there

would still be access through the existing road. There is further discussion on the details of this property. Mr. Dellamo asked when this will be done. It was explained to him the search took a while to do but a map was made.to show the plan. There was further discussion between Mr. Bucco and Mr. Dellamo. Mr. Bucco explained this plan is to help the adjacent property owners to eliminate the easements. The Mayor explained this will take time to complete.

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

Roll Call: 4 Yes

ORDINANCE ADOPTIONS

1. Ordinance 2019-7 - AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTERS 169 AND 183 OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF NETCONG, MORRIS COUNTY, NEW JERSEY, AND ESTABLISHING REGULATIONS FOR TRANSIENT FOOD AND DRINK MERCHANTS INCLUDING FOOD TRUCK VENDORS.

A Motion to Read Ordinance 2019-7 by Title Only on Second Reading and a Hearing Held Thereon was made by Councilman Koster and seconded by Councilman Hathaway.

Roll Call: 4 Yes

The meeting was open to the public for comment. No one stepped forward.

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

Roll Call: 4 Yes

A Motion to Adopt Ordinance 2019-7 was made by Councilman Hathaway and seconded by Councilman Koster.

Roll Call: 4 Yes

Ordinance 2019-13 - 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 BOROUGH OF NETCONG, MORRIS COUNTY, NEW JERSEY.

A Motion to Read Ordinance 2019-13 by Title Only on Second Reading and a Hearing Held Thereon was made by Councilman Koster and seconded by Councilman Still.

Roll Call: 4 Yes

A Motion to Close Public Hearing was made by Councilman Koster and seconded by Councilman Still.

Roll Call: 4 Yes

A Motion to Adopt Ordinance 2019-13 was made by Councilman Stilll and seconded by Councilman Koster.

Roll Call: 4 Yes

CORRESPONDENCE

1. Letter - Ray Sylvester- PILOT Gas Station

To the Mayor and Council,

My name is Ray Sylvester. I have resided at 129 Ledgewood Ave. for the past 25 years. I understand that The PILOT is currently looking to expand its operations. I also understand that the Boro of Netcong has sent an official letter, stating their dissatisfaction for this application. I think it's time to stop asking Roxbury to do certain things when clearly they will do what benefits them. I believe that we should tell Roxbury to start doing what we want!! For starters demand they put signage instructing all trucks to exit right and to continue onto 46 east to get back to route 80 where 90 percent of the traffic is going. Who ever heard of a truck stop over a mile off of the interstate? Well Roxbury does, and it doesn't matter to them since they are not affected one bit by this. Let some of the traffic roll down their side of the hill, this alone will cut traffic by almost 50%! We bear the brunt of the traffic and the noise yet receive no benefit at all. Maybe it's about time we involve the DOT for some ideas, to reduce the speed of the trucks and proper signage at the top of the hill or anything else that can help. We have a "no jake brake" ordinance in town and the sign is barely visible from the road. A lousy 12x18 inches, no one can see when there flying down the hill. I asked Chief Blesson to put the digital sign at the new intersection and he does, but sometimes other things take precedent. Why can't we look to a large permanent sign for starters and then call onto the police to enforce the ordinance among other things that have to do with the trucks? I know some of you are going to say that I live on a "highway" but it has become an entrance and exit ramp for the PILOT. All hours of day and night trucks rumble up and down the hill, I have personally chased trucks who make Route 46 their personal rest stop at all hours of the day and night. I invite any and all of you to come and sit on my porch and see what my "quality of life" and living at 129 Ledgewood Ave. has become and see for yourself. Mr. Bucco what are you going to do for the people of Netcong concerning this matter? I understand you also represent Roxbury and this matter might be a conflict of interest. Well it's not for me. We pay you to represent us and you should do just that. Roxbury always sticks its crap on the outside of town so as to not impact the "good" citizens of Roxbury, but not really caring about its surrounding towns as neighbors. If Artie Ondish were here, he would agree 100%.

Sincerely and respectfully,

Ray Sylvester

BOROUGH ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

Mr. Blakeslee had one addition: there was flooding at Tony Tank and some issues were found on the property that needs to be abated. The property owner has requested help to clean the pipe that is on his property causing the flooding. The question is if the Borough should be going on this property to do repairs since it is private property. There is a culvert which can be a danger when filled with water. Mr. Canfield, DPW Superintendent, explained the details of the culvert and where the water is coming from. Councilman Hathaway asked for detail of where the water is coming from. Councilman Hathaway provided details on previous flooding in that area. Mr. Canfield added details about the water in that area. Councilman Still wondered why the bar owner has not complained since her parking lot gets flooded. Sgt. Coppalella explained the current situation there. It is agreed this has nothing to do with Tony tank and the town should clean it up as it is a byproduct of a previous road project. Mr. Canfield said we do not have the proper equipment to clean this area. It is too large. Councilman Hathaway asked if we did the cleaning at the end of Hilts Lane which is a similar situation. Mr. Canfield gave examples of other clean up but these were different situations. The current blocked pipe is large and not easily cleaned. Mr. Bucco stated we cannot just go on private property to do this work. We have to get a temporary construction permit to do this repair. Councilman Hathaway asked what needs to be done to fix this. Mr. Bucco provided explanation. Mr. Canfield stated it is not known where the blockage is. There was further discussion on this. Mr. Canfield expressed concern about going on private property. This is why this situation has been brought to the Council's attention. Mr. Bucco is concerned about the Borough going onto private property. Mr. Bucco asked if a camera could be run through the pipe to see where the blockage is. The Police Chief and Mr. Canfield will go to the property tomorrow to have the owner put a plate over the opening. Sgt. Coppalella gave explanation of the current details of the area. The Police Chief is concerned someone will get hurt. Mr. Canfield wanted direction on how to handle this situation when he goes there tomorrow. Mr. Bucco reminded the Council if the Borough puts their own cover on it the Borough then becomes liable if there is a lawsuit. Councilman Hathaway suggests we require them to cover the culvert. There is heated discussion among the Council.

A Motion to fix Culvert located at Long Street (Tony Tank) after permission is granted via temporary permit for Mr. Canfield to be on the property was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Hathaway.

Roll Call: 4

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance & Insurance:

E. Still

J. Sylvester

For the month of June 2019 the Borough had a total income in the amount of \$79,605.75 as compared to June 2018 of \$157,153.89.

For the month of June 2019:

Miscellaneous Revenue Not Anticipated (MRNA):

In 2019 the Borough received \$2,209.00 compared to \$1,600.50 in 2018

Other Licenses/Borough Clerks Fees:

The Borough received \$16,431.49 in 2019 compared to \$15,913.91 in 2018.

State Aid:

There was no State Aid received in either June 2019 or June 2018.

Grants in Aid:

We received \$80.37 in June 2019 for Grants in Aid as compared to \$70,124.47 in June 2018.

Taxes Collected:

The Borough collected \$60,884.89 in 2019 compared to \$69,515.01 in 2018.

Income Total Year to Date:

The Total Income Year to date for 2019 is \$4,725,390.28 as compared to \$4,489,669.40 in 2018.

Economic Development: R. Hathaway E. Still

Councilman Hathaway noted that all was discussed during the Borough Administrator's report.

He asked about the review of the PILOT and Developers agreement at Mr. Bucco's office. Mr. Bucco noted what has been reviewed thus far. The Mayor had several comments regarding this. Everything is done on this project except for the PILOT and Dev. Agreement.

Crown Point is still on track to demolish Quirk in August.

Woodmont is in the process of closing.

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

Councilman Koster read the police report. Fire Dept. and Ambulance were not available.

Police Dept.:

Total Calls: 444

Overweight Vehicles:13

Dept. of Public

Works & Utilities: E. Koster R. Hathaway

D.P.W. Monthly Report June 2019

Road Department: Picked up 60cy of brush, and 24cy of grass Repaired sink holes on upper Center St Cleared fire lanes off of Water St and Lake St. Paved deteriorated areas on Love Lane Replaced a broken storm drain pipe on Dell ave

Water Department: repaired a service leak on 11 Amendola Dr. water line ... HRS installed 180ft of new 3in pipe for well 1 George Walters began the annual leak analysis of the water system

Sewer Department: Received a sewer demo of the new trailer jet and set up the purchase thru Jet Vac along with new and improved accessory tools

Buildings & Grounds: Prepped truck 575 with water tank for Borough watering of flowers Watered Welcome to Netcong signs and filled flower pot reservoirs 1 time Removed all political signage from Borough properties Repaired 2 damaged flags on Main St. ...

Parks & Recreation: Made a camera repair at DiRenzo Park and received quotes and scheduled work for new cameras at DiRenzo Park Hewitt Electric installed a new service panel and LED lights at Arbolino Park bathrooms

Snow: Notice was put in newspaper for upcoming snow season contractors

Other: Tom Mendel attended a Recycling Coordinators meeting Mike Canfield watched a special events training video Tim Hess installed new brakes on Sr. van ... Alfie Defelice attended a Fast Track to Safety course

Recreation: J. Albensi T. Laureys

1. July 4th had 75-80 people concert in park was a success.
2. Next play will be 'Come from Away' on August 3rd.
3. Trying to do another show in November – still finalizing the show (might be Beetlejuice)
4. Tai Chi about 20 people each Saturday.
5. Councilman Albensi thanked DPW for the condition of the park for the 4th.

Public Services: T. Laureys J. Albensi

(Human Services
Recycling & Solid
Waste Disposal

Dial a Ride – Councilman Albensi read the report

June 2019

Days of Service:19

Miles: 943

of Stops: 71

Nutrition for 2 people:18

Food Shopping: 41

of Meals on Wheels: 13

Medical Appointments: 7

Other Appointments: 154

People Using Services: 44

Cancels: 3

Denials: 0

Units: 304

Hours: 94.75

OLD BUSINESS

No old business was presented.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Social Affair Permit – Fire Company No. 1 Open House

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

Roll Call: 4 Yes

2. Letter - Fire Company #1 – 2 Bay Garage to put antique trucks in.

Councilman Still suggested it be done in next year's budget. They are just looking for support from the Borough. There was brief discussion on this. The Mayor asked if there is a survey. Councilman Koster said there is a survey available.

A motion was made by Councilman Hathaway and seconded by Councilman Albensi to put antique trucks in the 2 bay garage.

Roll Call: 4 Yes

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR TO THE COUNCIL

President had no comments at this time.

Councilman Hathaway – We were defeated again about disposing the waste from the lake. He spoke with Mr. Bucco on this. The disposal facility will no longer take weeds from Lake Hopatcong or Lake Musconetcong. The funding issue will remain. The money will run out before the weeds. He gave further explanation on this subject. Mr. Bucco gave explanation on the meeting with the commissioner about the problems at Lake Hopatcong.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS

The Mayor had no comments at this time.

RESOLUTIONS

1. **Resolution 2019 - 70** – Authorizing the Purchase of a 2019 Trailer Mounted High Pressure Sewer Cleaner from the Sourcewell National Co-Op N.J.A.C. 5:34-8.2

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

Roll Call: 4 Yes

2. **Resolution 2019 - 71** – Authorizing the Award of a Contract to Riverview Paving, Inc. for the Carolyn Way, Oak Street and Wiltop Road Improvements Project in the Borough of Netcong Morris County, New Jersey

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

Roll Call: 4

3. **Resolution 2019 - 72** - 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 Koster to approve the display.

Roll Call: 4 Yes

4. **Resolution 2019 - 73** – 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.

Roll Call: 4 Yes

ORDINANCE INTRODUCTIONS

1. Ordinance 2019 - 14 – An Ordinance to Amend Chapter 268 “Vehicles and Traffic” of the Revised General Ordinances of the Borough of Netcong Providing for a Penalty for Violation of Heavy Vehicle Exclusions and Identifying Additional Roadways Subject to a Heavy Vehicle Exclusion

A Motion to Introduce Ordinance #2019 -14 - and Read by Title Only was made by Councilman Koster and seconded by Councilman Still.

Roll Call: 4 Yes

A Motion to Pass Ordinance #2019 -14 on First Reading was made by Councilman Koster and seconded by Councilman Still.

Roll Call: 4 Yes

REPORTS

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

Roll Call: 4 Yes

BILLS

A Motion to Pay All Bills When Funds are Available was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Koster.

Roll Call: 4 Yes

PUBLIC PORTION OF MEETING

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

Roll Call: 4 Yes

CLOSED SESSION

A Motion to go into closed session was made by Councilman Hathaway and seconded by Councilman Still at 8:55 PM.

Roll Call: 4 Yes

ADJOURNMENT INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION

WHEREAS, Section 8 of the Open Public Meetings’ Act (N.J.S.A. 10:4-12(B) (1-9) 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, and State of New Jersey as follows:

1. The public shall be excluded from discussion of the hereinafter specified subject matters.
2. The general nature of the subject matter to be discuss is as follows:

FOP-Grievance

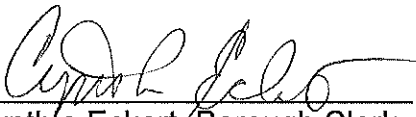
3. It is anticipated at this time that the above-stated subject matter will be made public as soon thereafter as it is deemed in the public interest to do so;
4. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

A Motion to close the Executive Session was made by Councilman Koster and seconded by Councilman Hathaway at 9:04 PM.

ADJOURNMENT

A Motion to Adjourn the Meeting was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Hathaway at 9:05 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,



Cynthia Eckert, Borough Clerk