

BOROUGH OF NETCONG

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF NETCONG HELD OCTOBER 10, 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 Laureys, Councilman Still, Councilman Sylvester and Mayor Nametko. Also present were Mr. Blakeslee, Borough Administrator and Mrs. Eckert, Borough Clerk.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

None presented this evening.

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

ORDINANCE ADOPTIONS

1. **Ordinance 2019-15**-An Ordinance of the Borough Council of the Borough of Netcong, County of Morris, Authorizing the Acceptance and Establishment of a Conservation Easement on Borough Property.

A Motion to Read Ordinance 2019-15 by Title Only on Second Reading and a Hearing Held Thereon was made by Councilman Hathaway and seconded by Councilman Still.
Roll Call: 6 Yes

The meeting was open to the public.

A Motion to Close Public Hearing was made by Councilman Koster and seconded by Councilman Hathaway.
Roll Call: 6 Yes

A Motion to Adopt Ordinance 2019-15 was made by Councilman Hathaway and seconded by Councilman Koster.
Roll Call: 6 Yes

CORRESPONDENCE

None presented during this meeting.

BOROUGH ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

Mr. Blakeslee presented his report. He asked if Councilman Koster could give the public works report now because Mr. Canfield must leave early tonight. Councilman Koster complied and read the DPW monthly report.

The Mayor commented he was at the last recreation meeting and there was discussion about money available to do some improvements to DiRenzo Park. He asked Mr. Canfield if there will be time to do some improvements before the winter. Mr. Canfield discussed the plans to do the improvements in detail. The Mayor asked if that portion of the park will need to be closed. Mr. Canfield stated "no."

The Mayor asked for highlights on ongoing and upcoming projects from Mr. Blakeslee. He had several things:

1. Bids were taken for Arbolino Park Phase 2 – since the bids came in high. The Borough Engineer and Administrator are working on a solution. Mr. Blakeslee provided details.
2. The Mayor and Mr. Blakeslee will be meeting with a representative to discuss the center designation renewal.
3. There will be a second round of interviews for the Borough Engineer opening.
4. He met with the person who will be in charge of the Revaluation. He gave some details on this process. A public meeting will be held to introduce the revaluation. There was discussion on this subject. Mr. Bucco gave several comments on his experience with doing a revaluation. He suggested developing a timeline to keep things organized.
5. Crown Point landscaper has started the mitigation work at Arbolino Park.
6. The Economic Development Committee will be meeting with Shop Rite this month.

7. The Pocketbook Factory project is slowly moving forward. He gave details on this project. There was brief discussion on the easement issue.
8. USDA Grant-possible funding of new computers for the Police Department and DPW equipment.
9. Mr. Blakeslee has been reaching out to local contractors for work on the front doors since we bid 2 times and received no bids. The Mayor suggested going to Shop Rite for suggested vendors since they have put these doors in at their location.
10. Projects to Close out and/or work on next year:
 - Master Plan
 - Interviewing Engineers
 - Water Asset Management Plan
 - Safe Routes to School Project
 - Phase 1 and 2 at Arbolino Park
 - Front Door Replacement
 - County Housing Mitigation Plan
 - Speed Tables for College and Stoll St.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance & Insurance:

E. Still

J. Sylvester

Councilman Still read the report.

For the month of September, 2019, the Borough had a total income in the amount of \$384,880.71 as compared to September 2018 of \$235,918.27.

For the month of September 2019:

Miscellaneous Revenue Not Anticipated (MRNA):

In 2019 the Borough received \$1,077.48 compared to \$3,227.21 in 2018.

Other Licenses/Borough Clerks Fees:

The Borough received \$19,711.15 in 2019 compared to \$21,733.59 in 2018.

State Aid:

There was \$117,571.80 in State Aid received for 2019 and \$117,571.80 in 2018.

Grants in Aid:

We received \$134,280.88 in 2019 and nothing was received in 2018.

Taxes Collected:

The Borough collected \$112,239.40 in 2019 compared to \$93,385.67 in 2018.

Income Total Year to Date:

The Total Income Year to date for 2019 is \$7,648,606.64 as compared to \$7,164,521.04 in 2018.

Economic Development: R. Hathaway E. Still

Councilman Hathaway noted that Economic Development report was provided by the Administrator earlier this evening. The Council discussed the progress of the Crown Point project.

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

Councilman Sylvester read the public safety reports.

Ambulance Corps:
Total Calls: 79, out of town 6
Total Patients: 59
Total Trips to Hospital: 52
Total Miles: 1,608
Total Hours Volunteered: 457hrs, 02 minutes
2 Assists from the Netcong Fire Department
1 Assist from the Stanhope Fire Department

Police Report:
Total Calls: 505

It was noted that the search continues for 2 more police officers.

Fire Prevention:
2 Inspections
5 Permits Issued
2.5 Total Field Hours Worked
1 Meeting Attended
9.5 Administrative Hours Worked

The Fire Department Inspection will be this coming Monday.

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

Councilman Koster read his report earlier in this meeting.

Road Department:
Roxbury sweeper was in the Friday before Netcong Day to sweep Main, Maple and Borough Hall. .. DPW took possession of the 2014 Tahoe from the PD for multi-use DPW usage including animal control Peterson's Tree service was in to prune the trees in the area of the Main St. bump outsInstalled new tires on multiple work vehicles in preparation for the upcoming winter, including the senior van

Water Department:

Performed follow ups on high water reading complaints Crown Point contractor cut and capped the water main on to the property and dug a test pit on Bank St. for new water main tie in Well 1 underwent another rehab because of a low yield and a new pump will be installed in mid October

Buildings & Grounds:

Removed flower pots from Main St. ... Removed a bush and shed debris from #2 FH Maintained grass cutting schedule at all Borough properties

Other:

Performed tasks in support of Netcong Day including: message boards, banners, flags, paving, set up, traffic assistance, and 2 men working the event. ... Performed multiple interviews for DPW position Tom Mendel finished the annual Recycling survey Tom Mendel and Joe Fiorello attended a conflict resolution class as recommended by the JIF The 2005 mason dump sold on municibid for \$5,370.00.

Recreation:

J. Albensi

T. Laureys

Councilman Albensi read his report on the upcoming recreation events.

1. Our next bus trip into NYC will be on Saturday November 9th, to see Chicago. We have 3 seats left. The price is \$110 per person with bus leaving the train station at 10:30 sharp.
2. The annual Trunk or Treat event will take place on Saturday October 26th from 4-7 with a rain date of Sunday October 27th. This year's event will be sponsored by the Netcong PTA, Netcong Recreation Commission, Municipal Alliance, and The Netcong Community Partnership. We will have a trunk and costume contest, entertainment by JOJO, a photo booth (take your own pix), pretzels, hot dogs, cider and coffee.
3. Our 2020 Concerts have all been booked ... it's going to be a fun filled summer as we will have some of your favorites returning as well as a few surprises.
4. The annual holiday parade is well under way. We have already received a few participants.

The Committee will need to use the Dial A Ride vehicle for the Halloween decorating contest – Mr. Blakeslee will take care of this.

They will be doing something new: An end of summer bash in August 2020–kids concert, food and adult concert with movie at the end.

The Municipal Alliance meeting will be on October 22nd.

**Public Services:
(Human Services
Recycling & Solid
Waste Disposal**

T. Laureys

J. Albensi

Councilman Laureys read his report.

Dial A Ride: September 2019

Days of Service: 18

Miles: 1038

of Stops: 77

Nutrition for 2 people: 15

Food Shopping: 42

of Meals on Wheels: 13

Medical Appointments: 5

Other Appointments: 153

People Using Services: 48

Cancel: 5

Denials: 0

Units: 292

Hours: 85.25

Additional Notes: off Labor Day, Sept. 12, Sept. 16

OLD BUSINESS

1. Memo from Netcong Planning Board – Notice of Hearings on Applications.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Best Practices Worksheet

Mr. Blakeslee provided a report on this matter. The Borough was well above the score required. There was brief discussion on this. He explained it just needed to be reviewed at the meeting and there was no need to vote on this. Discussion continued and copies of the report were available for the Council's review.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR TO THE COUNCIL

Councilman Still reported that night time hydrant flushing was a great idea – there were no issues with brown water.

Councilman Albensi asked about the water on the tennis court and started a discussion regarding this issue among the Council. It was considered to be fixed. It was determined that when they put the rubberized covering, it will allow them to level the court which has been determined to meet standards.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS

The Mayor had no comments at this time.

RESOLUTIONS

1. **Resolution 2019-97** – Declaring John Garcia Construction Co., Inc., in Default of a Public Works Contract and Authorizing a Claim Against the Contractor's Maintenance Surety Bond.

Mr. Bucco would like to hold this until after closed session.

After closed session, a motion was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Sylvester to pass the resolution.

Roll Call: 6 Yes

ORDINANCE INTRODUCTIONS

No ordinance introductions were presented this evening.

REPORTS

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

Roll Call: 6 Yes

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:
 - Attorney Client Privilege– Police Grievance
 - Contract – John Garcia Construction Co.
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 Koster and seconded by Councilman Still at 8:39 PM.

Roll Call: 6 Yes

A motion to come out of closed session was made by Councilman Koster and seconded by Councilman Hathaway at 9:02 PM.

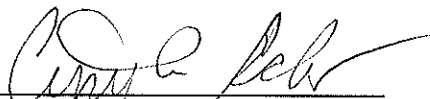
Roll Call: 6 Yes

ADJOURNMENT

A Motion to Adjourn the Meeting was made by Councilman Still at 9:06PM and was moved by unanimous voice vote.

Roll Call: 6 Yes

Respectfully submitted,



Cynthia Eckert, Borough Clerk