

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF NETCONG HELD JULY 11, 2013 AT THE NETCONG MUNICIPAL BUILDING, 23 MAPLE AVENUE, NETCONG, NEW JERSEY COMMENCING AT 7:30 P.M.

Mayor Nametko presiding.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

CALL TO ORDER – STATEMENT OF OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT:

Mayor Nametko called the meeting to order at 7:30 P.M.

The Borough Clerk read the following statement of compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act:

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 Netcong Borough Hall on January 4, 2013.
2. Publishing a notice in The Daily Record, the official newspaper of the Borough of Netcong on January 9, 2013 and mailing a copy to The Star Ledger on January 4, 2013.

ROLL CALL

Those present for roll call were Councilman Hathaway, Councilman Sylvester, Councilman Still, Councilwoman Butler, Councilman Koster and Mayor Nametko. Also present was Mr. Blakeslee, Borough Administrator and Cindy Eckert, Borough Clerk.

The Mayor requested a moment of silence in honor and memory of Councilwoman Cissy Laureys.

Councilman Koster recused himself and left the dais in light of the content of the next presentation.

PRESENTATION

Netcong Fire Company #1- Fire Truck

The Netcong Fire Company presented an audiovisual presentation for the Council. The speaker wished to present the reasoning for the fire company's request of a replacement for engine number two. He noted that the committee making this presentation has approximately 194 years of experience with firefighting. He noted that the fire engine was obtained in 1982. He noted there were many safety

concerns with this vehicle and obtaining parts for this vehicle has become increasingly more difficult. The speaker recommended a quint for replacement of fire engine two. A quintuple combination pumper or quint is a fire service apparatus that serves the dual purpose of an engine and a ladder truck. The speaker provided visual aids to help the audience understand the features of the quint. The speaker also provided examples via videos shown of how valuable this piece of equipment can be in saving lives. He also provided details regarding the analysis of obtaining a used quint and reasoned why one would not be available as well as why it made sense to buy new.

Councilwoman Butler asked if the fire company had a relationship with other fire companies that did have the length and type of ladders Netcong needed.

Mr. Pat Kunkel of 13 Church St. and one of the committee members responded. He read a prepared response and also asked that the audience watch a specific firefighter video. The response included the detailed process the fire company must follow as well as how quickly the fire can spread. It also detailed issues with the mutual response associations. In sum, Mr. Kunkel stated the key factor is time. Councilwoman Butler thanked Mr. Kunkel for his response and noted we need to weigh the cost factor with the need factor. The Mayor expressed concern because there is a water problem that first needs to be fixed so there will be water for the new truck to pump.

For the record Councilman Koster returned to the dais.

PUBLIC PORTION OF MEETING

The Mayor opened the meeting to the public.

Mr. Charles Cedro- 6 Allen St.

- Mr. Cedro wanted an update regarding the drainage issues he has had since 2007.
- He was also concerned about hearing there was a diesel fuel smell in the water.

The Mayor stated some of the work is pending for when the project is completed and the Council is following this situation. He added that this situation would be discussed later in the meeting.

Mr. Todd Portsmore – 16 Dell Ave.

- Mr. Portsmore asked who the manufacturer of the fire truck was. Councilman Sylvester explained it is too early to be certain. He noted that specifications are sent out and advertised, bids are received and a decision is made based on the results of the bid. It is not a matter of just picking the truck and going with it.
- Mr. Portsmore asked for the ages of the current fire vehicles. Councilman Sylvester responded with the approximate ages of all the trucks.

- Mr. Portsmouth asked if there would be specific training provided. The Mayor replied that all equipment comes with training.

Mr. Mike Secola – 15 Koclas Dr.

- Mr. Secola was wondering why we would spend this amount of money on a fire truck if we need to upgrade our water system.
- He also wondered if anyone ever considered merging the two fire companies. The Mayor responded this is being looked into.

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

Roll Call: 5 Yes

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Agenda Meeting of June 6, 2013
- Regular Meeting of June 13, 2013

The Mayor asked if everyone had the opportunity to review the minutes.

A Motion Was Made by Councilman Sylvester and seconded by Councilman Still to approve the minutes of the two meetings.

Roll Call: 5 Yes

ORDINANCE ADOPTIONS

There were no ordinance adoptions presented at this meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE

Letter from Department of Transportation – Storm Water Drainage

Borough Attorney Anthony Bucco agreed with the Councilman that the letter was not great but he continued to say he had a phone conversation with Mr. Attanasio from D.O.T. today and they will be addressing the situation. He suggested the Mayor send a letter to DOT explaining the verbal agreement to re-visit this situation. The Mayor complained about the wording of the letter because it officially stated they weren't taking any action.

Councilman Hathaway expressed concern because despite the numerous meetings, emails and letters they have yet to see any changes! This is far beyond letters and e-mails. An official Memorandum of Understanding is required. Councilman Sylvester and Councilman Still offered that a letter from the borough attorney is required. Mr. Bucco stated he would assist with a letter to request a memorandum of understanding from the state.

Councilman Hathaway reminded the Council it was admitted there were calculation errors made on these plans. The Mayor requested that everyone who has valuable details to add to this letter of understanding should forward the information to Mr. Bucco. Councilman Hathaway requested that the same should be done for the situation with the swirl chamber.

Mr. Olivo, DPW Superintendent, stepped up to the microphone to speak. He provided additional information to better explain what actually happened during the construction. Mr. Olivo stated in the scheme of things, the swirl chamber should probably be the last item to be worked on.

The Mayor suggested a package should be put together, along with detailed pictures. The Mayor also requested a log be kept of all the activity done toward this effort. The Mayor requested the entire package be drafted and ready to go next Friday.

BOROUGH ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

Mr. Blakeslee highlighted the following:

1. Note sale was today. He quoted three offers one of which was Fulton Bank at 0.99%
2. Bob Guerin is completing the water infrastructure inspection and will have a draft of a master plan hopefully by next month's meeting
3. New park cameras were installed. DPW was trained today.
4. 2012-2013 Clean Communities Reports have been submitted.
5. Damage to the DPW standby generator and equipment will be reimbursed by the contractor
6. New ambulance has arrived.

Councilman Sylvester inquired if other damages needed to be repaired. Mr. Blakeslee will speak with Bob Guerin and look into it.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance & Insurance: E. Still J. Sylvester

Councilman Still read the State Aid Statement which was just received. He also read a note from Senator Bucco which provided a grant from the DOT.

In the month of June the Borough had total income in the amount of \$97,585.61 as compared to the previous year of \$68,959.75.

Year to Date for the month of June:

Miscellaneous Revenue Not Anticipated (MRNA)

\$2,041.00 in 2012 vs. \$1,624.85 in 2013

Other Licenses:

\$6,237.75 collected in 2012 vs. \$7,003.51 in 2013.

Interest on investments are down by \$426.26. Municipal court fees are up by \$806.82.

Taxes Collected

\$51,368.23 in 2012 vs. \$82,396.50 in 2013.

Income Total Year to Date:

\$3,857,684.29 in 2012 VS. \$3,950,887.96 in 2013.

An increase in total income of \$93,203.67

Economic Development: R. Hathaway E. Still

Councilman Hathaway noted that District Connect is working well for the NCP. He stated that he provided the public report for the record.

Councilman Hathaway discussed the joint meeting between the Council and the Planning Board to cover the topic of the Pocketbook Factory. The vote was positive by both Council and Board to have the developer move forward. Councilman Hathaway made a point to note that he was disappointed with the joint meeting, as he felt there was a disconnect with the Planning Board.

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

Councilman Sylvester reported that for the month of June, the Ambulance Corps had 63 calls, of which 3 were out of town. They treated a total of 32 patients and made 32 trips to the hospitals. The miles traveled were 783 miles and the hours volunteered were 318 hours and 53 minutes. There were 0 assists provided.

The Netcong Fire Department had 6 general alarms. There were 5 meetings and 8 drills. 54 volunteer firemen provided 156.8 hours of service

The Borough Police wrote a total of 95 motor vehicle summonses. There were also 6 local ordinance summonses.

Dept. of Public

Works & Utilities:

E. Koster

R. Hathaway

Water Department:

- Took final water readings and made repairs to meters as requested by Town Hall

Road Department:

- cleaned and repaired catch basins as needed
- patch potholes as needed throughout the town

Buildings & Grounds:

- installed all American flags, Welcome to Netcong and Farmers Market banners
- cut grass weekly at all borough owned properties
- installed new storm drainage pipe along the west property line of number one firehouse
- vandalism at Arbolino Park, cameras were broken, was caught on video and handed over to the Police Department

Recycling:

- installed new signs at the Recycle Center advising residents what item can and cannot be recycled
- collected 15 loads of grass and 17 loads of brush from the residents in June

Training:

- Tom Mendel past two pesticide exams, turf ornamentals (3A) and household pests (7A) and now holds licenses for both

Other:

- set up Town Hall for the June 4th election
- new cameras were installed at DiRenzo Park, Arbolino Park and Indian's Field
- painted the storage room at Arbolino Park and installed shelving

Councilman Koster noted that regarding the well pump, there are signs of conservation as they are still well over 1 million down from last year.

Recreation:

P. Butler

C. Laureys

Councilwoman Butler reported the following:

Upcoming events:

- July -We will hold our annual Christmas Cookie in July Event. Flyers will be distributed at this Friday's concert.
- 7/28 -Kids Night in the park is now scheduled for Sunday from 6-8. We will have music by Jo Jo, face painting and our much awaited for Sidewalk Chalk Coloring Contest. Registrations are still being accepted.

- We will look to hold another Junk in The Trunk but most likely in August to allow for marketing.
- Recreation, in addition to the 5K race, will be involved in the Netcong Day vendor events. We are not sharing what we will be doing as yet but I can assure you a fun time will be had by all.
- Lastly, believe it or not, we are in the planning stages for this year's Holiday Parade. We will begin distributing flyers to all attendees from last year as well as mailing lists for this year.

Councilwoman Butler wanted to note for the record that the Fourth of July celebration went exceptionally well.

Public Services: C. Laureys P. Butler
(Human Services
Recycling & Solid
Waste Disposal)

Councilwoman Butler reported the following for the month of June:

Days of service: 18
Miles: 964
Number of stops: 80
Nutrition for 6 people: 51
Food shopping 22 people: 43
Number of Meals on Wheels: 18
Medical Appointments: 15
Other Appointments: 53
People Using Services: 47
Cancels: 23
Denials: 2
Units: 318
Hours: 95
Additional Notes:
Two new Seniors
Two new Disabled
Without new bus for 2.25 days

OLD BUSINESS

1. Fireman Association Application – Mahmoud Farag

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

Roll Call: 5 Yes

2. Feeding of Wildlife

Mr. Blakeslee noted that the current Borough ordinance only covers prohibition of feeding wildlife in the parks, not feeding wildlife in the town per se. He noted that we need to set some basic guidelines and regulations. He added we did not want to be at the point where we were deeming birdfeeders at homes illegal.

Mr. Bucco will expand the ordinance. He requested Mr. Blakeslee send him the Fish and Wildlife Best Practice for feeding and Cindy Eckert will send him the ordinance from the Borough of Ramsey.

3. Residential Properties – Housing Barn Yard Animals

The Mayor noted that the Borough also has no regulation regarding someone having chickens in their yard. Mr. Bucco will look into options for this.

NEW BUSINESS

No new business was presented at this meeting.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR TO THE COUNCIL

Council President Still stated it was nice to see so many people at the meeting.

Mr. Hathaway placed flowers at Councilwoman Laurey's spot as a gesture of respect from the Council and stated that Cissy will be missed. Mr. Koster thanked Mr. Hathaway for the flowers. Mr. Hathaway also wished to report the good news that a plant dealer has graciously donated a 16 foot Norway spruce for the town Christmas tree.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS

The Mayor had no comments at this time

RESOLUTIONS – Approved by Block except 2013-67 and 2013-69

1. **Resolution #2013-66** – Requesting Approval of Items of Revenue and Appropriation- Municipal Alliance

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

Roll Call: 5 Yes

2. **Resolution 2013- 67** – Authorizing the Abatement of Property Maintenance

Mr. Bucco reviewed the terms and conditions for this ordinance. The Council discussed and determined that painting should be removed from the 2nd page.

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

Roll Call: 5 Yes

3. **Resolution 2013-68** – Authorizing a Shared Service Agreement for the Services of Registrar between the Borough of Netcong and the Township of Mount Olive

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

Roll Call: 5 Yes

4. **Resolution 2013-69** –Rejecting the Sole Bid Received for the Purchase of Unleaded Regular Gasoline and Diesel Fuel #2 and Authorizing the Negotiation of a Contract Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5(3)

Mr. Bucco provided detail regarding this resolution. He explained that Ralph Blakeslee, Administrator can now negotiate a contract but must not exceed the specs of the bid submitted.

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

Roll Call: 5 Yes

5. **Resolution 2013-70** – To Appoint Sean T. Pruden as Patrolman of the Netcong Police Department

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

Roll Call: 5 Yes

6. **Resolution 2013-71** – Authorizing a Public Display of Fireworks in the Borough of Netcong by the Assumption Society

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

Roll Call: 4 Yes Abstain: Councilman Koster

7. **Resolution 2013-72** – Rejecting All Bids and Granting Authorization to Re-advertise for Bids for the Repairs and Chairlift Construction Project at Netcong Fire Co. No. 1

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

Roll Call: 5 Yes

8. Resolution 2013-73 – Authorizing the Execution of a Lease Purchase Agreement Between the Borough of Netcong and First Hope Bank

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

Roll Call: 5 Yes

PROCLAMATIONS

Turn the Towns Teal – Ovarian Cancer Awareness

The Mayor read the ovarian cancer awareness proclamation

ORDINANCE INTRODUCTIONS

No ordinances were introduced during this meeting

REPORTS

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

Roll Call: 5 Yes

BILLS

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

Roll	Call:	5	Yes
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CLOSED SESSION

There was no closed session at this meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

A Motion to Adjourn the Meeting was made by Councilman Still at 9:53 PM and was seconded by Councilman Hathaway and carried by unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cynthia Eckert, Borough Clerk