

MINUTES OF THE REORGANIZATION MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF NETCONG HELD JANUARY 5, 2017 AT THE NETCONG MUNICIPAL BUILDING, 23 MAPLE AVENUE, NETCONG, NEW JERSEY COMMENCING AT 7:00 P.M.

Mayor Nametko called the meeting to order at 7:00 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 8, 2016.
2. Publishing a notice in the Daily Record, the official newspaper of the Borough of Netcong on January 13, 2016 and mailing a copy to The Star Ledger on January 8, 2016.

STATEMENT OF DETERMINATION

The statement of determination was read by the Borough Clerk, Mrs. Eckert.

SWEARING IN OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

Mrs. Eckert performed the swearing in of two Council Members:

- Councilman Robert E. Hathaway Jr.
- Councilman Thomas A. Laureys

ROLL CALL

Those in attendance were Councilman Hathaway, Councilman Koster, Councilman Laureys, Councilman Still, Councilman Sylvester, and Mayor Nametko. Also present was Mr. Blakeslee, Borough Administrator, Mr. Bucco, Borough Attorney and Mrs. Eckert, Borough Clerk.

MAYOR COMMENTS

The Mayor thanked all for coming and wished them a Happy New Year. He announced the special guests in the audience.

He then provided the highlights of 2016 (detailed below.) He mentioned all the different departments and boards associated with the borough and school and how they work together. He highlighted the accomplishments of our Police Department and mentioned that our Chief was named president of the Police Chiefs association for 2016. He discussed the fire department accomplishments. 300 calls were answered with over 6000 man hours volunteered. DPW and Water Department services were recognized including water main repairs and well rehabilitation. He mentioned the new DPW vehicle.

The Mayor described the Capital projects that were approved and will be completed in 2017. He mentioned the NJ Environmental Trust Fund as well as the grants that were received from the Borough for these projects. He mentioned future projects that are in the planning process now.

He related a missed project due to the state. The project was stalled but will be completed in 2017.

The Mayor spoke about the Economic Development Committee and their accomplishments relating to the Quirk Property and Pocketbook Factory. The Lake Musconetcong Planning Board has received a \$370,000 grant to purchase a rake to dredge the lake. He personally thanked the departments and the council for all the time they put in to make things happen. He repeated that all the boards that work hard every day as well as all employees.

Assemblyman Anthony Bucco made a presentation to Chief Blesson and explained he and the Chief began working in the Borough at the same time. He proceeded to relate several stories about the Chief and his accomplishments over the years. Mr. Bucco presented the Chief with a resolution from the NJ Assembly congratulating him on his accomplishment of being the President of the Chiefs Association. The Chief gave a short speech of appreciation.

The Mayor's Presentation:

Good evening ladies and gentlemen. On behalf of the Borough Council and our Borough employees, I would like to wish you Happy New Year. Before I touch on our high and any low points in 2016, I would like to recognize our honored guests in the audience.

Each year when I sit down to compose my Reorganization Comments and Review of the previous year; I am amazed how much a small town can accomplish in one year. I use to think things went well because we are a small borough, but that is not the case. Netcong has the same problems larger towns and cities have, but many less people to solve any issues that come up.

Fortunately, we all work together as one team. Our Police Department, Fire Department, OEM, DPW, and First Aid Squad, along with the Borough staff work in unison when called upon. With the support of our Netcong Community Partnership, our Planning Board, Recreation Commission, Lake Board and Lake Association along with Board of Health, I BELIEVE we provide the best environment to live and work in the State of New Jersey.

Without all of these services, Netcong would not be the great borough it is.

POLICE

Our police department made a world of difference to several individuals last year when our officers performed 7 Narcan saves and 2 CPR saves. After some great planning, the results of a stakeout by two of our officers were responsible for the capturing of an individual that robbed a gas station in Netcong.

Beside their normal activities, our police are there for every municipal event. From the school's color run, Netcong Day 5K and street fair, right up to Recreation's Holiday Parade, our police are there insuring everyone's safety.

Along with his duties of our Netcong Chief of Police, Chief Jim Blesson was elected by his peers to be PRESIDENT of the Morris County CHIEF's ASSOCIATION for 2016. On behalf of the Council, I would like to congratulate Chief Blesson for the insight he brought to the Chief's Association.

Chief Blesson was successful in adding two **Class 2 Special Police** last year. I would like to welcome Joe Beach and Gerard Hardman and thank them for choosing Netcong PD to start their careers.

On behalf of all of our residents, I would like to thank our police and crossing guards for the critical job they do.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Fire Chief Robert Schellhammer, who is also a Police Sergeant for Byram Township, did a great job in 2016 directing his officers and firemen and women, not only servicing the residents of Netcong but our Mutual Aid partners as well.

Our fire department continues to attract new members. In 2016, 4 new firemen joined the ranks and 5 junior firemen became ACTIVE. Our fire department answered over 300 calls and volunteered over 6,000 man hours. This included classroom and hands on training as well as incidents in the Borough and providing mutual aide to surrounding towns.

The fire department is always ready to assist with any special functions in the Borough.

Last year The Borough replaced our Fire's Chief's vehicle and fire utility truck that is not only instrumental for in-town incidents, but used by our RIC team that is not doubt one of the best and most called upon in the State.

We are grateful for their dedication of the Netcong Volunteer Fire Department to our Borough and look forward to working with Chief Schellhammer and the fire department in 2017.

Department of Public Works

2016 came and went with only one major snow event, however our DPW team spent many days and nights treating our roads with tons of salt during numerous weather events we had.

As you know, without water, we simply cannot survive. Part of the daily routine of our water department is to monitor our wells. It was noted that one of our wells was not pumping as well as it did in the past. Last year we rehabilitated our Well # 1A and were able to recognize a significant increase in the gallons pumped per minute.

Under the directions of Supervisor Mike Canfield, our small team managed to repair a number of large water main breaks including one 8 inch main that was drawing down our reservoir quicker than our pumps could fill it. Later that same night, I stopped by Railroad Ave at 11:30 PM as they were completing their second major break of the day. Kudos to our DPW that hung in there from 7:30 AM until midnight fixing those water breaks.

To help with their many tasks, the Borough purchased a new Utility Truck for our DPW and we managed to salvage the old FD Chief's truck for our Animal Control Vehicle.

Like our fire and police departments and OEM, our DPW is on call 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. I would like to thank each of the groups for their unending dedication to the Borough.

CAPITAL PROJECTS

As I reported last year, we worked with the **New Jersey Environmental Infrastructure Financing Program** for funding of upgrades to our water system. Our work paid off!

- We went out to bid to rehabilitate our 1,000,000 gallon reservoir and recently met with the winning contractor. That work starts this spring.

- We plan on replacing several key water mains, valves and fire hydrants in 2017 and 2018.
- IN ADDITION, we will complete our meter replacement program this year, allowing us to read most water meters remotely.

Railroad Avenue Phase 1

- Scope: **Replace water main from Union Street to Marc Court, resurfacing street with some curb and sidewalk replacement**
- Performed by: TBD. Bid opening January 11, 2017
- Cost: TBD. Engineer's estimate: \$234,190.00
- Funding: **NJDOT grant: \$102,895, CDBG: \$80,000**
- Status: Waiting for bid opening. Award anticipated at February 9, 2017

Railroad Avenue Phase 2

- Scope: **Replace water main from, and including, Marc Court to the end of Railroad Avenue. Will include road resurfacing and sidewalk and curb work as necessary.**
- Performed by: TBD Bid opening: TBD
- Cost: TBD. Engineer's estimate: \$216,950 (includes pavement, sidewalk and curb restoration which would be paid for, in part with 2017 NJDOT grant, if received)
- Funding: **CDBG: \$80,000, Borough \$136,950**
- Status: Waiting for CDBG paperwork and submittal of NJDOT 2017 Local Aid Grant application.

Ledgewood Avenue Streetscape Improvements

The Borough took bids this morning for the Ledgewood Ave Streetscape - Phase 2 Project.

This project includes:

- Brick paver sidewalks along the east side of Ledgewood Avenue between Allen Street and Lake Musconetcong.
- A new pedestrian crosswalk at the corner of Street and Ledgewood Avenue **with pedestrian actuated signals similar to what is currently at the new midblock crosswalk along Main Street**
- The Borough hopes **this will be a major safety improvement for residents who try to cross Ledgewood Avenue to get to the Lake, Bank, or Theatre.**

- Cost: TBD. Engineer's estimate: **\$90,500**
- Funding: NJDOT grant: **\$81,000, Borough: \$9,500**

Water Meters (remaining installation)

- Scope: Complete the water meter upgrade program. Project to commence late February, early March
- Performed by: William J. Guarini, Inc.
- Cost: Water meter cost: \$113,440 (purchased through the Morris County Cooperative Purchasing Council) Installation cost: \$64,039.10. Total project cost: \$177,479.10.
- Funding: New Jersey Environmental Infrastructure Trust Fund
- Status: Contract awarded, pre-construction meeting held.

OUR ONLY MISS for 2016, thanks to the havoc caused by the State freezing everything in hostage until the Gas Tax was passed was Stoll Street Phase 2

- Scope: Road resurfacing, sidewalk and curb reconstruction and drainage improvements.
- Performed by: Mark Paving
- Cost: \$168,409. Engineer's estimate: \$202,000.
- Funding: NJDOT grant: \$150,000, Borough: \$52,000 (Bond Ordinance 2015-11)
- Status: Preconstruction meeting has taken place, construction to start late spring (coordinate with school term)

Economic Development

2016 was a great year for the Borough thanks to the large amount of time spent by our Economic Development Committee. Meetings with builders, the NJ DEP and NJ Transit seemed to be never ending.

However, the end results are very gratifying. We adopted a redevelopment plan for the Quirk property and I am glad to announce, our builder for Crown Point expects to break ground on a 126 unit complex in early 2017.

We also expect the redevelopment of the old pocketbook property with move forward this year. This project will bring 72 upscale apartments to our redevelopment zone.

In 2017, NJ Transit will be issuing a Request for Bidders for their property near the train station. I am excited that All 3 projects are underway and will eventually, with assistance from the Netcong Community partnership revitalizes our Downtown.

Wrap-up

Without the hard work of our office staff, fire department, OEM, police department and our first aid squad, life would not be the same in Netcong.

I would personally like to thank every one of you. Together with the volunteers on our Recreation Commission, Lake Board, Planning Board, Board of Health, Netcong Alliance, and our Netcong Community Partnership, you make Netcong a great place to live and work.

I would also like to thank the Council for all their work and dedication to our residents. I have spent countless hours with each of you in committee meetings.

Finally, I would like to thank all of our Borough Employees and our professionals for the work they do, that makes Netcong run like a 'well-oiled' machine.

2016 was a great for Netcong. With all of your help, I look forward to another great year.

Again, Happy New Year and God bless you.

SELECTION OF COUNCIL PRESIDENT –

Councilman Koster made a motion to nominate Councilman Sylvester for Council President. Councilman Still seconded the motion.

Roll Call: 5 Yes

RESOLUTION 2017-20 TO RECOGNIZE VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

The Mayor introduced The Barbara Ryan Volunteer Award

Councilman Hathaway made a motion to approve this resolution and Councilman Sylvester seconded the motion.

Roll Call: 5 Yes

PRESENTATION OF VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR AWARD

The Mayor read the resolution and announced the inductee: Mr. Alan Cook. The mayor thanked him for all his volunteer efforts.

APPOINTMENT OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES: (Mayor's Recommendation with Advice & Consent of the Council)

Finance & Insurance:	E. Still	J. Sylvester
Economic Development:	R. Hathaway	E. Still
Public Safety: (Police, Fire, Rescue)	J. Sylvester	E. Koster
Dept. of Public Works & Utilities:	E. Koster	R. Hathaway
Recreation:	P. Butler	T. Laureys
Public Services: (Human Services Recycling & Solid Waste Disposal)	T. Laureys	P. Butler

A Motion to approve the above listed committee assignments was made by Councilman Koster and seconded by Councilman Hathaway.
Roll Call: 5 Yes

MAYOR APPOINTMENTS (Requires Advice and Consent of the Council)
(Appointments 1 year unless otherwise noted)

Zoning Officer/Code Enforcement Officer: Ralph Blakeslee
Deputy Code Enforcement Officer: Harry Garlick

Treasurer:	Anna Madonna
Deputy Borough Clerk:	Ralph Blakeslee
Deputy Tax Collector:	Laura Amada
Sewer Collector:	Ralph Blakeslee
Deputy Sewer Collector:	Cynthia Eckert
Water Collector:	Ralph Blakeslee

Deputy
Water Collector: Cynthia Eckert

Assessment Searcher: Cynthia Eckert

Recycling Coordinator: Thomas Mendel

Fire Official: Ronald Pucio – Cert. #110806

Fire Prevention
Inspectors: Michael Pellek – Cert. #101410
Mark Sylvester – Cert. #177302
Robert Rush – Cert. #106898

Special Police
Officers (Class II) Harry Garlick
Joseph Beach
Gerard Hardiman

Police Matron: Shannon Fluke

School Crossing
Guards: (N.J.S.A.40A40:9-154.1-1 yr. terms)
Benjamin Dalessandro
William Hart
Sandra Mendel
Annette Ribaud
Ralph Simmerano
Melissa Sylvester

Alternates:
Michael Depew
Robert DiBernard
Philip Grippaldi
Sam Gugliemini
Richard Sodano

Lake Musconetcong
Regional Planning Board: Robert Hathaway Jr. (4 Year Term Exp.
12/31/2020)

Board of Health: Patricia Butler - (3 Year Term Exp. 12/31/19)
No Appointment Made (to fill 3 Year Term Exp. 12/31/17)
No Appointment Made (3 Year Term Exp. 12/31/18)

A Motion to Approve the Above Listed Appointments was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Sylvester.
Roll Call: 5 Yes

Planning Board: Class 1 - Mayor Joseph Nametko (1 year term-No
Action Required)

(Mayor Appointments – No Vote Required)

Class 2 – Wayne Anthony (1 year term)

Alternate #1 – No Appointment Made

Alternate #2 – No Appointment This Made

(Council Appointment)

Class 3 – Elmer Still (1 year term) Council Representative

A Motion to approve the Class 3 Appointment was made by Councilman
Koster and seconded by Councilman Hathaway.

Roll Call: 5 Yes

Recreation Commission: (Mayor Appt.-No vote required)

Alan Cook - 5 Year Term – Expires 12/31/2021

Sharon Still - 5 Year Term – Expires 12/31/2021

Patricia Butler - Council Liaison (1 year term) (Council Appointment)

A Motion to approve Council Appointment was made by Councilman
Sylvester and seconded by Councilman Koster.

Roll Call: 5 Yes

Municipal Alliance Committee:

Theresa Vervaet (3 year term) Expires 12/31/2019

Officer Thomas Borgia (3 year term) Expires 12/31/2019

No Appointment Made (4 year term) Expires 12/31/2020

Patricia Butler – Council Liaison (1 year term)

A Motion to approve Council Appointment was made by Councilman
Hathaway and seconded by Councilman Koster.

Roll Call: 5 Yes

COUNCIL APPOINTMENTS

Community Development Revenue Sharing Committee Appointments for 2017:

Joseph Albensi - (Appointment by Mayor)

Ralph Blakeslee, Alternate - (Appointment by Mayor)

Joseph A. Nametko, Mayor - (Appointment by Governing Body)

A Motion to approve the above listed appointments was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Koster.

Roll Call: 5 Yes

Animal Control
Officer:

Thomas Mendel (1 year term)

Alternate Animal
Control Officer:

Joseph Fiorello (1 year term)

A Motion to approve the above listed appointments was made by Councilman Koster and seconded by Councilman Still.

Roll Call: 5 Yes

SPECIAL IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT OF NETCONG BOROUGH, INC.

Appointment of Trustees:

Joseph A. Nametko, Mayor, Ex Officio

Robert Hathaway, Council Representative (Appointed by Council - 1 year term)

A Motion to adopt the appointment of Trustees was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Koster.

Roll Yes: 4 Yes No: Councilman Laureys

RESOLUTIONS

1. Resolution #2017-1 To Honor Volunteers
2. Resolution #2017-2 Authorizing the Award of a Contract for Professional Services for the Borough Attorney, Anthony M. Bucco, Esq. for 2017.
3. Resolution #2017-3 Authorizing the Award of a Contract for Professional Services for Special Tax Counsel, Fred Semrau, Esq. for 2017.

4. Resolution #2017-4 Authorizing the Award of a Contract for Professional Services for Borough Auditor, Valerie Dolan of Nisivoccia LLP for 2017.
5. Resolution #2017-5 Authorizing the Award of a Contract for Professional Services for the Borough Engineer, Robert Guerin of Guerin & Vreeland Engineers for 2017.
6. Resolution #2017-6 Authorizing the Award of a Contract for Professional Services for the Bond Council to Steven Rogut of Rogut McCarthy, LLC
7. Resolution #2017-7 Depositories for 2017 as Follows:
 - o Fulton Bank Inc.
 - o Valley National Bank
 - o TD Bank
 - o New Jersey Cash Management Fund
8. Resolution #2017-8 Official Newspapers as Follows:
Daily Record and The Star Ledger
9. Resolution #2017-9 Resolution Designating Newspapers to Receive Notices and Fixing Charges.
10. Resolution #2017-10 Fixing Rates of Interest (8%) and Penalty on Delinquent Taxes, (18%) Assessments and Other Municipal Charges.
- 11.
12. Resolution #2017-11 Authorizing Investments by the Borough in Certain Bonds and Other Obligations.
13. Resolution #2017-12 Regular Public Meeting Dates and Work Session Dates of the Borough Council of the Borough of Netcong.
14. Resolution #2017-13 Authorizing Temporary Appropriations as Provided by N.J.S.A.40A:4-19.
15. Resolution #2017-14 To Appoint Ralph Blakeslee and Elmer Still, As Commissioner and Alternate for the Morris County Joint Municipal Insurance Fund.
16. Resolution #2017-15 To Appoint Ralph Blakeslee as Public Agency Compliance Officer.
17. Resolution #2017-16 - To Appoint the Vozza Agency as the Borough of Netcong's Risk Management Consultant.
18. Resolution #2017-17 – Providing the Advice and Consent to the Appointment of the Members of the Board of Trustees of Netcong Borough,

Inc. the District Management Corporation of the Borough's Special Improvement District

19. Resolution 2017-18 – To Reappoint Cynthia Eckert Tax Collector of the Borough of Netcong

A Motion to Adopt Resolutions 2017-1 to 2017-18 was made by Councilman Koster and seconded by Councilman Hathaway.

Roll Call: 6 Yes

20. Resolution 2017-19 – Opposing the Imposition of a Requirement that Apprenticeship Programs Be Established by Contactors Who Wish to Bid on Public Contracts

Councilman Koster asked for verification of this resolution. Mr. Bucco offered that Freeholder Smith is here and that the resolution has not been finished yet. He explained the purpose and particulars about this resolution along with the pros and cons.

The Mayor provided his opinion and concerns about this resolution. Councilman Laureys gave his concerns about this resolution. Freeholder Smith came up to comment on the status of this resolution. She advises this is still being investigated and is on the January 11 work agenda meeting.

Councilman Still made a motion to table this resolution until further information can be obtained. Councilman Hathaway seconded the motion.

Roll Call: 5 Yes

MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

A Motion to close the meeting to the public was made by Councilman Sylvester and seconded by Councilman Koster.

Roll Call: 5 yes

OLD BUSINESS

No old business was presented at this meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

No new business was presented at this meeting

Annual Tally on Council Votes

Mr. Bucco provided background about the contest among the Council regarded motioning. He gave details regarding the amount of motions and most improved.

Mr. Bucco provided tally on votes (motion and 2nd) for year 2016 with prize.

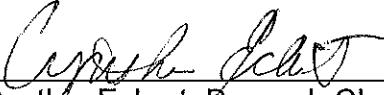
- o 144 points- Mr. Still
- o 142 points - Councilman Hathaway

The Mayor wished everyone a Happy New Year.

ADJOURNMENT

A Motion to Adjourn the Meeting was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Hathaway at 7:53 PM.
Roll Call: 5 Yes

Respectfully Submitted,



Cynthia Eckert, Borough Clerk