

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF NETCONG HELD SEPTEMBER 14, 2017 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 Administrator 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 6, 2017.
2. Publishing a notice in the Daily Record, the official newspaper of the Borough of Netcong on January 11, 2017 and mailing a copy to The Star Ledger on January 6, 2017.

ROLL CALL

Those in attendance this evening were Councilman Albensi, Councilman Hathaway, Councilman Laureys (arrived 7:37,) Councilman Still, Councilman Sylvester and Mayor Nametko. Also present were Mr. Blakeslee, Borough Administrator.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

No minutes were presented at this meeting.

PUBLIC PORTION OF MEETING

Cindy Schechter, 33 Wiltop Road resident, asked if Wiltop Road will be repaved. The road surface is very wavy and there are a lot of holes in it. She also mentioned that Carolyn Way is also a disaster. She noticed "sprucing up" in other areas.

The Mayor responded by explaining how the roads are selected for repair. Carolyn Way and lower Wiltop Road will be part of the NJDOT grant application for 2018-2019.

Cindy Schechter also mentioned that truck traffic that comes off from Route 80 to PILOT station produces deafening noise from shifting truck traffic. She asked if the exit the trucks use could be changed.

Kevin Murry, 31 Wiltop Road, noted that the NJDOT dug up his lawn during work. He also discussed the truck traffic and noise.

The Mayor and Council noted the Pilot station traffic was under Roxbury jurisdiction. The Mayor said he would relay the complaints to the Police Chief.

Mr. Murry also asked about the Morris County Library network. Councilman Sylvester discussed the MAIN system and library. The Mayor noted that he would join Mr. Murry if he set up a meeting with the freeholders.

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

Roll Call: 5 Yes

TAX REVALUATION

Mr. Joe McKeon – Tax Assessor and Fred Semrau, Tax Counsel stepped forward to discuss a possible revaluation. Mr. McKeon did not feel it was necessary for the town to have a revaluation at this time. He reviewed the following considerations:

- Time: 2020 is the earliest
- number of tax appeals, and success of those appeals
- equalization ratio 123%, highest in the County, sales price and assessment
- Co-efficient of deviation, the up and down cost of sales, has been getting better.
- Update tax maps will cost \$50,000.
- \$77 per line item to conduct a revaluation in Roxbury

There was conversation with the Council and Borough Administrator. It was determined to ask the County Tax Board to push the reassessments out to 2022.

ORDINANCE ADOPTIONS

1. Bond Ordinance 2017-8- BOND ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE ACQUISITION OF A NEW QUINT FIRE ENGINE, INCLUDING ORIGINAL APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT, IN, BY AND FOR THE BOROUGH OF NETCONG, IN THE COUNTY OF MORRIS, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, TO APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF \$1,000,000 TO PAY THE COST THEREOF, TO MAKE A DOWN PAYMENT, TO AUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS TO FINANCE SUCH APPROPRIATION AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE ISSUANCE

OF BOND ANTICIPATION NOTES IN ANTICIPATION OF THE ISSUANCE OF SUCH BONDS.

A Motion to Read Bond Ordinance 2017-8 by Title Only on Second Reading and a Hearing Held Thereon was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Hathaway.
Roll Call: 5 Yes

The Mayor opened the meeting to the public.

A Motion to Close Public Hearing was made by Councilman Still and seconded by councilman Sylvester.
Roll Call: 5 Yes

A Motion to Adopt Bond Ordinance #2017-8 was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Sylvester.
Roll Call: 5 Yes

CORRESPONDENCE

No correspondence was presented at this meeting.

BOROUGH ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

It was noted that the Council reviewed the Borough Administrators report.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance & Insurance: E. Still J. Sylvester

In the month of August of 2017 the Borough had total income in the amount \$1,787,184.19 as compared to the previous year of \$1,837,476.30.

For the month of July 2017:

Miscellaneous Revenue Not Anticipated CMRNA

In 2017 the Borough received \$7,279.52 in MRNA funds, versus \$1,126.80.

Other Licenses/Borough Clerks Fees:

In 2017 the Borough received \$11,119.49 vs. in 2016 \$5,529.15.

The Borough experienced an increase in an interest on investments and municipal court fees in August.

State Aid

For August of 2017 the Borough has a total of \$176,357.70, the same amount as in 2016.

Grants in Aid

In August of 2017 the Borough received \$7,176.22 in grant funding. In August of 2016 the Borough received \$8,842.26.

Taxes Collected

In August of 2017 the Borough collected \$1,585,251.26 vs. \$1,645,620.39 in 2016.

Income Total Year to Date:

Total income to date in 2017 was \$6,637,390.93 opposed \$6,494,090.41 in 2016.

Economic Development: R. Hathaway E. Still

Crown Point attended the Planning Board Meeting. There are thoughts that the project might start this year.

There was nothing new with the Pocket Book Factory.

Shop Rite proposed being part of the Redevelopment. They will need to be managed carefully.

The NCP funded the Netcong Welcome sign. Councilman Sylvester stated that the sign is not what Borough Council had requested. Specifics including the arrow at the bottom of the sign were ignored. Councilman Hathaway did not agree. The two discussed next steps. Councilman Hathaway stated he would go back to the NCP and provide the feedback.

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

Fire Department

In town Calls: 4 Fires
Drills: 9
Meetings: 3
Other: 5
Training: 6
Total Fire Fighters: 55
Total Involvements: 27
Total Man Hours: 486.1

Ambulance Corps for July

Total Calls: 63, 6 were out of town
Patients: 50
Trips to the Hospital: 41
Miles: 1125
Hours Volunteered: 287 hours and 6 minutes

Police Department
283 Calls
52 motor vehicle summonses
4 local ordinances

Councilman Sylvester read letters from the Netcong and Roxbury Police Departments to provide a commendation for Patrolman Janoski

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

D.P.W. Monthly Report September 2017

Road Department: New utility truck went in the shop for a warranted small rust repair. ...Performed an emergency brush pick up after heavy storms.... Cut low hanging branches on Old Waterloo Rd... Paved pot holes around town and along the 5k race routeReplaced broken stop sign on Jenny Lind at Main St. . . .Painted parking lines on Main and Maple and stop lines and crosswalks around town. Treated our mobile stage with a new coat of stain....

Water Department: Performed August water meter readings. ... Completed monthly water reports. ...Installed a new water meter at 40 Center St...Contractors installed new valves and a hydrant as part of the Stoll St project. . . . George Walters performed the annual leak detection study and found a tight system....

Buildings & Grounds: Completed recommended fire safety improvements by the Borough Fire Official.. ..Performed weekly generator reportsReplaced air filters at Borough properties for AC units. Painted new yellow lines at FH #2. ...Sprayed weeds on the curb line and paver area of Main St and Maple Ave.... Filled in washed out parking area at Indian fieldThe DPW assisted Habitat for Humanity with the installation of fencing and brick paver pads at Arbolino ParkRemoved the old Welcome to Netcong sign and flower bed in preparation of the new sign installation

Parks & Recreation: Performed weekly maintenance of all Borough properties

Public Services:
(Human Services
Recycling & Solid
Waste Disposal

T. Laureys

J. Albensi

August 2017

Days of Service: 22

Miles: 1103

Number of Stops 96

Nutrition (2 People): 18

Food Shopping (25 people): 70

Meals on Wheels: 12

Medical Appointments: 31

Other Appointments: 44

People Using Services: 55

Cancel: 33

Denials: 5

Units: 369

Hours: 110.5

5 New Seniors

1 New Disabled

OLD BUSINESS

1. Letter from Morris County Board of Taxation – Potential Revaluation Timeline

This was discussed earlier in the meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Social Affair Permit – St. Cesario Society – Beefsteak at Knights of Columbus

A motion was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Hathaway to grant the permit.

Roll Call: 4 Yes Abstain: Councilman Sylvester

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR TO THE COUNCIL

Councilman Still expressed kudos to all involved with Netcong Day

Councilman Hathaway was pleased to report that Netcong won the Fireman's Challenge. \$3000 was raised for lake restoration.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS

Thanks to all on Netcong Day, all Departments.

On Tuesday night the Mayor attended the open space meeting. He was pleased to announce that \$1 million for trails is available.

RESOLUTIONS

1. **Resolution 2017-97-** For Renewal of Membership in the Morris County Municipal Joint Insurance Fund
2. **Resolution 2017- 98** – Authorizing the Award of a Lease/Purchase Financing Agreement with the Option to Purchase a New Police Vehicle at the Rate of 2.950%
3. **Resolution 2017-99** - Authorizing the Purchase of a 2018 Police Vehicle from Under New Jersey State Contract No. 3A88729 (T2776)

Councilman Still made a motion to approve the three resolutions and Councilman Albensi seconded the motion.

Roll Call: 5 Yes

ORDINANCE INTRODUCTIONS

There were no ordinance introductions

REPORTS

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

Roll Call: 5 Yes

BILLS

A Motion to Pay All Bills When Funds are Available was made by Councilman Sylvester and seconded by Councilman Hathaway.
Roll Call: 5 Yes

PUBLIC PORTION OF MEETING

The Mayor opened the meeting for the public.

A Motion to Close the Meeting to the Public was made by Councilman Still and seconded by councilman Sylvester.
Roll Call: 5 Yes

CLOSED SESSION

There was no closed session.

ADJOURNMENT

A Motion to Adjourn the Meeting was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Sylvester at 8:54 PM.
Roll Call: 5 Yes

Respectfully submitted,



Cynthia Eckert,
Borough Clerk