

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF NETCONG HELD OCTOBER 12, 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 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 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 were Councilman Albensi, Councilman Hathaway, Councilman Koster, Councilman Laureys, Councilman Still and Mayor Nametko. Also present were Mr. Blakeslee, Borough Administrator and Mrs. Eckert, Borough Clerk.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

No minutes were presented at this meeting.

PUBLIC PORTION OF MEETING

Ms. Karin Amico of 52 Railroad Ave. wished to find the status of Phase 2 project for Railroad Ave. Mr. Blakeslee explained that the curb will be done now but the paving will be done next year. The paving for Phase 1 will be completed this fall up to Marc Ct. She would like to know where the paving will go and will it be the same as it is now. Mr. Blakeslee replied that it will be the same as what is there now.

She also inquired about her drainage issue. Mr. Blakeslee said she should bring it to the Council now. The Mayor noted that this needs to go through the Council. This needs to be considered with other requests if there is any grant money left. The Borough is not in the position to spend money on this on its own. The Mayor

continued to explain the possibilities if there is money left. Mrs. Amico asked if she should follow up in the future. Mr. Blakeslee suggested she follow up after the first of the year. The Mayor explained the regulation issues that arise when a community Block Grant is used. Councilman Hathaway asked if the self-help recommendations were included in the report Mrs. Amico has. It is not determined; Mr. Blakeslee will resend the letter to the Council. The date of the report is September 6th. She understood the self-help measures but doesn't see the point in doing them if the town will fix the problem. The Mayor said they should do these self-help measures anyway; it cannot hurt. Councilman Hathaway offered that it might be prudent to keep a diary on this for documentation so the Council will be more informed.

For the record, Mr. Bucco arrived at 7:32 PM.

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

Roll Call: 5 Yes

ORDINANCE ADOPTIONS

No ordinances were presented this evening.

CORRESPONDENCE

No correspondence was offered at this meeting.

BOROUGH ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

Mr. Blakeslee reported to the Mayor and Council that the Best Practices checklist has been completed. He was happy to add that Netcong's grade was 92%.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance & Insurance:

E. Still

J. Sylvester

For the month of September 2017:

Miscellaneous Revenue Not Anticipated (MRNA)

In 2017 the Borough received \$1,901.00 in MRNA funds, versus \$918.00.

Other Licenses/Borough Clerk Fees:

In 2017 the Borough received \$14,647.34 vs. in 2016 \$5,543.34.

The Borough received \$6,080.00 from the sale of an old police vehicle and an approximate \$2,000 increase over 2016 court revenues.

State Aid

The Borough received \$10,278.30 of its CMPTRA funding. Total state aid received in September was \$117,571.80. The Borough's year to date state aid is \$303,406.50, the exact same amount as 2016.

Grants in Aid

The Borough received \$780.50 from the DMV Inspection program in September.

Taxes Collected

The Borough collected taxes in the amount of \$65,645.13 in September 2017 as opposed to \$59,238.02 in 2016.

Income Total Year to Date:

Total income to date in 2017 was \$6,837,936.70 opposed to \$6,679,861.57 in 2016.

Councilman Still noted that department heads have received their requests for the 2018 budget.

Economic Development: R. Hathaway E. Still

Councilman Hathaway reported The Pocketbook Factory intends to be on the November Planning Board Agenda to memorialize their changes.

Crown Point is moving forward working on a NJDEP submission. They are also working on a Developer's Agreement.

The Maisano Group contacted the committee with a proposal for a small development at their properties.

There was discussion about a Developer's Agreement for the Pocketbook Factory. Mr. Bucco commented that he has not seen any of this. Councilman Hathaway replied that the agreement was preliminary and not ready for his review.

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

Councilman Koster reported as Mr. Sylvester was absent.

Ambulance Squad

71 Total Calls, 29 were Stanhope and 35 were for Netcong, 6 were out of town

62 Patients

48 Trips to the hospital

1389 total miles
301 hours 31 minutes hours volunteered

Police Department

354 calls, 3100 for the year
New pickup truck
New radar machine that is mobile

The Mayor and Council discussed the new solar radar machine for police.

Fire Department

12 Total Calls
4 Company Drills
5 Meetings
5 "other"
7 Mandatory Training
55 Total Fire Fighters
33 Involvements
886.7 Total Hours

Dept. of Public

Works & Utilities:

E. Koster

R. Hathaway

D.P.W. Monthly Report October 2017

Road Department:

Repaired a broken throttle on the street vacuum ...Finished painting stop lines and RR crossingsNew dump body installed on the 07 F-450 diesel.. .. Sr. Van went to Family Ford for a new muffler installation.....

Water Department:

RR Ave phase II was started and completed in September, asphalt installation is the only thing remaining...

Sewer Department:

Performed visual inspection of sewer main flow between NJ Transit and Stoll St....

Buildings & Grounds:

R&J Control performed quarterly maintenance on the generators Prepared footings and assisted Peterson Tree Service with the installation of the new Welcome to Netcong sign on Main St at Rt. 183....Created new mulch bed around new sign and planted new flowers....Dug trenches for underground electric for the new sign and the gazeboHung new bulletin board hangers at Borough Hall. ...Maintained weekly grass cutting Summer DPW helper finished up in SeptemberPerformed 1 watering fill of new self watering flower pots....

Parks & Recreation:

Assisted Habitat for Humanity with tree planting, picnic area excavation and fence install at Arbolino Park....

Snow:

Finalized contract with Salmon Bros for this year's plowing season....

Recycling:

Ordered a new dumpster guard for container coverage through the winter months
...

Other:

Performed all tasks associated with preparation for Netcong Day including, but not limited to, flag install, road maintenance, traffic control, message boards, volunteer transport, and assisting set up and clean up efforts....Tom Mendel attended Recycling Coordinator and Pesticide training classes...Mike Canfield attended quarterly safety meetingProvided support for Fire Department food truck festival delivering cones, barricades, message boards and stage usage

Councilman Koster discussed the lids for the recycle bins to protect them from gathering ice and snow in the winter.

Recreation:

J. Albensi

T. Laureys

Recreation Update- October 12, 2017

1. Tai Chi classes continue every Saturday at Drenzo Park.
2. The Recreation Commission hosted a bus trip on Saturday, September 16th to the Feast of San Gennaro. A wonderful time was had by all- some of us were lucky enough to see Tony Danza. Due to the overwhelming positive response and the minimal cost for a great day in the city, this trip is now on the 2018 Town Calendar
3. Trunk or Treat is scheduled for Saturday, October 28th. Flyers have gone out. Should be another fun event. Entertainment will be by Jojo.
4. Holiday Parade - Recreation is working on getting details fine tuned. Flyers will be forth coming.
5. Our first bus trip for 2018 will be Waitress which will be held on Saturday, March 10th. This trip will also be on the 2018 town calendar. He explained they are working on a reduction in fee for Netcong students who enroll in the sporting events.

Chief Blesson asks if there will be a parade down Main St. for Halloween. Councilman Albensi replied "no."

Public Services:
(Human Services
Recycling & Solid
Waste Disposal

T. Laureys

J. Albensi

Dial A Ride Monthly report for September 2017

Days of Service: 19
Miles: 877
of Stops: 83
Nutrition: (2 People): 15
Food Shopping (22 People): 48
of Meals on Wheels: 12
Medical Appointments: 30
Other Appointments: 33
People Using Services: 46
Cancels: 25
Denials: 4
Units: 287
Hours: 96

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business to discuss

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR TO THE COUNCIL

Councilman Koster: we have saved pumping a substantial amount of water in the last 2 months. He felt it was will worth doing the repairs to the reservoir.

Councilman Hathaway: the crosswalk on Allen St. (by the Village Place) needs improvement due to safety issues for the children going to school. Mr. Blakeslee said the large grant for the safe routes to school includes this project. It will include a blinking light and push button. The Mayor is pleased because this is a dangerous area. Councilman Hathaway explained the details for this.

Councilman Hathaway also discussed the Welcome to Netcong Sign and the lighting for it. The electricity will not be completed for a few weeks. He would like it to be finished before Halloween. He wondered if we can get involved with this in order to be sure it gets done in time. Mr. Blakeslee had not heard about this until now.

Councilman Hathaway stated that he and the Mayor had been working with the Rotary to get equipment for the Fire Department RIC team. He explained the details and his concerns about how we go out to help other towns. What are we getting in return? Councilman Koster stated he could answer some of these questions. He said there will be drills started with these boards. It was a state law that says there must be a RIC team available when there is a house fire. The County does not send us anywhere; other towns call us for service. He is not sure why the county has anything to do with RIC calls. The Mayor asked how many other towns have a RIC. Councilman Koster said there are other towns in the area that have a RIC team. The Council continued discussion regarding this subject. Councilman Still stated the fire fighters are the ones who decided to have a RIC team. There is no one telling them they must do it. The fire fighters chose to do this. It involves a lot of training so some towns do not want to do this. The RIC team is used for structure fires. The state does not provide any funding for this. Councilman Albensi advised that we are leaders when we get involved but we get no reward for being the best. Councilman Koster said this is a volunteer situation. Councilman Koster said it is good training and makes better Firefighters.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS

The Mayor wished to congratulate Mr. Blakeslee on his success of becoming a Certified Municipal Clerk.

RESOLUTIONS

1. **Resolution 2017- 104** - Approval to Submit a Grant Application and Execute a Grant Contract with New Jersey Department of Transportation for the Wiltop Area Sidewalk Program - Phase I Project
2. **Resolution 2017- 105** - Approval to Submit a Grant Application and Execute a Grant Contract with New Jersey Department of Transportation for the Carolyn Way, Oak Street & Wiltop Rd. Resurfacing Project
3. **Resolution 2017- 106** – To Appoint Brenda Ferrara as Alternate Crossing Guard
4. **Resolution 2017-107** – Authorizing the Purchase of a 1993 Ford Dump Truck, Gross Vehicle Weight 25,000 Lbs. from the Musconetcong Sewerage Authority in Accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A: 11-5(2)
5. **Resolution 2017-108**- Authorizing Sanitary Sewer and Water Allocations for Block 16.01, Lots 24 and 25.01 Located on Bank Street in the Borough of Netcong
6. **Resolution 2017-109** – Authorizing the Purchase of a New Sutphen Quint Fire Apparatus Through the Houston-Galveston Area Council (“HGAC”) Cooperative Pricing Program

A Motion to approve the six Resolutions noted above was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Koster.
Roll Call: 5 Yes

ORDINANCE INTRODUCTIONS

There were no ordinances

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 Still and seconded by Councilman Hathaway.
Roll Call: 5 Yes

PUBLIC PORTION OF MEETING

A Motion to Close the Meeting to the Public was Made by Councilman Hathaway and seconded by Councilman Koster.
Roll Call: 5 Yes


CLOSED SESSION

No closed session was held.

ADJOURNMENT

A Motion to Adjourn the Meeting was made by Councilman Still at 8:15 PM seconded by Councilman Hathaway and was carried by unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,



Cynthia Eckert, Borough Clerk