

# **BOROUGH OF NETCONG**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF NETCONG HELD FEBRUARY 1, 2018 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 7:26 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 12, 2018.
2. Publishing a notice in the Daily Record, the official newspaper of the Borough of Netcong on January 17, 2018 and mailing a copy to The Star Ledger on January 12, 2018.

## **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**

- Reorganization/Regular Meeting – January 11, 2018

A Motion to Approve the Above Listed Minutes was made by Councilman Sylvester and seconded by Councilman Albensi

Roll Call: 6 Yes

## **PRESENTATION – Project Self- Sufficiency**

Ms. Kate McNamara explained the outreach services provided by this organization. She described a grant they received and that the funds were used to buy an RV to provide services to the people in our area. She praised the St. Michael Food Pantry and how well it is run. She requested the blessing of the Council for them to be able to park the RV in our town every other Friday as well as any other needs the Council might feel is necessary.

The Mayor asked if they have reached out to St. Clare's Hospital to coordinate outreach programs. Ms. McNamara says they do already partner with St. Clare's. He asked if they will be coming on a fixed schedule so the Borough can advertise on our website and Nixle. Ms. McNamara responded that she will also meet with the local school to coordinate. Councilman Hathaway suggested we put it on the corner of Maple and Main St. due to its good visibility. Councilman Laureys suggested a parking lot may be a better option. Ms. McNamara stated they don't really need much space so a parking lot is not necessary.

Councilman Albensi asked what their services are. Ms. McNamara responded: Job training, parenting classes, etc. The services are soup to nuts. Councilman Koster suggested in front of the old bank on Main Street. The Mayor asked if they have bilingual workers because we do have a fairly high hispanic population. Ms. McNamara replied "yes."

Councilman Albensi suggested computer education as an important service to supply. There were members from St. Michael's in the audience to encourage this program because it will help them to provide better services to the people that come to the food pantry. Ms. McNamara thanked the Council for their input, support and time.

### **PUBLIC PORTION OF MEETING**

No one from the audience approached the dais.

A Motion to close the meeting to the public was made by Councilman Hathaway and seconded by Councilman Albensi.

Roll Call: 6 Yes

### **ORDINANCE ADOPTIONS**

No ordinances were adopted this meeting.

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

1. Peter Pfaffenroth – Water/Sewer
2. Stanhope/Netcong Ambulance Squad – Ambulance Replacement

Mr. Blakeslee plans to have a meeting with the Ambulance Squad and will bring to the Finance Committee

### **OLD BUSINESS**

No old business was presented.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

1. Appointment of Michael Manca as a Firefighter for Fire Co. No. 2

A motion was made by Councilman Koster and seconded by Councilman Hathaway.  
Roll Call: 6 Yes

### **PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR TO THE COUNCIL**

Councilman Sylvester brought up the topic of legalized marijuana. Personally, he feels it leaves the wrong impression on our youth. He is not sure how far to go with this but he would like to start a conversation about how the Council would like to deal with the option of having dispensaries in town. Councilman Albensi said he has friends who use medical marijuana. Councilman Sylvester is more concerned about recreational marijuana. Councilman Hathaway provided his opinion. The Council may not want this in the downtown but may want to allow it in other parts of town. Councilman Still said we would need to come up with some rules considering the schools and churches in town. The Mayor suggested we could zone it. He is not condoning this but we do need to make sure we set our zoning carefully. Councilman Sylvester stated there are negative things that go on around the dispensaries that no one knows about. Councilman Hathaway said everyone would agree it does not belong in the downtown. Mr. Blakeslee explained certain businesses are only allowed in the zone along the highway. Councilman Laureys queried why there would be a possible lawsuit if you try to ban businesses. Councilman Laureys continued that the federal law does not allow this so how could there be a lawsuit. There is lengthy discussion on this matter. It is decided this should be discussed at next week's meeting when the Borough attorney is present.

### **MAYORS COMMENTS**

The Mayor had no comments at this time.

### **RESOLUTIONS**

1. Resolution 2018-27- Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Fiscal Grant Cycle July 2014- June 2019

A motion was made by Councilman Hathaway and seconded by Councilman Sylvester.  
Roll Call: 6 Yes

2. Resolution 2018-28 -To Appoint Diana Katzenstein as Administrative Assistant

A motion was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Albensi to approve the appointment.  
Roll Call: 6 Yes

### **PROCLAMATIONS**

There were no proclamations presented at this meeting.

## **ORDINANCE INTRODUCTIONS**

1. **Ordinance 2018-1-** AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CHIEF OF POLICE TO EXECUTE AN APPLICATION FOR A CHARITABLE SOLICITATION PERMIT FOR NETCONG VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY NO. 1's "COIN DROP" ON MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND AT THE INTERSECTIONS OF ALLEN STREET AND LEDGEWOOD AVENUE AND MAIN STREET AND ROUTE 46 AND ROUTE 183 IN THE BOROUGH OF NETCONG, COUNTY OF MORRIS, STATE OF NEW JERSEY

This ordinance was carried to the February 8<sup>th</sup> meeting.

## **PUBLIC PORTION OF MEETING**

Mr. David Costanza – Prospect St. – Suggested the Council research the subject of marijuana. He explained it could serve the residents who are medically needy in Netcong and others within a 45-mile range. The Mayor repeated that there is no issue with medical marijuana.

A Motion to close the meeting to the public was made by Councilman Hathaway and seconded by Councilman Albensi.

Roll Call: 6 Yes

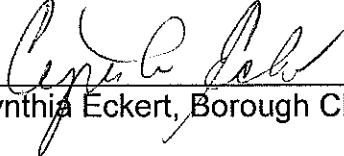
## **CLOSED SESSION**

There was no closed session.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

A Motion to Adjourn the Meeting was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Hathaway at 7:58PM and was carried by unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

  
Cynthia Eckert, Borough Clerk