

## ***BOROUGH OF NETCONG***

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF NETCONG HELD DECEMBER 12, 2019 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 4, 2019.
2. Publishing a notice in the Daily Record, the official newspaper of the Borough of Netcong on January 9, 2019 and mailing a copy to The Star Ledger on January 4, 2019.

### **ROLL CALL**

Those in attendance this evening were 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.

### **Swear in New Council Member**

Joseph W. Albensi III was sworn in by the Borough Clerk.

### **PROCLAMATIONS**

The Mayor read the proclamation and thanked Keith Pierson for his mom's years of service. Councilman Still and Councilman Laureys made several comments about Mary. Mr. Pierson, Mary's son said also had several words to say. He thanked the Council for the proclamation.

## **PROCLAMATION TO RECOGNIZE MARY PIERSON FOR HER YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY**

***WHEREAS**, an active and engaged citizenry is the foundation of any successful democracy, and;*

***WHEREAS**, Mary Pierson has demonstrated this through her life's work as a citizen who fully participated in her community since the 1930's, working with elected officials at the local, county, state and national levels, including Vice Presidents, Senators and members of Congress, State Legislators, Freeholders and Governors, and;*

***WHEREAS**, stories abound about Mary Pierson and her interaction with power brokers, political leaders and celebrities as well as local residents who truly appreciated her acts of kindness, to the extent that such stories are too numerous to be retold within the boundaries of this document, and;*

***WHEREAS**, if each citizen of this republic took one fifth of the interest and effort that Mary Pierson committed during her many active years, we would fully achieve "the more perfect union" called for by the Constitution of the United States, and;*

***WHEREAS**, Mary Pierson passed away on November 6, 2019, just 1 month short of her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday, and it is fitting and right to recognize her many contributions to the public at large.*

***NOW THEREFORE BE IT PROCLAIMED**, that Mary Pierson be recognized for her outstanding service to the Borough of Netcong, County of Morris, State of New Jersey and the United States of America.*

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Minutes were approved at the agenda meeting.

### **PUBLIC PORTION OF MEETING**

Seeing no one coming forward, the Mayor asked for a motion to close.

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

Roll Call: 6 Yes

### **ORDINANCE ADOPTIONS**

- 1. Ordinance 2019-16 - AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 268 "VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC", ARTICLE IX, STOP INTERSECTIONS, OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF NETCONG PROVIDING FOR A STOP**

**INTERSECTION AT COLLEGE ROAD AND STOLL STREET WITH THE STOP SIGN ON STOLL STREET.**

A Motion to Read Ordinance 2019-16 by Title Only on Second Reading and a Hearing Held Thereon was made by Councilman Koster and seconded by Councilman Hathaway.

Roll Call: 6 Yes

Councilman Sylvester said this is the first step in making this portion of town safer for our residents. There will be other things in the future.

A motion to close the public hearing was made by Councilman Koster and seconded by Councilman Sylvester.

Roll Call: 6 Yes

A Motion to Adopt Ordinance #2019-16 was made by Councilman Koster and seconded by Councilman Sylvester.

Roll Call: 6 Yes

**2. Ordinance 2019-17 - AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 194 LAND DEVELOPMENT PROCEDURES, ARTICLE V ADMINISTRATION AND PROCEDURES, SECTION 27 NOTICE OF HEARINGS ON APPLICATIONS, OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF NETCONG.**

A Motion to Read Ordinance 2019-17 by Title Only on Second Reading and a Hearing Held Thereon was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Hathaway.

Roll Call: 6 Yes

A Motion to Close Public Hearing was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Hathaway.

Roll Call: 6 Yes

A Motion to Adopt Ordinance #2019-17 as revised was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Hathaway.

Roll Call: 6 Yes

**CORRESPONDENCE**

No correspondence was presented.

**BOROUGH ADMINISTRATOR REPORT**

Mr. Blakeslee expanded on Councilman Sylvester's comments regarding College Rd. and Stoll St. He stated we did receive 2 additional surveys after the deadline.

The Borough will be implementing a cybersecurity policy as requested by our insurance company. It needed to be noted and mentioned at a public meeting. This policy will bring down the town's deductible. The Mayor also gave a report on some possible cyber-attack issues that could easily happen to anyone.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Finance & Insurance:                      E. Still                      J. Sylvester

Councilman Still read his report. All information is in for the 2020 budget. They will move forward. The Mayor and Council discussed the increase in revenue.

For the month of November 2019 the Borough had a total income in the amount of \$1,786,929.68 as compared to November 2018 of \$1,629,036.05.

#### **For the month of November 2019:**

Miscellaneous Revenue Not Anticipated (MRNA):

In 2019 the Borough received \$3,728.00 compared to \$1,124.50 in 2018

Other Licenses/Borough Clerks Fees:

The Borough received \$20,293.86 in 2019 compared to \$18,770.80 in 2018.

State Aid:

There was \$42,194.58 in State Aid received for 2019 and \$42,215.29 in 2018.

Grants in Aid:

We received \$3,045.25 in 2019 and \$5,346.95 was received in 2018.

Taxes Collected:

The Borough collected \$1,717,668.19 in 2019 compared to \$1,561,578.51 in 2018.

Income Total Year to Date:

The Total Income Year to date for 2019 is \$10,350,983.87 as compared to \$9,622,336.69 in 2018.

Economic Development:                      R. Hathaway                      E. Still

Councilman Hathaway reported that the Crown walk project is coming to a finish for the developer agreement and PILOT. Crown Point is moving quickly. Shop Rite situation is moving along. Councilman Hathaway gave details on this project

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

Councilman Sylvester read the Fire Prevention Bureau and Police Reports

#### Fire Prevention

4 state-life hazard uses  
4 town non-life hazard uses  
8 certificates of inspection  
1 town state correspondence  
6 total field hours worked  
1 Seminar  
13 hours administrative  
19 Total hours

#### Police

456 calls  
100 motor vehicle summonses  
11 winter parking summonses  
9 overweight vehicles summonses

Councilman Sylvester gave details on an overweight vehicle stop that yielded a drug bust. There was brief discussion on this subject. He gave details on the new police vehicles.

#### Dept. of Public

Works & Utilities:                      E. Koster                      R. Hathaway

Councilman Koster read the DPW report. The DPW was complimented on their snow plowing.

#### Road Department:

Performed roadside leaf clean ups .... Picked up 4 cy of grass, 40 cy of brush, and 224cy of leaves ....

#### Water Department:

Performed Nov. meter readings .... Tree King was in to remove dead trees at wells 1&2 under the Morris County Coop ....

#### Sewer Department:

Cleared a sewer main blockage on Rt 46 .... Received the new sewer jet and put it into service ...

#### Buildings & Grounds:

Set up for Holiday Parade with decorations, message boards, light towers and stage .... Main St. overhead decorations were hung by Petersons tree service .... Decorated all the Boroughs lamp posts with garland and bows .... DPW built a new set of steps for the recycle center. .... Put Main St. benches into storage .... Mobility Elevator performed annual preventative maintenance inspection at FHI ...

Parks & Recreation:

New camera system was installed at DiRenzo Park. ... GAK Const. performed work on Arbo bathrooms including new roofing, fascia repair, and aluminum wrap ... .

Snow:

Performed snow preparation with DPW vehicles and contractor inspections ....

Other:

Mike Canfield attended the League of Municipalities Convention in Atlantic City .... Joe Fiorello and Jeff Jozowski attended a snow plowing class in Dover .... Assisted in moving the weed harvester out of the lake ....

Recreation: J. Albensi T. Laureys

There was no report at this time.

Public Services: T. Laureys J. Albensi  
(Human Services  
Recycling & Solid  
Waste Disposal

Councilman Laureys read the Dial A Ride Report:

Days of Service: 18  
Miles: 830  
Number of Stops: 81  
Nutrition for 2 people: 17  
Food Shopping: 51  
Number of Meals on Wheels: 13  
Medical Appointments: 9  
Other Appointments: 102  
People Using Services: 41  
Cancels: 5  
Denials: 0  
Units: 310  
Hours: 93  
Additional note: 3 days off in November

**OLD BUSINESS**

None was presented.

**NEW BUSINESS**

None was presented.

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

President Koster asked Mr. Hess to provide an update on Well #1 function. Mr. Hess reported the wells and pumps are running efficiently.

Councilman Hathaway – The Morris County Trail Grant was received. Quite a bit of pro bono work was completed by Mr. Guerin and John Hansen to get this done. The Crown Point Tom Fury also did a lot of the work for this grant. This will improve the shoreline by Arbolino Park. This will include improvements to the handicapped parking and trail.

### **MAYOR'S COMMENTS**

The Mayor wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. He invited the Council to a luncheon at to be held at Borough Hall December 23<sup>rd</sup> at 11:30 am.

### **RESOLUTIONS Voted in Block**

1. **Resolution 2019 – 111** - Authorizing Submission of a Grant Application and Execute a Grant Agreement with The United States Department of Agriculture (Rural Development) for the Purchase of Two Electronic Message Boards, Police Department Computers and Snow Removal Equipment.

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

2. **Resolution 2019 – 112** – To Set up a Dedication-By-Rider to Set Up Trust Fund for Donations to the Joseph Albensi Jr. Memorial Fund.

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

3. **Resolution 2019 – 113** - Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Fiscal Grant Cycle July 2020-June 2025.

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

4. **Resolution 2019 – 114** – Authorizing the Execution of an Agreement with Roxbury Animal Hospital for the Care of Cats and Dogs for the CY 2019.

A motion was made by Councilman Koster and seconded by Councilman Sylvester.  
Roll Call: 5 Yes                      Abstain: Councilman Hathaway

5. **Resolution 2019 – 115** – Municipal Council Fair Housing Resolution.

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

**6. Resolution 2019 – 116 – Authorizing an Application to the Morris County Community Development Block Grant Program for Elm Street Improvements.**

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

**ORDINANCE INTRODUCTIONS**

No introductions were presented.

**REPORTS**

A Motion to Incorporate All Reports into the Minutes was made by Councilman Koster and seconded by Councilman Hathaway.  
Roll Call: 6 Yes

**BILLS**

A Motion to Pay All Bills When Funds are Available was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Sylvester.  
Roll Call: 6 Yes

**PUBLIC COMMENT – USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT GRANT APPLICATION**

Mr. Blakeslee explained this must be on the agenda in order to receive the grant. 55% grant toward police dept. computers and gator for DPW and 2 message boards. The Mayor asked what the timing is for this grant. Mr. Blakeslee explained they will give the money right away.

A motion to accept the grant and close this session was made by Councilman Koster and seconded by Councilman Still.  
Roll Call: 6 Yes

**PUBLIC PORTION OF MEETING**

A Motion to Close the Meeting to the Public was made by Councilman Koster and seconded by Councilman Still.  
Roll Call: 6 Yes

**CLOSED SESSION**

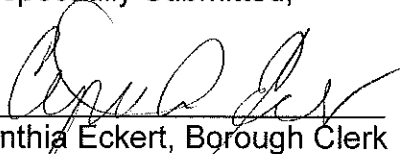
There was no closed session.



**ADJOURNMENT**

A Motion to Adjourn the Meeting was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Hathaway at 8:06 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

  
Cynthia Eckert, Borough Clerk