

BOROUGH OF NETCONG

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF NETCONG HELD JUNE 11, 2020 AT THE NETCONG MUNICIPAL BUILDING, 23 MAPLE AVENUE, NETCONG, NEW JERSEY COMMENCING AT 7:30 PM.

Mayor Nametko called the virtual meeting to order at 7:30 PM.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

STATEMENT OF OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT

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 3, 2020.
2. Publishing a notice in the Daily Record, the official newspaper of the Borough of Netcong on January 15, 2020 and sending a copy to the Star Ledger on January 3, 2020.

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

No minutes were presented.

PUBLIC PORTION OF MEETING

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

Roll Call: 6 Yes

ANNUAL AUDIT

Valerie Dolan Auditor- gave several comments. She explained this year's audit was done remotely due to the COVID Pandemic. She thanked the staff for all their help in accomplishing this. She gave details on several audit highlights. She said it was a very good year for the Borough putting them in a good position to handle the issues that may arise from the COVID pandemic. Councilman Still thanked her for a job well done.

The two resolutions below were voted together.

1. **Resolution #2020-71** -Certification of the Annual Audit.
2. **Resolution #2020-72** -To Approve the 2019 Corrective Action Plan.

A motion was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Sylvester to approve the resolutions.

Roll Call: 6 Yes

ORDINANCE ADOPTIONS

1. **Ordinance 2020-12-** To Amend Chapter 54, Police Department, Article IV, Fees, Section 54-16, Fees, Paragraph F, Contracted Police Services, Subparagraph (3) of the Code of the Borough of Netcong, Morris County, New Jersey

A Motion to Read Ordinance 2020-12 by Title Only on Second Reading and a Hearing Held Thereon by Councilman Sylvester and seconded by Councilman Hathaway.

Roll Call: 6 Yes

The meeting was open to the public. Hearing no one, a Motion to close the public hearing was made by Councilman Sylvester and seconded by Councilman Hathaway.

Roll Call: 6 Yes

A Motion to Adopt Ordinance 2020-12 was made by Councilman Sylvester and seconded by Councilman Hathaway.

Roll Call: 6 Yes

CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence presented at this meeting.

BOROUGH ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

1. Speed tables – \$20,000.00 in budget for this year.
Councilman Sylvester asked where they will be located and the cost. Mr. Blakeslee provided the details. There was brief discussion among the Council regarding the speed tables and where they will be located.
A Motion to move forward and go out to bid for speed tables was made by Councilman Sylvester and seconded by Councilman Hathaway.
Roll Call: 6 Yes

2. Trail Grant
A Motion to authorize preparing specifications and going out to bid for Trail Grant was made by Councilman Hathaway and seconded by Councilman Still.
Roll Call: 6 Yes

3. Garbage contract up this year
The Mayor had several questions about the details regarding the contract.

A Motion to go Add recycling to garbage bid specs was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Hathaway.
Roll Call: 6 Yes

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE & INSURANCE: E. STILL J. SYLVESTER

For the month of May 2020, the Borough had a total income in the amount of \$1,744,932.13 as compared to May 2019 of \$998,480.59.

For the month of May 2020:

Miscellaneous Revenue Not Anticipated (MRNA):

In 2020 the Borough received \$6,835.50 compared to \$2,152.50 in 2019

Other Licenses/Borough Clerks Fees:

The Borough received \$4,128.86 compared to \$29,256.45 in 2019.

State Aid:

We didn't receive any state aid in May 2020 or in May 2019.

Grants in Aid:

There were Grants in Aid received by the Borough in May 2020 however, we received \$6,841.83 in May 2019.

Taxes Collected:

The Borough collected \$1,733,967.77 in 2020 compared to \$960,229.81 in 2019.

Income Total Year to Date:

The Total Income Year to date for 2020 is \$4,868,483.14 as opposed to \$4,645,784.53 in 2019.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT: R. HATHAWAY E. STILL

Councilman Hathaway stated the most relevant items have already been covered in the Administrators Report.

PUBLIC SAFETY: J. SYLVESTER E. KOSTER
(Police, Fire, Rescue)

The Fire houses are open for training and meetings with no congregating. The Police Dept were at a demonstration on Saturday. Councilman Sylvester noted that Chief Blesson did great job. The protesters sent Chief Blesson a thank you note for his help.

Patrolmen Mattits and Reilly saved another life. Councilman Sylvester will sit down with the Chief to do something for these officers.

The Mayor said the Chief did a great job with the protest. The Chief stated it was a joint effort. The Chief thanked the Mayor for being there. Councilman Laureys inquired about the number of protesters. The Mayor replied 37.

Police Department

Total Calls: 195

Fire Department

INCIDENTS: 7
MONTHLY 31 Members Volunteered
TOTAL: 34 Hours & 14 Minutes

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS E. KOSTER R. HATHAWAY

Councilman Koster had several comments. Planters are out. American flags will be up for 4th of July. He asked for an update on well #5. He gave details on this well and the issues they are having with it. Mr. Hess, Water Operator, provided details on the issues with this new pump. He said he feels there is an issue with the pump. They are working with the manufacturer to rectify the cloudy water issue which is air bubbles in the system. He will keep everyone informed.

Road Department: DPW met with NJ Nat Gas and Gray Supply to discuss terms of the repaving of Lower Stoll St....Responded to storm damaged trees on Prospect which were removed by Peterson's Tree Service...Picked up 32 cy of grass, 60 cy of brush, and 16 cy of leaves....Prepped and planted flowers in the earth planters on Main St, Maple Ave, Gazebo, and DiRenzo Park...

Water Department: DOT State yard had a water break in which DPW lent support with mark outs and shut off...Stothoff Contracting installed a new pump at well 5...DPW assisted Crowne Point and Don Jose during pressure tests on their water main services...Performed 2nd qtr water meter readings....

Buildings & Grounds: Installed partial park re opening signs at DiRenzo Park....Ordered and received new American Flags purchased by the NCP that will be hung for the 4th of July....

Parks & Recreation: Installed safety fence and signage at Municipal Parks....

Other: DPW offered support to Food Bank operations....Installed a portable sneeze guard for the counter at Borough Hall....DPW resumed full staffing after Memorial Day with safety protocols....Utilized the ozone decontamination unit when necessary on DPW vehicles and offices, Borough Hall, PD vehicles, FD vehicles and the Food Bank trailer....Received 2 new message board as part of USDA grant and have utilized them already for topics such as Covid safety precautions, Recycle Center hours, and street sweeping operations..

RECREATION:

J. ALBENSI

T. LAUREYS

Councilman Albensi – with shelter in place lifted they will be doing the first concert in the park on July 4th. They want to serve hamburgers and hot dogs. Mr. Blakeslee is looking into this to make sure it is allowed. There was brief discussion. Councilman Sylvester offered to purchase ketchup and mustard packets for this event if needed.

PUBLIC SERVICES:

T. LAUREYS

J. ALBENSI

(Human Services, Recycling & Solid Waste Disposal)

The Mayor stated that Mr. Benvenuto, Dial a Ride driver, has been doing a great job delivering meals on wheels and purchasing food for the food pantry during this pandemic.

OLD BUSINESS

None presented.

NEW BUSINESS

None presented.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR TO THE COUNCIL

Council President Sylvester asked the following:

- Are we opening recycle center for regular hours?
- Can we go to live council meetings in July?

We have to social distance and must wear a mask. There was discussion among the Council on the particulars of following the executive order.

The Council questioned if both meetings would be held next month. The Mayor polled the Council whether to cancel the July 2nd meeting.

A motion was made to cancel the July 2nd meeting and was approved by unanimous voice vote.

Councilman Hathaway had a comment about the tree ordinance. Due to technical difficulties, Mr. Bucco was unable to respond. Mr. Blakeslee will follow up with this.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS

The Mayor had no comments at this time.

RESOLUTIONS

1. Resolution 2020-73 – 2020 Salary Resolution

A motion to approve the Resolution was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Sylvester.

Roll Call: 6 Yes

2. Resolution 2020 -74- Approval to Submit a Grant Application and Execute a Grant Contract with the New Jersey Department of Transportation for the Allen Terrace Resurfacing Project

A motion to approve the Resolution was made by Councilman Hathaway and seconded by Councilman Albensi.

Roll Call: 6 Yes

ORDINANCE INTRODUCTIONS

1. **Capital Ordinance 2020-13-** Capital Ordinance of The Borough of Netcong, In The County Of Morris, New Jersey Authorizing The Undertaking Of Various Road Improvements In, By And For The Borough, Appropriating Therefor The Sum Of \$67,000 And Providing That Such Sum So Appropriated Shall Be Raised From Capital Fund Balance Of The Borough.

A Motion to Introduce Capital Ordinance #2020-13- and Read by Title Only was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Albensi.

Roll Call: 6 Yes

A Motion to Pass Ordinance #2020-13 on First Reading was made by Councilman Albensi and seconded by Councilman Still.

Roll Call: 6 Yes

Ordinance 2020-14- To Amend Chapter 268 "Vehicles and Traffic" Article IX, Stop Intersections, of the Code of the Borough of Netcong Providing for Stop Intersections at Kings Rd. and Highland Avenue and Highland Avenue and Koclas Drive with Stop Signs on Kings Rd. and Highland Avenue.

A Motion to Introduce Ordinance #2020-14- and Read by Title Only was made by Councilman Sylvester and seconded by Councilman Hathaway.

Roll Call: 6 Yes

A Motion to Pass Ordinance #2020- 14 on First Reading was made by Councilman Sylvester and seconded by Councilman Hathaway.

Roll Call: 6 Yes

REPORTS

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

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 PORTION OF MEETING

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

Roll Call: 6 Yes

Mr. Blakeslee stated Mr. Bucco was having some technical issues so was unable to discuss the sidewalk and tree ordinance. Since he was unable to communicate at the meeting, he will prepare a memo about this and send to the Council.

Councilman Sylvester asked about the letter to be sent to the Planning Board – Mr. Blakeslee will prepare and send to them before their next meeting. Mayor said Mr. Blakeslee should consult with Mr. Bucco on the wording of this letter.

CLOSED SESSION

There was no closed session this evening.

ADJOURNMENT

A Motion to Adjourn the Meeting was made by Councilman Hathaway, seconded by Councilman Still and was moved by unanimous voice vote at 8:23 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,



Cynthia L. Eckert, Borough Clerk