

BOROUGH OF NETCONG

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF NETCONG HELD NOVEMBER 5, 2020 AT THE NETCONG MUNICIPAL BUILDING, 23 MAPLE AVENUE, NETCONG, NEW JERSEY COMMENCING AT 7:30 PM.

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

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 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 Laureys, Councilman Sylvester, Councilman Still and Mayor Nametko. Also present were Mr. Blakeslee, Borough Administrator and Mrs. Eckert, Borough Clerk.

PUBLIC PORTION OF MEETING

Seeing no one stepping forward, a Motion to close the meeting to the public was made by Councilman Sylvester and seconded by Councilman Hathaway.

Roll Call: 5 Yes

AGENDA ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

The following items are for discussion purposes only. Any action on these items will take place at the meeting of November 12, 2020.

1. **Minutes** – October 1, 2020
October 8, 2020

A motion was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Hathaway to approve the minutes.

Roll Call: 5 Yes

2. **Ordinance Adoptions - Ordinance – 2020-19** To Amend Chapter 268 “Vehicles and Traffic” Article IX “Stop Intersections” Section 26 “Stop Intersections Designated” of the Code of the Borough of Netcong Revising Designated Stop Intersections. **Ordinance Adoptions- Ordinance –2020-19** To Amend Chapter 268 “Vehicles and Traffic” Article IX “Stop Intersections” Section 26 “Stop Intersections Designated” of the Code of the Borough of Netcong Revising Designated Stop Intersections.

To be carried to the November 12 Meeting.

3. **Ordinance Adoptions- Ordinance 2020-21** – To Amend and Supplement Chapter 194 “Land Development Procedures, Article VI “Site Plan Review” and Article VII “Subdivision of Land” of the Code of the Borough of Netcong Providing Requirement of Sidewalks as a Design Standard.

To be carried to the November 12 Meeting.

4. **Ordinance Adoptions - Ordinance 2020-22** – Amending Chapter 140, Construction Code, Uniform, Section 140-2, Fees of the Code of the Borough of Netcong, Morris County, New Jersey.

To be carried to the November 12 Meeting.

5. **Ordinance Adoptions - Ordinance 2020-23** - Amendment to Shop Rite Redevelopment Plan.

To be carried to the November 12 Meeting.

6. **Correspondence** – None

7. **Old Business** – None

8. **New Business-** Solid Waste Bid / Recycling Collection

Mr. Blakeslee provided a brief update on this subject. He only received one bid from Gaeta. He noted the contract pricing. Mr. Blakeslee recommended we go with only the base bid. He explained the MUA came up with an amount for our recycling that is fixed and easy to put in the budget. Councilman Hathaway stated it is significantly less than previous years. He asked if the garbage and recycle contracts will coincide for renewal. There was brief discussion among the Council on the reason for the increase in fees. The Mayor stated it was good for the borough to try to get a bid from another company for the recycling. There was continued discussion on the state of recycling at this time. Mr. Blakeslee will have the resolutions prepared if it is the Council’s preference. Mr. Blakeslee also

brought up an additional resolution in reference to COVID-19 emergency funds that would need to be approved at this meeting. Councilman Hathaway asked he read this resolution so the Council can vote on it this evening.

9. **Resolution 2020 -101-** To Renew Liquor License for Harris Holding LLC
10. **Resolution 2020–102-** To Hire Rose Figueroa as Janitor for the Borough of Netcong
11. **Resolution 2020-103** - 2021 Holiday Schedule
12. **Resolution 2020-104** - Hire Edward J. Williams as Alternate Crossing Guard
13. **Resolution 2020-105** - North Jersey Municipal Employee Benefits Fund Resolution to Renew

A motion was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Sylvester to approve **Resolutions 2020-101 through 2020-105.**
Roll Call 5 Yes

14. **Resolution 2020-106-** Applicants Resolution Local Government Emergency Fund (CRF) Grant

A motion was made by Councilman Hathaway and seconded by Councilman Still to approve Resolution 2020-106.
Roll Call: 5 Yes

15. **Ordinance Introduction – Ordinance 2020-24-** AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 194, "LAND DEVELOPMENT PROCEDURES", ARTICLE XIV "AFFORDABLE HOUSING" OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF NETCONG TO PROVIDE FOR ANNUAL ADJUSTMENT TO INCOME ELIGIBILITY AND MAXIMUM RENTAL AND SALE PRICES FOR AFFORDABLE UNITS.

This ordinance will be carried to the November 12th meeting.

16. **Ordinance Introduction – Ordinance 2020-25** – Stormwater (Pending)
17. **Ordinance Introduction – Ordinance 2020-26** – Yard Waste (Pending)
18. **Ordinance Introduction – Ordinance 2020-27** – Fire Lanes (Pending)

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR TO THE COUNCIL

Council President Sylvester – Did not get grant for fire fighter assistance fund for 3rd year in a row. Not sure what needs to be done to get this grant. Will try again next year. Our current equipment is 20 years old. We may have to buy several each year. There are 28

in service. Mr. Blakeslee suggested we may be able to get a USDA grant for these items.

Councilman Albensi: There has been ongoing discussion with the soccer club about possible improvements to Indian's Field. He has discussed this with the recreation commission. He detailed the requested improvements. He stated with COVID this year the fields are not being used by the football or lacrosse clubs. He explained the condition of the existing equipment and details of what would need to be done to make improvements that will accommodate soccer, football and lacrosse teams.

Councilman Hathaway provided detail on the needs for the soccer club and the steps necessary to accomplish this. Mr. Canfield gave details on some of the issues needed to be addressed. He stated the soccer club is willing to pay for the changes as long as they are considered a priority user. He feels there is a spirit of cooperation between the soccer team and other clubs. The soccer club has already made substantial changes to the snack shack. He feels those who use the field must help care for it. There needs to be some details determined in how to make this fair to all. The Mayor stated the Junior Patriots put the existing goal posts in years ago. There was further discussion on this subject among the Council. There was discussion on non-permanent multi-purpose goals so different sporting clubs could use this field. Councilman Hathaway feels the sport clubs have the money to maintain this field. The Mayor wants to be sure the field continues to be called Indian's Field. Councilman Hathaway noted the preferences of the clubs. There was further discussion of the requirement details for fencing, etc. The Mayor stated the visitor bleachers are movable. The soccer team has requested a quote from PMZ Landscaping for these changes. The Borough would be responsible for removing the old equipment, the soccer club would replace everything. There was detailed discussion on how to make the changes and who would be responsible for the cost of the changes. Mr. Canfield explained some of the newer options for fencing.

Councilman Hathaway: Problem with the sign on the shed at DiRenzo Park, Indians Field and the Recycle Center. The Mayor stated he thought it was determined all the signs should be the same. The reason for recreation wanting to change the sign size is because the shed door is too small. There was discussion among the Council on this subject. Mr. Canfield gave detail on what he had found in reference to this sign issue and the differences in the various sizes. Councilman Hathaway feels there should be congruity with these signs so the next incidence will not cause issues. Councilman Sylvester said he thought it was agreed that the signs would all be the same. Councilman Laureys offered his opinion on this subject. He feels these signs should be comparable to the existing signs for previous dedications done for others. It appears the Council is in agreement the signs should be similar in size for all dedications. Mr. Canfield will find the original pictures and dimensions and send it to recreation stating this is the pleasure of the Council. Councilman Hathaway feels we should take a moment to recognize John Bauer who passed away recently and was the one who painted the shed. Councilman Still suggested we should give the volunteer of the year award to Mr. Bauer this year. The Council agreed.

Councilman Still: We have to do something about leaves in the road. Residents/taxpayers should not have to be removing leaves from the street. They feel the police should be enforcing it. There was discussion among the Council on this subject. Councilman Hathaway feels street sweeping should be done once per quarter to remove whatever yard waste is dropped in the street. Councilman Sylvester asked if we could get a cost estimate. Councilman Hathaway stated his concern about residents pushing the leaves into the street. Mr. Canfield detailed the difficulties regarding this situation. There was lengthy discussion on this subject about what could potentially be a solution. Mr. Canfield stated the DPW does clean curb lines when they have time. Councilman Laureys suggested a shared service with other towns. Mr. Blakeslee said he will work on finding information on this.

Councilman Hathaway suggested getting a grant from the Highlands for this. Mr. Blakeslee stated the pandemic stalled this process.

MAYORS COMMENTS

The Mayor had no comments at this time.

PROCLAMATION

There were no proclamations at this meeting.

PUBLIC PORTION OF MEETING

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

Roll Call: 5 Yes


CLOSED SESSION

No closed session was held during this meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

A Motion to Adjourn the Meeting was made by Councilman Still, seconded by Councilman Hathaway and passed by unanimous voice vote at 8:33PM.

Respectfully submitted,


Cynthia Eckert, Borough Clerk