BOROUGH OF NETCONG

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF NETCONG HELD DECEMBER 3, 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 Koster (arrived 7:43pm) 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 from the public stepping forward, a Motion to close the meeting to the public was made by Councilman Hathaway and seconded by Councilman Still.

Roll Call: 5 Yes Not yet arrived: Councilman Koster

AGENDA ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

The following items are for discussion purposes only. Any action on these items will take place at the meeting of December 10, 2020.

1. **Minutes** – Agenda Meeting – November 5, 2020

Regular Meeting - November 12, 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 –2020-24 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

To be carried to the December 10th meeting.

3. Ordinance Adoptions - Ordinance 2020-25 - AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 268 "VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC," ARTICLE II "PROHIBITED AND TIME LIMIT PARKING," OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF NETCONG TO ADD SECTION 4.1 "FIRE LANES".

To be carried to the December 10th meeting.

4. Ordinance Adoptions - Ordinance 2020-27 — AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING AN AMENDED REDEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR BLOCK 28, LOTS 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20 & 21 IN THE BOROUGH OF NETCONG.

To be carried to the December 10th meeting.

5. Correspondence – Lake Musconetcong Regional Planning Board Letter - 2021 Budget

Councilman Hathaway stated this is a zero increase - budget operations will be the same. They will be selling the hydro rake since it cannot be used due to state restrictions.

Maintenance costs for the equipment is approximately \$10,000.00 so selling will be more beneficial. The money collected for the machine will be put to better use. Councilman Hathaway stated it was very disappointing to have to do this after all the time spent to get the grant for this item. Councilman Laureys asked how the insurance was billed. He also asked if they feel it will sell quickly. Councilman Hathaway provided details of the sale.

6. Old Business - Yard Waste Ordinance

Mr. Blakeslee asked this be put on the agenda. Mr. Ruschke, Borough Engineer, is attending via phone to discuss this subject as well as the stormwater ordinance.

7. Old Business – Stormwater Ordinance

Mr. Ruschke provided a general overview of the ordinance. He gave detail on the laws that pertain to this and the changes that are to be done by each municipality. He explained the ordinance needs to be modified to match the state regulations. He continued to provide the details that would need to be included with the changes. The most significant impact on the borough pertains to major developments. He noted specifics on this change. Mayor Nametko asked if this

would apply to the neighboring towns. He explained some buildings could be exempt. The Council thanked Mr. Ruschke for his time.

8. **New Business-** Shop Rite Redevelopment Agreement

Mr. Blakeslee gave detail on this subject. Councilman Hathaway made several comments on the subject of the developer's agreement with Shop Rite. He explained there have been lessons learned with this project. He advised we expedite this as it is a great deal for the Borough. Mayor Nametko asked where the parking issue stands. Mr. Blakeslee explained the title work has been done and the road is owned by the Borough. It is now up to the Council if they want to sell the land, lease it, etc. They may want to have an executive session with Mr. Bucco and the Borough engineer present to discuss. Councilman Hathaway suggested this be sold instead of leased. He gave reasons for his opinion that the land be sold because this could cause a problem down the line. There was lengthy discussion among the Council. Mr. Laureys asked if there is any other way for them to meet the parking requirements without this area to park. Councilman Hathaway provided an explanation on the parking situation on Wiltop Rd. He noted that Shop Rite already owns more than half of that space which is why the borough would like to sell it to them. Councilman Laureys was concerned about setting a precedent. Councilman Sylvester stated this land is useless to the borough but will advance the Shop Rite project which everyone is happy with. There was lengthy discussion among the Council on the parking issue. Councilman Hathaway stated this is an important decision and wants to make sure a good choice is made. Councilman Hathaway stated we need to have the borough engineer involved in this decision. Mr. Blakeslee will call the borough engineer tomorrow.

Councilman Still asked about the road sweeping. Mr. Blakeslee stated Roxbury will be coming to do extra street sweeping. He will have further information next week.

 Resolution 2020-110- Authorizing the Execution of a Shared Services Agreement with the Morris County Municipal Utilities Authority for Recycling Collection and Disposal Services.

A motion was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Hathaway to approve this resolution..

Roll Call: 6 Yes

10. **Resolution 2020 – 111** – Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Fiscal Grant Cycle July 2020-June 2025.

A motion was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Hathaway to approve this resolution.

Roll Call: 6 Yes

11. **Resolution 2020-112**- Authorizing the Adoption of the 2020 Morris County, New Jersey Hazard Mitigation Plan Update.

A motion was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Hathaway to approve this resolution.

Roll Call: 6 Yes

12. **Resolution 2020-113** – Authorizing the Execution of a Municipal Court Shared Services Agreement Between the Borough of Netcong and the Township of Mount Olive

A motion was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Hathaway to approve this resolution.

Roll Call: 5 Yes No: Councilman Sylvester

13. **Resolution 2020-114** – Authorizing the Cancellation of Small Balances under the Amount of \$10.00

A motion was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Hathaway to approve this resolution.

Roll Call: 6 Yes

14. Resolution 2020- 115 - Emergency Management Shared Service

A motion was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Hathaway to approve this resolution.

Roll Call: 6 Yes

15. **Resolution 2020 - 116 -** Resolution Approving a Redevelopment Agreement Between The Borough of Netcong and Netcong 201 Urban Renewal, LLC, for Block 28, Lots 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20 & 21 in The Borough of Netcong

This Resolution will be held to the December 10th meeting.

ORDINANCE INTRODUCTIONS

No ordinances were presented at this meeting.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR TO THE COUNCIL

Councilman Hathaway noticed, in walking around town, there is a lot of cars parked on sidewalks. He feels police should be putting warning notices on these cars. He added that Kings Rd. and Hillside Ave. are two spots with this issue.

Councilman Hathaway stated that there is a new *no trespassing* sign on the Lake Edge. He requested removal of this sign. There is evidence that this property is state land. He would like to have this documented. Councilman Still asked if we can get this in writing from the state. Councilman Hathaway would like to do a title search and survey even if we have to pay to have written proof. Councilman Hathaway requested we contact the engineer to find out how much this would cost.

Mr. Blakeslee noted he spoke with a state representative today who confirmed the property is owned by the state but cannot put that in writing. Mr. Blakeslee explained details of this phone call and the history of this property as told by the state representative. The state employee added he could not give any copies of lease agreements, etc. There was further discussion on this subject among the Council. Several Council members feel this should be adjudicated at the court. Councilman Hathaway stated this homeowner is feeling singled out and Councilman Hathaway agrees all residents using this type of state-owned property should be summoned. Mr. Blakeslee will contact our attorney about this subject. This will be discussed next week when the attorney is here. There was further discussion on what is state and private land.

Councilman Koster mentioned that he was sorry to see the holiday parade canceled.

Councilman Albensi wanted to know if the Fire Dept. would drive around with Santa. Councilman Koster stated he will encourage it.

MAYORS COMMENTS

The Mayor had no comments at this time.

PROCLAMATION

There were no proclamations.

PUBLIC PORTION OF MEETING

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

Roll Call: 6 Yes

The Mayor announced that the Christmas party will not be held this year.

CLOSED SESSION

No closed session was held during this meeting.

<u>ADJOURNMENT</u>

A Motion to Adjourn the Meeting was made by Councilman Still, seconded by Councilman Hathaway and passed by unanimous voice vote at 8:28PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia Eckert, Borough Clerk