

BOROUGH OF NETCONG

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF NETCONG HELD MARCH 4, 2021 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 8, 2021.
2. Publishing a notice in the Daily Record, the official newspaper of the January 13, 2021 and mailing a copy to The Star Ledger on January 8, 2021.

ROLL CALL

Those in attendance this evening were Councilman Albensi, Councilman Hathaway, Councilman Koster, 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 Koster and seconded by Councilman Hathaway.

Roll Call: 6 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 March 11, 2021.

1. **Approval of Minutes:**

- February 4, 2021 Agenda Meeting
- February 11, 2021 Regular Meeting

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

Roll Call: 6 Yes

2. **Ordinance Adoption – Ordinance 2021-4 - AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF NETCONG AND ESTABLISHING A NEW CHAPTER 223 "YARD WASTE COLLECTION"**

To be carried to the March 11th meeting.

3. **Ordinance Adoption – Ordinance 2021-5 -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 AND COLUMBUS 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**

To be carried to the March 11th meeting.

4. **Old Business**

Fire Official:

Ronald Puco – Cert. #110806 (1 Year term)

Fire Prevention Michael Pellek – Cert. #101410 (1 Year term)

Inspectors: Mark Sylvester – Cert. #177302 (1 Year term)

A Motion to Approve the Above Listed Appointments was made by Councilman Koster and seconded by Councilman Albensi.

Roll Call: 5 Yes No: Councilman Sylvester

5. **Correspondence** -None presented.

6. **Resolution 2021- 31-** Authorizing the Award of a Contract to AB Contracting, LLC for the Arbolino Park Improvement Project, in the Borough of Netcong, Morris County, New Jersey

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

Roll Call: 6 Yes

7. **Resolution 2021-32** -Authorizing the Award of a Contract for Community Animal Control Services

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

Roll Call: 6 Yes

8. **Resolution 2021-33** -Appointing Jane Youds as Administrative Assistant

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

Roll Call: 6 Yes

9. **Resolution 2021-34**-Appointing Mary Gallagher as Administrative Assistant/Planning Board Secretary

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

Roll Call: 6 Yes

10. **Public Hearing for 2021 Cost Estimate for the Borough's Special Improvement District.**

To be carried to the March 11th meeting.

Resolution #2021-35 - Resolution to Approve the 2021 Cost Estimate for the Borough's Special Improvement District.

To be carried to the March 11th meeting.

11. **Ordinance Introductions** – None

12. **Proclamations**

- Recognizing the 100th Birthday of Marie Koert
- Recognizing the 100th Birthday of Marion Rush

These proclamations will be delivered at the March 11th meeting.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR TO THE COUNCIL

Council President – Thanked everyone for giving him a hand when he needed it.

Councilman Sylvester asked what is happening with an ordinance etc. about legalizing marijuana in the downtown. Councilman Still stated there is something wrong with this law when parents will not have knowledge of their underage children having marijuana. He feels we should do a resolution in opposition to this new law and send it to other NJ towns for support. There was discussion among the Council regarding the new legalization. Mr. Blakeslee will contact our attorney tomorrow and try to have the resolution ready by next week's meeting. Councilman Laureys had several comments on this and why we need less government. There was further discussion among the Council on this subject and the Council was in agreement.

Councilman Hathaway noted that the NCP is working on hosting a farmer's market this summer. There are two farmers so far. NJ Transit has agreed to let them use the train station parking lot but the borough must apply and cover the insurance. Councilman Hathaway is requesting the Council agree to do this application. The Council is OK with this. The Mayor made several comments. Councilman Hathaway Provided details on the benefit of this farmers market. The NCP is hoping this will draw people into the downtown. The NCP needs the Council's support to do this.

A Motion to intercede as the applicant to NJ Transit and to get an insurance to cover the NCP Farmer Market was made by Councilman Sylvester and seconded by Councilman Koster.

Roll Call: 6 Yes

Councilman Koster stated the sign "draft site" in Stanhope will be present tomorrow.

Mr. Blakeslee stated the Growing Stage is looking to put a temporary outdoor stage at the theater until they are allowed to have their indoor capacity back to normal. Councilman Hathaway provided the specifics for this. There was discussion among the Council on this subject. The Mayor stated we need to give them help after all they have done to make the theater what it is today. Councilman Still stated he is OK with it as long as the bank who owns the parking lot agrees to it. Councilman Laureys questioned whether we need to wait for the bank to agree to it. Mr. Blakeslee stated he can give a conditional permit contingent upon the bank's agreement. There was further discussion on this subject and the possible parking issues.

MAYORS COMMENTS

The Mayor had no comments at this time.

PUBLIC PORTION OF MEETING

Mr. Kranz – 16 Allen St. – he is not happy with the new marijuana law. He is happy to hear the Council is in agreement that this new law is not good. He is hoping the Council can do a resolution. The Mayor stated we will also send the resolution to the board of education. The Mayor is hoping the board of ed can get parents on board.

A Motion to Close the Meeting to the Public was made by Councilman Hathaway and seconded by Councilman Still.
Roll Call: 6 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 7:55PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Cynthia Eckert, Borough Clerk