

BOROUGH OF NETCONG

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF NETCONG HELD APRIL 8, 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 Koster, Councilman Laureys, Councilman Sylvester, Councilman Still and Mayor Nametko. Also present were Mr. Blakeslee, Borough Administrator.

PUBLIC PORTION OF MEETING

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

Roll Call: 6 Yes

MEETING MINUTES

No minutes were presented this evening.

INTRODUCTION OF THE 2021 MUNICIPAL BUDGET

Ordinance Introduction – Ordinance 2021-7- to Exceed the Municipal Budget Appropriation Limits and to Establish a Cap Bank

A motion to introduce Ordinance #2021-7 and read by Title only was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Sylvester.

*****4Roll Call: 5 Yes

A motion to pass Ordinance #2021-7 on first reading was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Albensi.

Roll Call: 5 Yes

RESOLUTIONS

- **Resolution 2021-39-** Self-Examination of the 2021 Budget

A motion was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Sylvester.
Roll Call: 5 Yes

- **Resolution 2021-40-** Requesting Permission from DLGS for Use of a Three-Year Average for Revenue Anticipation for 2021

A motion was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Sylvester.
Roll Call: 5 Yes

- **Resolution 2021-41-** Governing Body Certification of Compliance with The United States Equal Employment Opportunity Commission's "Enforcement Guidance on the Consideration of Arrest and Conviction Records in Employment Decisions Under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964"

A motion was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Albensi.
Roll Call: 5 Yes

- **Resolution 2021-42-** Introduction of the 2021 Municipal Budget

A motion was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Sylvester.
Roll Call: 5 Yes

Mrs. Valerie Dolan, Borough Auditor, provided a description of the new budget. Councilman Still and Mr. Blakeslee provided additional explanations when Councilman Laureys asked a question.

PUBLIC HEARING ON THE SID ASSESSMENTS

The Mayor opened the meeting to the public. No one stepped forward.

A motion to close the Public Hearing was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Albensi

Roll Call: 4 Yes No: Councilman Laureys

- **Resolution #2021-43 -** Resolution Approving the Property Assessments for the Netcong Community Partnership Special Improvement District of the Borough of

Netcong

A motion was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Albensi.
Roll Call: 4 Yes No: Councilman Laureys

- **Resolution #2021 - 44** – Approving the Introduction of the 2021 Budget of the Netcong Community Partnership Special Improvement District and Authorizing a Public Hearing to Be Held Thereon

A motion was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Albensi.
Roll Call: 4 Yes No: Councilman Laureys

ORDINANCE ADOPTIONS

Ordinance 2021-6 – AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE POLICE CHIEF TO EXECUTE AN APPLICATION FOR A CHARITABLE SOLICITATION PERMIT FOR AMERICAN LEGION AMBULANCE CORP OF STANHOPE/NETCONG'S "COIN DROP" ON JUNE 4TH, JUNE 5TH 2021 AND ON SEPTEMBER 10TH, AND SEPTEMBER 11TH, 2021 AT THE INTERSECTIONS OF ALLEN STREET AND LEDGEWOOD AVENUE AND MAIN STREET AND ROUTE 46 IN THE BOROUGH OF NETCONG, COUNTY OF MORRIS, STATE OF NEW JERSEY

A motion to read Ordinance 2021-6 by Title Only on Second Reading and a Hearing Held thereon was made by Councilman Sylvester and seconded by Councilman Koster.
Roll Call: 5 Yes

A motion to Close the Public Hearing was made by Councilman Sylvester and seconded by Councilman Koster.
Roll Call: 5 Yes

A Motion to Adopt Ordinance #2021-6 was made by Councilman Sylvester and seconded by Councilman Koster.
Roll Call: 6 Yes

CORRESPONDENCE

No correspondence was presented.

BOROUGH ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

Mr. Blakeslee discussed the situation with Allen Street.

March 2021 Inspection Report

RENTAL INSPECTIONS

47 Ledgewood Ave
49 Ledgewood Ave
Netcong Heights -10 Units (Tenant change) 23 Stoll St - 2 Units
36 Allen - 2 Units
31 Ledgewood Ave
39 Ledgewood Ave
91 Allen St - 2 Units
25 Koclas Dr
38 Center St
49 Main St
51 Railroad Ave
5 lkes Lane - 2 Units
27 Railroad Ave 25 Raiiroad Ave 47 Allen St
5 Union St
28 Railroad Ave
30 Railroad Ave
47 Maple Ave
45 Maple Ave
18 Ledgewood
17 North St
134 Main St -4 Units
25 Carolyn Way
72 Carolyn Way
72 Koclas Dr
7 Union St
29 Railroad Ave
31 Railroad Ave
14 Togno St
48 Maple Ave (2 units)
78 Main St
73 Allen St (4 Units)
98 Main St
27 North St
51 Main St (2 Units)
53 Main St
48 Maple (reinspect one unit) 8 Union (3 Units)
10 Carolyn Way (2 Units)
27 North St (2 Units)
59 Main St
68 Koclas St
Sidewalk Warning Letters (3/2/21- Feb 2021 Storm) 10 Dell Ave
8 Allen St
12 Allen St
59 Stoll St

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE & INSURANCE:

E. STILL

J. SYLVESTER

For the month of March 2021, the Borough had a total income in the amount of \$135,467.92 as compared to \$185,889.97 in March 2020.

For the month of March 2021:

Miscellaneous Revenue Not Anticipated (MRNA):

In 2021 the Borough received \$2,632.00 compared to \$935.50 in 2020

Other Licenses/Borough Clerks Fees:

The Borough received \$6,111.66 in 2021 compared to \$10,636.01 in 2020.
This difference is from lower interest rates and lower Municipal Court Fees collected.

State Aid:

There was no State Aid received in 2021 or in 2020.

Grants in Aid:

There was \$22,637.17 received in Grants in Aid for 2021 and \$87,951.00 in 2020.

Taxes Collected:

The Borough collected \$104,087.09 in 2021 compared to \$86,367.46 in 2020.

Income Total Year to Date:

The Total Income Year to date for 2021 is \$2,588,827.04 as opposed to \$2,609,524.11 in 2020.

Councilman Still and Mr. Blakeslee felt the budget was well done.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:

R. HATHAWAY

E. STILL

Councilman Still discussed the Crown Walk project.

A motion was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Sylvester to not accept changes for the Crown Walk project.

Roll Call: 5 Yes

It was noted that the changes made were not discussed with the Council or Board.

PUBLIC SAFETY:

J. SYLVESTER

E. KOSTER

(POLICE, FIRE, RESCUE)

Police

Total Calls: 620
Motor Vehicle Summons: 33
Accidents MV: 7
Parking Tickets: 34
Overweight truck tickets: 18

Ambulance Corps (for January)

Total Calls: 43
Total Patients: 34
Total Hospital Trips: 24

February:

Total Calls: 48
Total Patients: 35
Total Hospital Trips: 30
Total Miles: 787
Total Hours: 468 hours 18 minutes

During the months of January and February, eleven (11) members of the Ambulance Corps participated in two-day training programs to receive their initial certification, or to re-certify, as Ice Rescue Technicians.

During the snow storm of February 1st and 2nd, eight (8) members of the Ambulance Corps volunteered 280 hours by staying at the Ambulance Corps station to insure emergency responses would not be delayed due to the snow storm. Members volunteered on rotating shifts from 9pm Sunday, Jan 31st through 1pm on Tuesday, Feb 2nd to insure both ambulances were staffed for emergency response.

Fire Department

- 8 Incidents:
 - 27 firefighters
 - 84.09 hours
- 5 drills
 - 30 firefighters
 - 100.84 hours
- 6 special details
 - 33 firefighters
 - 122 hours

- Totals
 - 39 volunteers
 - 306 hours and 56 minutes

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

E. KOSTER R. HATHAWAY

Road Department:

Repaired and replaced wind damaged signs on Main, Maple, College, Lake, and Jenny Lind St....Street sweeping may be delayed because of an issue Roxbury is having with repairs to the sweeper. I will keep everyone notified accordingly....Mike attended a pre construction meeting for the Brookside, Locust, Dogwood, and Helen Way improvements....New Wacker asphalt roller was received and put into service....

Water Department:

Met with St Michael's contractor to go over soil boring markouts...

Sewer Department: Jetted Flanders Rd, Allen St, and Ledgewood Ave sewer mains for preventative maintenance....

Buildings & Grounds:

Petersons tree service was in to take down Main St Christmas decorations....Fixed damaged vent pipe at DPW garage....Removed old Welcome to Netcong signs in preparation for new sign installs....Fixed damaged gutters at FH 2 and ordered brackets to complete the repairs....Made repairs to toilets, and kitchen sink in PD and Boro Hall....Placed flower order for curbside flower planters....Started hanging Welcome to Netcong banners on Main St....

Parks & Recreation:

Removed goal posts and sideline posts from Indian Field and fixed ruts in the parking lot....Started installing adult exercise equipment at Arbolino Park....

Other:

Serviced Ralph's vehicle and 4 Police vehicles....Mike Canfield attended 1st qtr safety meeting....Jeff Jozowski has started pesticide training classes....Tim Hess attended a water asset Management class in Mt Olive....Joe Fiorello met with Chris Vidal from the MUA to discuss recycling tonnage grant information....Mike met with Brian Maitland for the annual JIF assessment....

Councilman Koster noted 1185000 gallons less than last year.

RECREATION:

J. ALBENSI

T. LAUREYS

1. The Garage sale has 12 registered
2. Pictures with Easter Bunny went very well
3. Classes scheduled at Lorenzo
4. The shed and park are getting ready for concerts

PUBLIC SERVICES:

T. LAUREYS

J. ALBENSI

(Human Services
Recycling & Solid
Waste Disposal

Dial a Ride for March

Days of Service: 22

Miles:

of stops: 23

Nutrition: 0

Food Shopping: 0

of Meals on Wheels: 17

Medical Appts: 23

Other Appts: 0

People using services: 11 and 17 meals

Cancel: 2

Denials: 0

Units: 46

Hours: 75.75

Recycling Report:

Councilman Laureys had a preliminary meeting March 29th.

He received information regarding where the various recycling items go.

\$32,526.67 accumulated

There was discussion of future plans.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Cannabis Legislation

There was preliminary discussion on the Council members thoughts on marijuana operations in Netcong. Mr. Bucco provided more details. Mr. Bucco will write up a final ordinance and discuss this more in May.

2. Dog Clean up

Mr. Bucco will be composing a draft ordinance update for the Council.

NEW BUSINESS

None presented.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR TO THE COUNCIL

The Council President mentioned how grateful he was for the police department's help with his father.

Councilman Sylvester discussed his concerns regarding the Victorian homes on Maple Avenue. The Council discussed this further.

Councilman Laureys asked about the parade. The Council discussed options with Covid regulations.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS

The Mayor had no comments at this time.

RESOLUTIONS

None were presented

ORDINANCE INTRODUCTIONS

Ordinance 2021-8 -Fixing the Salaries of Certain Officers and Employees of the Borough of Netcong, in the County of Morris, State of New Jersey

A motion to introduce Ordinance #2021-8 and read by title only was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Sylvester.

Roll Call: 5 Yes

A motion to pass Ordinance #2021-8 on First Reading was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Sylvester.

Roll Call: 5 Yes

REPORTS

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

Roll Call: 5 Yes

BILLS

A Motion to Pay All Bills When Funds are Available was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Sylvester.

Roll Call: 5 Yes

PUBLIC PORTION OF MEETING

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

Roll Call: 5 Yes

CLOSED SESSION

There was no closed session this evening.

ADJOURNMENT

A Motion to Adjourn the Meeting was made by Councilman Still, seconded by Councilman Sylvester and was moved by unanimous voice vote at 8:29PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Cynthia Eckert', is written over a horizontal line.

Cynthia Eckert, Borough Clerk