

BOROUGH OF NETCONG

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF NETCONG HELD SEPTEMBER 2, 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

A Motion to close the meeting to the public was made by Councilman Koster and seconded by Councilman Still.

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 September 9, 2021.

1. **Minutes** – Agenda Meeting – August 5, 2021
Regular Meeting – August 12, 2021

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

Roll Call: 6 Yes

2. Ordinance Adoptions – Ordinance 2021-20 -Capital Ordinance To Appropriate The Sum Of \$60,000 For The Acquisition Of Police Body Cameras And Related Equipment In, By And For The Borough Of Netcong, In The County Of Morris, State Of New Jersey, And Providing That Such Sum So Appropriated Shall Be Raised From A State Grant, Borough Reserve Funds And The Capital Improvement Fund Of The Borough.

To be carried to the September 9th meeting.

3. Correspondence – Approval for Kings Rd. Block Party – September 11, 2021 11am- 9pm

A motion was made by Councilman Koster and seconded by Councilman Hathaway to approve the event.

4. Old Business – No old business presented

5. New Business- 31 Ledgewood Ave. Property Maintenance

To be held for the September 9th meeting.

6. Resolution No. 2021-90- Establishing a New Petty Cash Fund- Police Dept

A Motion was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Koster to approve this resolution.

Roll Call: 6 Yes

7. Resolution 2021- 91- Authorizing the Award of a Contract to Fairmount Repair & Services, LLC for Assistance with Snow Plowing and Salting Services

A Motion was made by Councilman Koster and seconded by Councilman Hathaway to approve this resolution.

Roll Call: 6 Yes

8. Ordinance Introduction — Ordinance 2021-21- An Ordinance to Amend and Supplement Chapter 268, Vehicles and Traffic, Article VIII, Schedules, of the Code of the Borough of Netcong, County of Morris, State of New Jersey by Amending the Parking Restrictions on Stoll St.

To be carried to the September 9th meeting.

9. Ordinance Introduction – Ordinance 2021-22- To Amend Chapter 217, “Parks”, of the Code of the Borough of Netcong by Prohibiting the Spitting of Chewing Tobacco and the Playing of Music Without the Use of Earphones.

To be carried to the September 9th meeting.

10. Ordinance Introduction – Ordinance 2021-23 – To Amend Chapter 112 of the Code of the Borough of Netcong “Brush and Hedges”.

To be carried to the September 9th meeting.

11. Ordinance Introduction- Ordinance 2021-24 – To Amend the Code of the Borough of Netcong and Prohibiting Smoking on Borough Property

To be carried to the September 9th meeting.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR TO THE COUNCIL

Council President: Thanked Fire Dept. and emergency workers for their work yesterday and today with the cleanup from tropical storm Ida.

Councilman Laureys: Would like to discuss the ordinances for hedge brush and smoking. He states the brush and hedge ordinance mentions emergency situations – what types of situations constitute an emergency. Councilman Hathaway stated a fallen tree would be an example. There was discussion about the reason for the wording in ordinances and how they are designed to cover as many situations as possible. Councilman Hathaway has a concern about the definition of encroachment- he feels it needs to be specific and defined. He provided an example which was ‘six inches from the sidewalk.’

Councilman Laureys has concerns over the cost of the fines for smoking in public areas. He feels the fees are excessive. He feels the initial fine should be less. Mr. Blakeslee stated he is under the impression the state statute maintains that the minimum fine is \$250.00. The mayor gave an example for the reason behind the fines. There was lengthy discussion among the Council on this subject. Mr. Blakeslee checked our current code which has a minimum penalty of \$100.00. Councilman Still asked if anyone else is opposed to this fine amount. Councilman Hathaway stated we are talking about our parks where there will be children. The mayor asked for a poll of the Council members. A “yes” vote would indicate the Council agreed to keep the ordinance as is with no changes.

Roll Call: 5 Yes No: Councilman Laureys

Councilman Albensi: There is a bee problem at the clubhouse at Indians Field. We need to notify Mike Canfield.

Councilman Hathaway: The swirl chamber is now out of spec as per Mr. Canfield.

He received pictures from Crown Point there was no issues with the drainage during yesterday's storm (IDA)

Councilman Hathaway asked about Mr. Cedro's property during the storm. Mr. Blakeslee stated there were no issues.

Councilman Still asked if there was flooding at the old circle. Mr. Blakeslee stated no but there were issues on McMullen and Helen Way due to the DOT yard. We are going to perform road work on Helen Way and there is concern this will affect that work.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS

There is a production company interested in using DiRenzo Park gazebo on Sept. 18th from noon to 3 to produce a trailer. Councilman Koster asked what type of movie they are promoting. There was discussion regarding not allowing the use of the park on a Saturday when children will be in the park. The mayor stated we would need police there as well. Mr. Blakeslee gave the synopsis of what the trailer would be. Councilman Still stated we do not have an ordinance to charge them for the usage of the park. There was discussion on the details of the event. It is suggested they come on a Friday during the day when children are not present. Mr. Blakeslee will ask for more detail of this before the Council makes a decision.

PUBLIC PORTION OF MEETING

A Motion to Close the Meeting to the Public was made by Councilman Hathaway and seconded by Councilman Koster.
Roll Call: 6 Yes

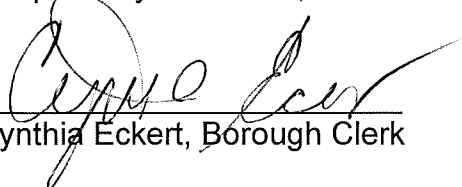
CLOSED SESSION

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 7:57PM.

Respectfully submitted,


Cynthia Eckert, Borough Clerk