

BOROUGH OF NETCONG

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF NETCONG HELD OCTOBER 7, 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 Sylvester 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 October 14, 2020.

1. **Minutes** – Agenda Meeting – September 2, 2021
Regular Meeting – September 9, 2021

A Motion was made Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Hathaway to approve the minutes.
Roll Call: 6 Yes

2. Ordinance Adoptions - 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 October 14th meeting.

3. Ordinance Adoptions – 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 October 14th meeting.

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

To be carried to the October 14th meeting.

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

To be carried to the October 14th meeting.

6. Correspondence – None presented

7. Old Business – None presented

8. New Business- Annual Best Practices Survey Carry to Oct. 14th meeting

As requested by Mr. Blakeslee.

9. Resolution 2021-95 – To Redeem Tax Sale Certificate 19-00001
Block 5 Lot 15

10. Resolution 2021 –96 – A Resolution of The Borough Council of The Borough of Netcong, In The County Of Morris And State Of New Jersey Authorizing The Update, Adoption And Implementation Of The Personnel Policy And Procedures Manual Of The Borough Of Netcong

11. Resolution 2021-97- A Resolution to Affirm the Borough Of Netcong's Civil Rights Policy With Respect To All Officials, Appointees, Employees, Prospective

Employees, Volunteers, Independent Contractors, And Members Of The Public That Come Into Contact With Municipal Employees, Officials And Volunteers

12. Resolution 2021-98- To Appoint Thomas Patterson as Laborer for the Netcong Borough DPW

13. Resolution 2021-99 – To Appoint Stephanie Pezzulo as Temporary Part Time Planning Board Secretary

A motion to approve the above resolutions was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Sylvester.

Roll Call: 6 Yes

14. Ordinance Introduction – Ordinance 2021-25 – An Ordinance to Amend And Supplement Chapter 268, Vehicles And Traffic, Article New Jersey By Amending The Parking Restrictions On Bank Street And Adding Restrictions On Jenny Lind Street

To be carried to the October 14th meeting.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR TO THE COUNCIL

Council President – notified the Council he is going on vacation for 10 days.

Councilman Hathaway – Regarding the new four way stop sign on Dell and Water St. Mr. Anthony came to the meeting today to make comments on his observations. Councilman Hathaway stated this was put in because of safety concerns. Councilman Hathaway was nearly struck by another vehicle at that spot. It is his opinion the stop sign is not working; it is worse than it was before. He would like the speed bumps to be installed to improve this issue. He provided his reasoning for this.

Mr. Anthony of 24 Dell Ave. explained he started to work at 1:00. His office is on his front porch which faces this area. Nine cars came through between 1-1:30. He explained how the cars were traveling through this area. There was discussion among the Council on traveling through this intersection.

Councilman Laureys suggested time needs to pass for people to get used to this since they are creatures of habit. Councilman Sylvester stated the police have spent a lot of time at this location, even though they are short staffed. Councilman Sylvester stated it has been determined by the police that speed bumps are needed. Mr. Anthony stated we may need stop signs at the other streets in this area. Councilman Hathaway suggested speed bumps should be installed before and after the park in addition to the stop signs.

There was further discussion on possible solutions to the problem and the reasons for them. Councilman Albensi asked if there are enough funds to install these speed tables. Mr. Blakeslee gave details on the possible areas to install speed tables. There may be some issues because there will be some driveways and fire hydrants that would impede

installation. Mr. Blakeslee stated 'we can find the funds.' There will be some time needed to add the signs to the street sign ordinance due to materials shortages. Councilman Hathaway stated he feels the speed bumps should be installed first and see if additional stop signs may not be needed. His main concern is the children in the parks. Councilman Still stated we need to do whatever is necessary to keep the children safe.

It was also determined that there are more pedestrians walking these routes. There was further discussion on where to install the speed tables. Mr. Blakeslee suggested this be added to the Koclas Dr. grant application. Councilman Still suggested possibly lowering the speed limit. Discussion among the Council continued. It was mentioned 80% of the speeders seem to be residents. Mr. Blakeslee stated the Maple, Allen Terrace, Stoll and Ledgewood have been discussed among the police dept and DPW and administrator. They are working on some solutions to this problem. They have installed a large sign reminding people this is a pedestrian area. Mr. Blakeslee stated a plan will be worked on to resolve this issue.

Councilman Hathaway also asked about residents being able to attend the meetings virtually. He feels more public would attend it than they could attend virtually even though the Council meets in person. He feels this should be an option for residents. Councilman Albensi stated that since we have this technology, we should provide the option. Mayor Nametko stated they would have to identify themselves if they choose the zoom meeting. Mr. Anthony stated when he attends county meetings, they must display their name not just a phone #. The Council agreed attendees should have to identify themselves and the council agreed this could be done for the regular meetings. Councilman Laureys feels this detaches people and makes it easier for them to say derogatory things. There is further discussion on this subject and the advantages and disadvantages.

MAYORS COMMENTS

The Mayor had no comments at this time,

PROCLAMATION

None presented

PUBLIC PORTION OF MEETING

Mr. Wayne Anthony spoke to Mr. Canfield about keeping up with the leaves at Drenzo Park. Mr. Canfield agreed to attempt this. Councilman Albensi asked about street sweeping. Mr. Blakeslee stated there are problems with Roxbury's availability and Mr. Canfield is looking for a private company. It was suggested he should contact some nearby towns to do the sweeping.

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

Roll Call: 6 Yes

CLOSED SESSION

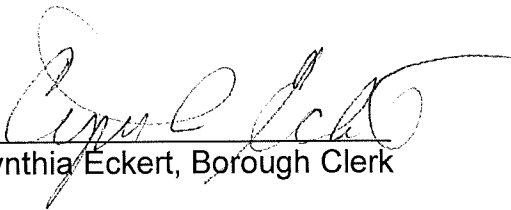
Closed session was not held.

ADJOURNMENT

A Motion to Adjourn the Meeting at 8:10PM was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Hathaway.

Roll Call: 6 Yes

Respectfully submitted,


Cynthia Eckert, Borough Clerk