

BOROUGH OF NETCONG

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF NETCONG HELD MAY 5, 2022 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 14, 2022.
2. Publishing a notice in the Daily Record, the official newspaper
of the Borough of Netcong on January 19, 2022 and emailing a
copy to the Star Ledger on January 14, 2022.

ROLL CALL

Those in attendance this evening were Councilman Albensi, Councilman Hathaway, Councilman Morton, Councilman Laureys, Councilman Sylvester, Councilman Still and Mayor Nametko. Also present were Mr. Blakeslee, Borough Administrator and Mrs. Eckert, Borough Clerk.

NETCONG BOARD OF EDUCATION TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL

Netcong School Budget

Mrs. Bernadette Dalesandro, President of the Board of Education here with, arrived with Ms. Kate Walsh and Mr. Paul Stabile, Business Administrator. She would like to thank the police department for coming to the school to meet about pick up and drop off of students to make it safer for all.

Ms. Kate Walsh, School Superintendent stepped forward to give her presentation. She detailed the accomplishments for the 2021-2022 school year. She explained all the activities that were restored after the Covid crisis. The air purifiers that were in every classroom and offices have all been paid for. She continued reviewing the details of these accomplishments and changes for the past school year. They have done presentations

in Nashville and other states and towns for the RTI program. They implemented a therapy dog program this year. They upgraded the security system.
Ms. Walsh provided their goals for the upcoming school year.

Mr. Stabile, Business Administrator, gave his presentation on the financial side of the school budget. He explained there is a new program: if the district showed a savings, those funds would go to the taxpayers; which they accomplished. He explained a program for out of district students. Three students qualify for this. He went over the costs for the school and the grants available to the school.

Mrs. Walsh reviewed the shared services the school uses with surrounding towns.

Mr. Stabile reviewed budget numbers for the upcoming year. He provided details about the debt service. He went on to give details regarding the proposed capital projects. He gave the tax impact numbers. Mrs. Walsh stated they are maintaining services, staffing and technology.

Mrs. Dalesandro asked them to explain what ESSER funds are. These were for Covid relief funding.

Councilman Sylvester asked how many students they have. Mrs. Walsh stated 285. They stated that the number of students coming to our school from other districts is 13. Mrs. Dalesandro stated the K-4 program is fully funded by the state, no local tax money is used for this program. There were requirements that were met. There are 24 students that use this program. Councilman Sylvester asked about the consistency of the budget, since so much of this money is not paid by the local taxpayer. Mrs. Walsh stated they are very careful about how they are using the grant money. He was concerned this may be a problem. If the state stops providing funding, this will impact our residents. Mrs. Dalesandro stated they have used the money for permanent changes that should not impact the tax payer in the future. The mayor thanked them for their time.

PUBLIC PORTION OF MEETING

Mr. Pat Kunkel, 13 Church St., had questions about the proposed project on the Church property. He is concerned about this large project and he is against it. It is zoned a single-family zone. This is a residential area which cannot handle the size of this project. The traffic on Church St. is already out of control. To add 88 residential units will overwhelm the already difficult situation. He can understand the pocketbook factory and 34 bank units make sense because they were industrial zones. He is here to give his opinion on this possible project. The mayor thanked him for his time.

A Motion to close the meeting to the public was made by Councilman Hathaway and seconded by Councilman Morton
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 May 12, 2022.

1. **Minutes** – April 7, 2022
2. **Minutes** – April 14, 2022

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

Roll Call: 6 Yes

3. **Hearing and Adoption of the 2022 Municipal Budget**

Ordinance Adoption – Ordinance 2022-3 - Ordinance to Exceed the Municipal Budget Appropriation Limits and to Establish a Cap Bank

To be carried to the May 12th meeting.

Resolution 2022-56 -To Read the 2022 Budget by Title Only.

To be carried to the May 12th meeting.

Resolution 2022- 57-To Adopt the 2022 Budget

To be carried to the May 12th meeting.

4. **Public Hearing and Adoption of SID Budget**

Public Hearing SID Budget

To be carried to the May 12th meeting.

Resolution 2022-58 – Approving the 2022 Budget for the Special Improvement District of the Borough of Netcong

To be carried to the May 12th meeting.

5. **Ordinance Adoption - Ordinance 2022-4- AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 243, "GARBAGE COLLECTION", OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF NETCONG**

To be carried to the May 12th meeting.

6. **Ordinance Adoption - Ordinance 2022-5-AN ORDINANCE FIXING THE SALARIES OF CERTAIN OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE BOROUGH OF NETCONG, IN THE COUNTY OF MORRIS, STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

To be carried to the May 12th meeting.

7. Ordinance Adoption – Capital Ordinance 2022-6- CAPITAL ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF NETCONG, IN THE COUNTY OF MORRIS, NEW JERSEY AUTHORIZING THE ACQUISITION OF A MASON DUMP TRUCK IN, BY AND FOR THE SEWER UTILITY OF THE BOROUGH, APPROPRIATING THEREFOR THE SUM OF \$90,000 AND PROVIDING THAT SUCH SUM SO APPROPRIATED SHALL BE RAISED FROM THE SEWER UTILITY CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND.

To be carried to the May 12th meeting.

8. Ordinance Adoption – Capital Ordinance 2022-7- CAPITAL ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF NETCONG, IN THE COUNTY OF MORRIS, NEW JERSEY AUTHORIZING THE MAKING OF VARIOUS PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS AND ACQUISITIONS IN, BY AND FOR THE BOROUGH, APPROPRIATING THEREFOR THE SUM OF \$58,150 AND PROVIDING THAT SUCH SUM SO APPROPRIATED SHALL BE RAISED FROM THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND AND VARIOUS RESERVE FUNDS.

To be carried to the May 12th meeting.

9. Ordinance Adoption – Bond Ordinance 2022-8 - BOND ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE UNDERTAKING OF THE ALLEN TERRACE WATER MAIN REPLACEMENT PROJECT IN, BY AND FOR THE WATER UTILITY OF THE BOROUGH OF NETCONG, IN THE COUNTY OF MORRIS, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, TO APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF \$262,500 TO PAY THE COST THEREOF, TO MAKE A DOWN PAYMENT, TO AUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS TO FINANCE SUCH APPROPRIATION AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE ISSUANCE OF BOND ANTICIPATION NOTES IN ANTICIPATION OF THE ISSUANCE OF SUCH BONDS.

To be carried to the May 12th meeting.

10. Ordinance Adoption – Bond Ordinance 2022-9-BOND ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE MAKING OF VARIOUS PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS AND THE ACQUISITION OF NEW ADDITIONAL OR REPLACEMENT EQUIPMENT AND MACHINERY AND NEW AUTOMOTIVE VEHICLES, INCLUDING ORIGINAL APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT, IN, BY AND FOR THE BOROUGH OF NETCONG, IN THE COUNTY OF MORRIS, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, TO APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF \$611,000 TO PAY THE COST THEREOF, TO APPROPRIATE A STATE GRANT, TO MAKE A DOWN PAYMENT, TO AUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS TO FINANCE SUCH APPROPRIATION AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE ISSUANCE OF BOND ANTICIPATION NOTES IN ANTICIPATION OF THE ISSUANCE OF SUCH BONDS.

To be carried to the May 12th meeting.

11. Correspondence – Letter – Mary Gallagher Resignation

A Motion to accept with regret was made by Councilman Sylvester and seconded by Councilman Still.

Roll Call: 6 Yes

12. Old Business – None presented

13. New Business- Social Affair Permit – Growing Stage Theater

A motion to grant the permit was made by Councilman Hathaway and seconded by Councilman Morton.

Roll Call: 5 Yes Abstain: Councilman Sylvester

14. Resolution 2022-59 - RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF NETCONG, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, COUNTY OF MORRIS, AUTHORIZING THE TAX COLLECTOR TO PREPARE AND MAIL ESTIMATED TAX BILLS IN ACCORDANCE WITH P.L. 1994, C. 72

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

Roll Call: 6 Yes

15. Ordinance Introduction – None presented

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR TO THE COUNCIL

Council President: The Fire Dept. committee is putting together a new truck proposal – there is a 2-year build on this truck – he gave details on this subject. \$750,000.00 or so is the cost for a new truck. The mayor asked if they would be doing a presentation. Councilman Sylvester stated they are not ready yet. Mr. Blakeslee asked if there is a trade program for this. The truck they want to replace is starting to show wear and tear but it will have value as it has been maintained. Councilman Laureys asked how much money has been put aside for this. The response was \$25,000.00 has been put aside for the past few years to help cover the costs. Councilman Laureys was concerned we are not putting enough money aside for this. There was discussion among the Council on this subject and the state of the current budget. Councilman Sylvester will get information on the financing plan. Councilman Still stated we will be paying for these trucks for years. There was discussion among the Council on the details of financing of this new vehicle. Mr. Blakeslee detailed the process of long-term capital costs and expenditure. Councilman Sylvester stated the equipment on the truck will not need to be replaced.

Councilman Albensi: asked when the possible new member of the recreation committee will be considered. The recreation commission is thin now. The current members are not putting as much effort in as needed. They need extra hands. We need to post recreation positions that need to be filled immediately. Councilman Still stated we need members who will do the work needed.

Mr Blakeslee wanted to mention that this is clerk's recognition week this week. He wanted to report that Mrs.Cindy Eckert is a very strong asset to the Borough.

MAYORS COMMENTS

The mayor had no comments at this time.

PROCLAMATION

None presented

PUBLIC PORTION OF MEETING

A Motion to Close the Meeting to the Public was made by Councilman Hathway and seconded by Councilman Sylvester
Roll Call: 6 Yes

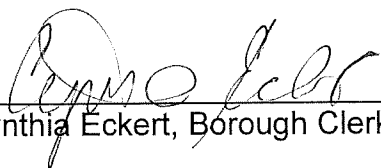
CLOSED SESSION

No closed session.

ADJOURNMENT

A Motion to Adjourn the Meeting was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Hathaway and 8:13PM.

Respectfully submitted,


Cynthia Eckert, Borough Clerk