

## ***BOROUGH OF NETCONG***

### **MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF NETCONG HELD May 12, 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.

#### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

No Minutes presented

#### **PUBLIC PORTION OF MEETING**

Mr. James Arbolino of 23 Allen St., wanted to know if we have a property maintenance ordinance in town. The mayor said yes. He wants to know why the firehouse in the middle of town (the original fire house) (the florist owns it now) is such an eyesore. He wants to know why nothing has been done about this since it looks the way it does and no one has done anything about it and that the ball has been dropped. He stated many hours have been put into beautifying the town and now this building looks horrible. Councilman Sylvester agreed he is right. Mr. Arbolino continued to tell a story to add some levity to the situation. He hopes something will be done about it. The florist is a good business man but he should not have let this building fall into disrepair. He thanked the Council for their time. He stated the Council is doing a good job.

Lou? of 86 Koclas drive stated the park hours are unreasonable, the park did not get closed until 4:00 am. There are children playing on the courts at 10:00 at night. He would like to park to have regular hours like offices. He is requesting the park be closed at sunset. The mayor stated he has been heard. He told Mr. Kirchman to call him if it is not fixed. He said otherwise the park is wonderful. He thanked the Council for their time.

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

Roll Call: 6 Yes

### **PUBLIC HEARING AND ADOPTION OF THE 2022 MUNICIPAL BUDGET**

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

A Motion to Read Ordinance 2022-3- by Title Only on Second Reading and a Hearing Held Thereon was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Morton.

Roll Call: 6 Yes

A Motion to Close Public Hearing was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Morton.

Roll Call: 6 Yes

Mrs. Dolan had no comments at this time.

A Motion to Adopt Ordinance 2022-3 was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Sylvester.

Roll Call: 6 Yes

### **PUBLIC HEARING ON THE 2022 BUDGET**

A Motion to Close the Public Hearing was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Sylvester.

Roll Call: 6 Yes

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

A Motion to adopt this resolution was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Sylvester.

Roll Call: 6 Yes

**Resolution 2022-57-** To Adopt the 2022 Budget.

A Motion to adopt this resolution was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Sylvester.

Roll Call: 6 Yes

## **PUBLIC HEARING ON THE 2022 SID BUDGET**

A Motion to close the Public Hearing was made by Councilman Hathaway and seconded by Councilman Still.

Roll Call: 5 Yes      No: Councilman Laureys

**Resolution #2022-58** - A Resolution Authorizing the Adoption of the 2022 Budget of The Netcong Community Partnership Special Improvement District.

A Motion to adopt this resolution was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Sylvester.

Roll Call: 5 Yes      No: Councilman Laureys

Councilman Laureys noted that Netcong's contribution doubled from \$5000 to \$10,000

## **ORDINANCE ADOPTIONS**

**Ordinance 2022-4-** An Ordinance To Amend Chapter 243, "Garbage Collection", Of The Code Of The Borough Of Netcong

A Motion to Read Ordinance 2022-4- by Title Only on Second Reading and a Hearing Held Thereon was made by Councilman Hathaway and seconded by Councilman Still.

Roll Call: 5 Yes      No: Councilman Sylvester

A Motion to Close Public Hearing was made by Councilman Hathaway and seconded by Councilman Still.

Roll Call: 5 Yes      No: Councilman Sylvester

A Motion to Adopt Ordinance 2022-4 was made by Councilman Hathaway and seconded by Councilman Still.

Roll Call: 5 Yes      No: Councilman Sylvester

Councilman Sylvester feels this is redundant which is why he voted "no." The Mayor stated the current ordinance is not holding teeth and explained his reasoning. The discussion continued among the Council and administrator on this subject and the reasons for the redundancy and small changes in this ordinance.

**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

Motion to Read Ordinance 2022-5- by Title Only on Second Reading and a Hearing Held Thereon was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Sylvester.

Roll Call: 6 Yes

A Motion to Close Public Hearing was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Sylvester.

Roll Call: 6 Yes

A Motion to Adopt Ordinance #2022-5 was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Sylvester.  
Roll Call: 6 Yes

**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.

The mayor stated the old truck was auctioned and went for \$14000.

Motion to Read Capital Ordinance 2022-6- by Title Only on Second Reading and a Hearing Held Thereon was made by Councilman Albensi and seconded by Councilman Hathaway.  
Roll Call: 6 Yes

A Motion to Close Public Hearing was made by Councilman Albensi and seconded by Councilman Hathaway.  
Roll Call: 6 Yes

A Motion to Adopt Capital Ordinance 2022-6 was made by Councilman Albensi and seconded by Councilman Hathaway.  
Roll Call: 6 Yes

**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.

Motion to Read Capital Ordinance 2022-7- by Title Only on Second Reading and a Hearing Held Thereon was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Hathaway.  
Roll Call: 6 Yes

Motion to Close Public Hearing was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Hathaway.  
Roll Call: 6 Yes

Motion to Adopt Capital Ordinance 2022-7 was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Hathaway.  
Roll Call: 6 Yes

**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.

Motion to Read Bond Ordinance 2022-8- by Title Only on Second Reading and a Hearing Held Thereon was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Sylvester.

Roll Call: 6 Yes

Motion to Close Public Hearing was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Sylvester.

Roll Call: 6 Yes

Motion to Adopt Bond Ordinance 2022-8 was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Hathaway.

Roll Call: 6 Yes

**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.

Motion to Read Bond Ordinance 2022-9- by Title Only on Second Reading and a Hearing Held Thereon was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Sylvester.

Roll Call: 6 Yes

Motion to Close Public Hearing was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Sylvester.

Roll Call: 6 Yes

Motion to Adopt Bond Ordinance 2022-9 was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Sylvester.

Roll Call: 6 Yes

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

None presented

## **BOROUGH ADMINISTRATOR REPORT**

No additions –but bringing attention to the proposed cap relief bill and the importance of this bill.

Mr. Gabloff, CFO, stated that this is the league legislative committee right now. He explained the details in this bill. He stated this would be helpful with budgets going forward. There was discussion among the Council on this issue. Senator Bucco stated he has not seen the bill yet. The league is hoping to get this bill to the legislators before the 2023 budget season comes. There was additional discussion on the particulars of this proposed legislation and the pros and cons of this issue. Mrs. Dolan stated this has already affected the smaller communities but it is now happening in the larger communities. She gave details on this issue. This bill would give flexibility during inflationary times. Mr. Gabloff stated this is becoming a large issue for many communities. There was further discussion on this issue and the difficulty it causes.

One more related issue is we buy our natural gas and electric from a co-op and the price increases are large with the bids that came in. He provided details on this issue as well.

### Property Maintenance Report

April 2022

#### Rental/Resale Inspections

19 College Rd (2 Units)  
60 Stoll St  
26 Hilts Lane  
21 Railroad Ave  
25 Railroad Ave  
103 Wiltop  
105 Allen St  
36 Allen (2 Units)  
21 Koclas Dr  
37-43 Allen St (4 Units)  
39 Ledgewood  
38 Center St  
115 Allen St  
23 Stoll St  
141 Ledgewood Ave (3 Units/2 Inspected. Tenant In 3<sup>rd</sup> Unit Will Not Let Inspector In)  
36 Allen (2 Units)  
21 Koclas Dr

#### Maintenance Issues

38 Center St – Railing On Porch Needs Repair/Replacement  
39 Ledgewood Ave – 10 Days To Remove Pool & Trampoline  
31 Allen St – Debris In Rear Driveway  
51-59 Main St – Chair In Rear Of The Building

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Finance & Insurance: E. Still J. Sylvester

For the month of April 2022, the Borough had a total income of \$563,543.44 as compared to \$1,580,500.71 in April 2022.

For the month of April 2022:

Miscellaneous Revenue Not Anticipated (MRNA): In 2022 the Borough received \$2,866.00 compared to \$9,223.31 in 2021

Other Licenses/Borough Clerk's Fees: The Borough received \$4,269.89 in 2022 compared to \$9,353.30 in 2021.

State Aid: There was no state aid in either 2021 or 2022.

Grants in Aid: The Borough received \$79,400.00 in 2022 while in 2021 we received \$39,927.17.

Taxes Collected: The Borough collected \$477,007.55 in 2022 compared to \$1,521,996.93 in 2021.

Income Total Year to Date: The Total Income Year to date for 2022 is \$3,253,285.96 as opposed to \$4,169,327.75 in 2021.

Economic Development: R. Hathaway E. Still

Councilman Hathaway has not had any new meetings. No new news to report. Netcong Heights has begun its landscaping improvements. This economy has stilled development.

Public Safety: J. Sylvester T. Laureys  
(Police, Fire, Rescue)

Public Safety (police) had a meeting with the Netcong School staff, Superintendent, principal and school board members. There will be new enforcement beginning next week to correct the drop off of student issues. He provided the new enforcement rules. He also gave some details on fire prevention.

Councilman Still asked about the safety issues at the school. He wanted to know if there will be no parking on Prospect St. Mr. Blakeslee stated we need to amend the ordinance to state the proper side of the street.

### Police Department

Total Calls: 764

Traffic Enforcement: 247

Radar: 70

### Fire Department

Total Calls: 11

Drills: 3

Administrative Details: 2

Total Members: 37

Total Time Volunteered: 98 Hours, 25 Minutes

### Fire Prevention

Inspections: 34

Violations: 106

Penalties: 0

Total Hours: 50.5 Hours

Dept. of Public

Works & Utilities:

J. Albensi

R. Hathaway

Councilman Albensi read the road department report. He also reported on the wells. (1,317,800 gallons more than last year.) The mayor asked if the street sweeping was done. The reply was that his street was not done. Councilman Albensi asked if we were set for the fall sweeping. Mr. Blakeslee stated there is extra money in the budget this year for an extra sweeping. Mr. Canfield gave details on the sweeper. The mayor stated it seems to be only one side of the street. It was discussed to do the sweeping a week later next year.

### **D.P.W. Monthly Report April 2022**

**Road Department:** Picked up 40 cy of leaves, 8 cy of grass, and 44 cy of brush....Blew off all the pavers on Main St and Maple Ave in preparation for street sweeping....Picked up 2 message boards from the County for the May street sweeping notifications.....

**Water Department:** Performed spring hydrant flushing....Replaced a damaged water box at 45 Dell Ave....

**Buildings & Grounds:** A.S. Barlin was in to perform the annual inspection of the sprinkler system at Borough Hall....

**Parks & Recreation:** Installed park benches along the walking path at Arbolino Park.... Painted the inside of the bathrooms at DiRenzo Park....

**Recycling Department:** The 3hr bi annual shred event took place at the Netcong Recycle Center....Joe Fiorello worked on submitting the 2021 annual tonnage report....

**Other:** Detective Jonoski and Jeff Jozowski received training for the security cameras at the Borough Parks....Joe Fiorello and Mike Theriault attended a fast track to safety training course....Mike Canfield completed Cyber Security training class....

Recreation:

T. Morton

J. Albensi



Councilman Morton reported Saturday will be the first qigong at DiRenzo Park and the town wide garage sale. There is a proposed Atlantic City and New York show trip for later in the year.

Public Services: T. Laureys T. Morton  
(Human Services  
Recycling & Solid  
Waste Disposal

New signs have been erected at the recycle center including a dedication sign for Councilwoman Cissy Laureys.

Dial a Ride, April, 2022

Days of Service: 19

Miles: 824

# of Stops 62:

Nutrition: 2 people 24

Food Shopping: 26

# of Meals on Wheels:18

Medical Appointments: 43

Other Appointments:19

People Using Services:38

Cancels: 6

Denials: 0

Units: 190

Hours: 80

**OLD BUSINESS**

None presented.

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. Appointment of Matthew P. Urquhart Firefighter for Fire Co. No.1
2. Appointment of Zachary Pasquale Bagalio Firefighter for Fire Co. No.2

A motion was made to approve both appointments noted above by Councilman Sylvester and seconded by Councilman Still.

Roll Call: 6 Yes

## **PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR TO THE COUNCIL**

The Council President stated that he was not happy with Roxbury as they are putting in an affordable housing unit on our border. There was discussion among the Council on this issue.

## **MAYOR'S COMMENTS**

The mayor had no comments at this time.

## **RESOLUTIONS**

1. **Resolution 2022-60-** A Resolution Authorizing the Acceptance of a Maintenance Bond Posted By 34 BNK At Netcong Urban Renewal, LLC And Authorizing the Release of The Maintenance Bond Previously Posted By 34 BNK Street Urban Renewal, LLC For The 34 Bank Street Development, Block 16.01, Lot 25.02
2. **Resolution 2022-61-** 2022 Salary Resolution
3. **Resolution 2022-62 -** A Resolution Authorizing the Execution of An Interlocal Services Agreement for Sanitary Sewer Between the Borough of Netcong and The Township of Roxbury Regarding the Adler Roxbury LLC Development of The Property Located At 1879 Route 46 Also Known as Block 9501, Lot 1
4. **Resolution 2022-63-** Resolution for the "Waiving" of the Claimant Certification as Allowable in Certain Circumstances Based Upon N.J.A.C 5:30-9a.6(C) And N.J.A.C. 5-31-4.1

Councilman Laureys asked for qualification on this.

5. **Resolution 2022-64-** A Resolution Authorizing the Participation in A Sustainable Jersey 2022 EDF Program, At No Cost, To Assist with An Application to The New Jersey's Clean Energy Program

A Motion was made by Councilman Hathaway and seconded by Councilman Albensi to approve the five resolutions noted above.

Roll Call: 6 Yes

## **ORDINANCE INTRODUCTIONS**

None presented.

## **REPORTS**

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

Roll Call: 6 Yes

## **BILLS**

A Motion to Pay All Bills When Funds are Available was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Sylvester.  
Roll Call: 6

**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

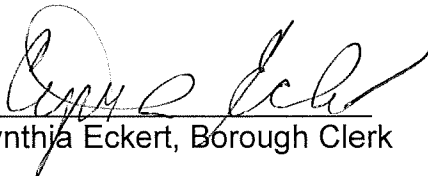
**CLOSED SESSION**

None held.

**ADJOURNMENT**

A Motion to Adjourn the Meeting was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Hathaway at 8:29PM.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Cynthia Eckert, Borough Clerk