

## ***BOROUGH OF NETCONG***

### **MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF NETCONG HELD JUNE 2, 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 (arrived 7:36PM,) 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.

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

Mr. Fred O'Brien, Jenny Lind Rd., came here to discuss the noise coming from the new apartment air conditioning units. This has been happening for a year now. They put a fence up but it has not buffered the noise. He cannot even sit out on his deck. Councilman Hathaway asked if we had a descriptive commitment by the developer. They were going to plant arborvitae but put a fence instead. Mr. Blakeslee stated he can speak with the new owners about this issue. Councilman Hathaway stated the lattice that was installed was not what was represented to him. He did say they did want to wait until spring to do the plantings. He gave details on what had transpired in the past on this subject. There was discussion among the Council regarding the details of this subject and why the developer took it upon themselves to put up the fence. The administrator will call the new owner to come to a solution to this problem. Mr. O'Brien feels the AC units could have been put in a better place.

Ms. Karen Lapsley, 14 Ledgewood Ave., fell on a property. The town was cognizant of it as a police report was filed, but there was no follow-up on this incident. Mr. Blakeslee asked when this occurred. She stated it happened on May 9<sup>th</sup> at 88 Koclas Dr. She broke her nose and had a concussion. She would like to know what the procedure is for follow up on a situation like this. Mr. Blakeslee stated this property is already under abatement. Her concern is someone else might fall at this location. Councilman Still stated we need to section off and close this area of sidewalk to avoid any more injuries. Mr. Blakeslee stated this area is slated to be repaved. Ms. Lapsley was pleased that the section of sidewalk would be closed off and she thanked the Council. The area on Prospect Street will be coned off as well. Councilman Albensi stated we need to do something more than just blocking access to the area. There was further discussion on mitigating these problems immediately. Councilman Still stated our DPW needs to go around town and observe any other areas that may be an issue. Councilman Albensi stated this should be something done yearly to ensure safety. There was discussion about the trees planted by the sidewalks.

A Motion to close the meeting to the public was made by Councilman Sylvester and seconded by Councilman Hathaway.

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 June 9, 2022.*

1. **Minutes** – May 5, 2022

**Minutes** – May 12, 2022

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

Roll Call: 6 Yes

2. **Ordinance Adoptions** – None

3. **Correspondence** – None

4. **Old Business** – None

5. **New Business**- None

6. **Resolutions** – **Resolution 2022-65**- Adopting a Master Technology Policy for the Borough of Netcong

This resolution was carried to the June 9th meeting.

7. **Resolutions – Resolution 2022-66** – To Appoint Ricky Proctor as Full Time Administrative Assistant

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

Roll Call: 6 Yes

8. **Resolutions – Resolution 2022-67-** Authorizing the Submission of a Grant Application and to Execute a Grant Contract with the New Jersey Department of Transportation for the Netcong Roadway Safety Project

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

Roll Call: 6 Yes

9. **Resolutions – Resolution 2022-68** – Authorizing the Purchase of SCBA Air-Packs & Related Equipment Through New Jersey State Contract No. 17-Fleet – 00819 (T0790)

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

Roll Call: 6 Yes

10. **Resolutions – Resolution 2022-69** – Authorizing the Acquisition of a New 2022 Ford F450 Mason Dump Truck Through the New Jersey State Purchasing Contract # A88214

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

Roll Call: 6 Yes

11. **Resolutions – Resolution 2022-70-** To Appoint Rob Popelka as Temporary Part Time Laborer for the Netcong Department of Public Works

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

Roll Call: 6 Yes

12. **Resolutions – Resolution 2022-71-** Authorizing the Abatement of Property Maintenance Ordinance Violations by the Borough

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

Roll Call: 5 Yes      No: Councilman Laureys

13. **Resolutions – Resolution 2022-72-** Authorizing the Award of a Contract to Fairmount Services to Replace a Strip of Landscaping Next to the Sidewalk along Route 46 Across from the Shoprite in the Borough of Netcong, Morris County, New Jersey.

Councilman Laureys asked about the correction for Jeff Jozowsky. He also asked about the cost of the landscaping for the area by ShopRite. He was concerned about the price. There was discussion among the Council regarding this.

Councilman Laureys also asked about the abatement of property for 85 Amendola Dr. There was discussion among the Council on how long to wait before doing an abatement on the property. Mr. Blakeslee stated this is the first year that we have had an issue with this property.

The Mayor commented on the cyber policy as it states an employee “should” report it. It has to say “must”. Councilman Still stated we should have our attorney review it.

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

Roll Call: 6 Yes

14. **Resolutions – Resolution 2022-73-** Salary Correction for Jeff Jozowski

To be carried to the June 9 meeting.

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

Council President: There are a lot of questions about Main St. Maple Ave. notices to leave within 60 days. They want to know if anyone knows anything about it. Councilman Hathaway stated no one on the Council is aware. The developer had met with the economic development committee and the designs proposed were not agreeable to the committee. There was discussion among the Council on this. Mr. Blakeslee had contacted our attorney to ask if they could demolish these buildings. Mr. Bucco stated they only need a zoning and construction permit to do that. The developer has not contacted the borough about this at all. The Mayor heard anyone with a month-to-month lease has been asked to vacate. Mr. Blakeslee stated the developer will be meeting with the EDC next week. Mr. Blakeslee has 72 hours to issue a zoning permit and must do it if there are no valid reasons to deny it. There was further discussion on how tax ratables will be lost. Councilman Hathaway stated we do have some control because they will need parking. There was lengthy discussion on this issue and the possible problems that could happen. There was also discussion about changes in the master plan and who is responsible for those changes. Mr. Blakeslee explained how the master plan process is constructed. There was further discussion about our planner and how the master plan is still in draft form. There will be another meeting with the borough planner to discuss these issues. There was discussion on the last master plan re exam. There was further discussion on the danger of having a different zoning ordinance than what is in the master plan.

Councilman Morton: poll the Council on a family fun day event. This will be discussed next week.

Councilman Laureys wants to know if we are replacing the Council chairs at the high prices. The Mayor stated there has not been any final decision on the chairs.

**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 Sylvester and seconded by Councilman Hathaway  
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 8:10PM.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Cynthia Eckert, Borough Clerk