

## ***BOROUGH OF NETCONG***

### **MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF NETCONG HELD JUNE 1, 2023 AT THE NETCONG MUNICIPAL BUILDING, 23 MAPLE AVENUE, NETCONG, NEW JERSEY COMMENCING AT 7:30 PM.**

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Nametko 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 6, 2023.
2. Publishing a notice in the Daily Record, the official newspaper  
of the Borough of Netcong on January 11, 2023 and emailing a  
copy to the Star Ledger on January 6, 2023.

#### **ROLL CALL**

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

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

Mrs. Nancy Esposito, 56 Koclas Dr., is here this evening to respectfully request that the borough remove the paintings on the newly paved road in front of her house. She would like them to come to her house to see how ugly it looks. It glows at night. It ruins the view of the lake. The mayor stated the state has mandated how the bike and walking trails need to be marked. Samantha Anello, Borough Engineer, provided details regarding the state mandates for this issue. Because it is state mandated and the project was done with grant funds, they cannot be removed. Councilman Laureys asked who she can contact to complain at the state level. Ms. Esposito stated there are too many in this small section of road. Ms. Anello confirmed that this is also state mandated.

Mr. Mark Richards, 58 Koclas Dr., has questions on the placing and size of the paintings on the ground. They are obtrusive. He would like to contact the DOT on this issue. He stated the road looks fantastic and is very smooth. He has a concern because there is a

dip in the pavement in front of his home. Samantha Anello, Borough Engineer, will be coming to his house next week to see it. He described the dip in front of his driveway and is concerned about ice buildup and safety. He is also concerned because the water from his sump pump ends up on the road. Ms. Anello stated if there is indeed a large dip, the contractor will be called back in to fix this issue.

Mr. Richards asked if curbing was replaced as well. In front of his house where the apron is, they just paved over it instead of fixing the concrete. He once again asked if the size of the paintings can be reduced. Ms. Anello will double check to make sure the size is correct. Mr. Richards thanked the Council for their time.

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

Roll Call: 5 Yes

### **ENGINEER UPDATE** : Well Status and Stormwater Management

Ms. Anello is here this evening to update the Council on the well status. She thanked the Council for their time. She explained that Netcong has many active projects going on. Many water systems in NJ are aging. Well 1A is not producing the yield it should. She went out to bid for an upgrade of this well. Mr. Blakeslee gave an update on the bid process for this. He originally went out for quotes as they are normally under the threshold. He decided to go out to bid since the quotes were so close to the threshold. He gave details on the two quotes we received. Our purchasing agent is suggesting we reject the current bids for the well rehab. Ms. Anello went on to explain a feasibility study done for this well to see if we can redrill or do a more permanent repair on this well so it does not have to be rehabbed every several years. The mayor stated in the next several years more rental units will be using the water from this well. Ms. Anello asked if the Council had any questions.

She moved on to the storm water regulation revisions. She provided details on the requirements that every municipality must meet and the new regulations that will need to be met. The state will be phasing in these requirements. She gave details on these new regulations. There is an action that the Council has to take which are two new ordinances which must be adopted by the end of the year. She said at this point they are in draft form. She provided additional details on these two new ordinances, the first being a private salt water storage ordinance. She said Netcong will probably have to police landscapers in town for compliance. The ordinance can be stricter than the state ordinance but cannot be less restrictive. Councilman Still asked if the state will be required to comply. Ms. Anello stated they will have to comply with the laws. The second ordinance which will require a lot more consideration for the Council. It will be for tree removal. Permits will be required for all tree removal. A resident will have to get a permit to remove any trees on their property. Again, the Council can make stricter rules but cannot do less than what is in the state ordinance. The size of the tree will determine if a permit is required. There will also be a replacement requirement. There will not be exemptions but there can be contributions in lieu of. She provided additional explanation on this issue. Mr. Blakeslee asked about street trees. Ms. Anello gave details on this issue as well. She gave detail

on the draft ordinance and the certain things in it that can be changed and things that cannot. The fees and violations will be up to the municipality. Netcong will be audited on a yearly basis. Ms. Anello gave several benefits of this ordinance. Mr. Blakeslee asked who decides if a tree is diseased? Ms. Anello stated some towns require an arborist to certify the tree removal. Councilman Still asked if the borough can require someone to cut a tree if it is a danger. There was discussion among the Council on this issue. Ms. Anello stated the reason to bring this to the Council now is because the ordinance will happen so decisions should be discussed and made now. The Council thanked Samantha for her updates.

### **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 8, 2023.*

1. **Minutes** – May 4, 2023

**Minutes** – May 11, 2023

Minutes will be carried the June 8<sup>th</sup> Meeting

2. **Hearing and Adoption of the 2023 Municipal Budget**

a. **Ordinance Adoption** – Ordinance 2023-6 - Ordinance to Exceed the Municipal Budget Appropriation Limits and to Establish a Cap Bank

To be carried to the June 8th meeting.

b. **Resolution 2023-54** -To Read the 2023 Budget by Title Only.

To be carried to the June 8th meeting.

c. **Resolution 2023- 55**-To Adopt the 2023 Budget

To be carried to the June 8th meeting.

3. **ANNUAL AUDIT**

a. **Resolution #2023-56** - Certification of the Annual Audit.

To be carried to the June 8th meeting.

b. **Resolution #2023-57** -To Approve the 2022 Corrective Action Plan.

To be carried to the June 8th meeting.

**4. Ordinance Adoptions – Ordinance 2023-7-Fixing the Salaries of Certain Officers and Employees of the Borough of Netcong**

To be carried to the June 8th meeting.

**5. Ordinance Adoptions -Ordinance 2023-9- Establishing a New Chapter 80 to be Entitled "Solid Waste and Recycling Utility" and Amending Chapter 243 "Garbage, Rubbish and Refuse" of the Code of the Borough of Netcong**

To be carried to the June 8th meeting.

**6. Correspondence – None**

**7. Old Business – Resolution for 100% Disabled Veterans**

Mr. Blakeslee provided details on this. He wanted verification from the Council what date they wanted to go back for a refund. Date of the application is what they want.

**8. Old Business – Resolution Delineating an Area in Need of Rehabilitation**

This will be discussed at next week's meeting.

**9. New Business- FOP Contract (possible executive session)**

There were no questions on this. Resolution will be presented next week.

**10. Resolutions –None**

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**11. Bond Ordinance Introduction- Bond Ordinance 2023-10-BOND ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE MAKING OF VARIOUS PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS AND THE ACQUISITION OF NEW ADDITIONAL OR REPLACEMENT EQUIPMENT AND MACHINERY AND A NEW AUTOMOTIVE VEHICLE, 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 \$2,175,200 TO PAY THE COST THEREOF, TO APPROPRIATE VARIOUS GRANTS, 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 June 8th meeting.

**12. Bond Ordinance Introduction- Bond Ordinance 2023-11-BOND ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE MAKING OF VARIOUS PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS 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 \$1,038,755 TO PAY THE COST THEREOF, TO APPROPRIATE A FEDERAL GRANT, 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 June 8th meeting.

13. **Bond Ordinance Introduction- Bond Ordinance 2023-12- BOND ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE UNDERTAKING OF TELEVISION INSPECTION OF VARIOUS SANITARY SEWER LINES IN CONNECTION WITH FUTURE IMPROVEMENTS IN, BY AND FOR THE SEWER UTILITY OF THE BOROUGH OF NETCONG, IN THE COUNTY OF MORRIS, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, TO APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF \$145,000 TO PAY THE COST THEREOF, 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 June 8th meeting.

**PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR TO THE COUNCIL**

The Council President had nothing to discuss at this time.

Councilman Laureys offered that there was a typo on one of the resolutions. It was verified that the resolution number was correct.

**MAYORS COMMENTS**

The mayor had no comments at this time.

**PROCLAMATION**

None

**PUBLIC PORTION OF MEETING**

Mrs. Bernadette Dalesandro, 32 Barone St., wished to discuss old business: what is the area of rehab? The Council replied that it was the Koch property.

She wanted to know if this is going forward. The Council responded "Yes". Details on the proposed project were provided. She is concerned because there are many empty stores already. She wanted to know what the general bond ordinance covers. Mr. Blakeslee responded. A copy of the ordinance will be available next week.

Mrs. Dalesandro also wanted to know the details of a comment the mayor made about 600 additional units. He stated they will be in Mt. Olive not Netcong but they will be using the same aquifer.

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

Roll Call: 5 Yes

**CLOSED SESSION**

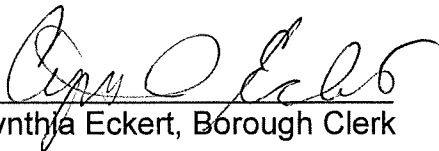
None

**ADJOURNMENT**

A Motion to Adjourn the meeting was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Sylvester at 8:17PM.

Roll Call: 5 Yes

Respectfully submitted:

  
Cynthia Eckert, Borough Clerk