

**BOROUGH OF NETCONG
MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEETING
July 13, 2023**

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF NETCONG HELD JULY 13, 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 Hathaway, Councilman Laureys, Councilman Morton, Councilman Still, Councilman Sylvester and Mayor Nametko. Also present was Mr. Blakeslee, Borough Administrator and Mrs. Eckert, Borough Clerk

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Minutes – June 1, 2023

A Motion was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Sylvester to approve the June 1, 2023 meeting minutes.

Roll Call: 5 Yes Abstain: Councilman Hathaway

2. Minutes – June 8, 2023

A Motion was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Sylvester to approve the June 6, 2023 meeting minutes.
Roll Call: 6 Yes

PUBLIC PORTION OF MEETING

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

ORDINANCE ADOPTIONS

1. 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.

A Motion to Read Bond Ordinance 2023-10 by Title Only on Second Reading and a Hearing Held Thereon were 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 Laureys.
Roll Call: 6 Yes

A Motion to Adopt Bond Ordinance 2023-10 was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Sylvester.
Roll Call: 6 Yes

2. 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.

A Motion to Read Bond Ordinance 2023-11 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 Bond Ordinance 2023-11 was made by Councilman Albensi and seconded by Councilman Hathaway.

Roll Call: 6 Yes

3. 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.

Motion to Read Bond Ordinance 2023-12 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

The meeting was open to the public for comment:

Bernadette Dalesandro, 32 Barone St., asked what percentage of the bond usage is left after this \$3,000,000.00. She asked if there are other outstanding bonds. Mr. Blakeslee stated he can give her a breakdown of them.

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

Roll Call: 6 Yes

A Motion to Adopt Bond Ordinance 2023-12 was made by Councilman Albensi and seconded by Councilman Hathaway.

Roll Call: 6 Yes

CORRESPONDENCE

No correspondence was presented.

BOROUGH ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

Mr. Blakeslee had one thing to mention, we previously applied for a leap grant for the garbage cans, we combined our grant with Mt. Olive. Both towns have been afforded the grants.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance & Insurance: E. Still J. Sylvester

For the month of June 2023, the Borough had a total income of \$84,245.13 as compared to \$171,823.36 in June 2022.

For the month of June 2023:

Miscellaneous Revenue Not Anticipated (MRNA):

In 2023 the Borough received \$2,901.00 compared to \$4,559.16 in 2022.

Other Licenses/Borough Clerks Fees:

The Borough received \$40,869.46 in 2023 compared to \$7,514.44 in 2022.

State Aid:

The Borough did not receive state aid in 2023 as well as nothing in 2022.

Grants in Aid:

There was \$389.38 received in 2023 for Grants in Aid and \$6,826.20 in 2022.

Taxes Collected:

The Borough collected \$40,085.29 in 2023 compared to \$152,923.56 in 2022.

Income Total Year to Date:

The Total Income Year to date for 2023 is \$5,880,861.40 as opposed to \$5,535,908.40 in 2022.

Economic Development: R. Hathaway E. Still

Councilman Hathaway stated most items of note are summarized in Mr. Blakeslee's report. He also mentioned the resolution for the rehabilitation on Main St. is on the agenda this evening. The borough planner will be working on the cannabis issue next week. Mr.

Bucco stated Mr. Brice is working on this as well. Discussion regarding cannabis continued.

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

Councilman Sylvester reported that Patrolman Armstrong and Patrolman Lamanna made a drug bust this past month. Councilman Sylvester gave details on the seizure. He congratulated the Police Chief on a job well done.

Police Department:
Radar: 68
Traffic Enforcement/Stops: 107
Building Property Check: 99
Total Calls: 672

Fire Department:
Total Calls: 14
Total Drills: 1
Administrative Details: 5
Total Members 39
Total Time Volunteered: 130 hours and 55 minutes

Fire Prevention:
Total Inspections: 41
Total Permits: 8
Admin: 2
Bureau Monthly Hours: 53.5
Additional Notes: Investigate the origin and cause of one brush fire. Processed two fireworks display permit applications for both Feasts. Met with Representative with Morris County Communication Center regarding a new program for testing the 911 system. Received four hours of training in the new State Fire Dynamics software.

Ambulance Corps:
Total Calls; 59
Total Patients: 39
Total Hospital Trips: 31
Miles Traveled: 848 miles
Hours Volunteered: 410 hours 08 minutes

Dept. of Public Works & Utilities: J. Albensi R. Hathaway

D.P.W. Monthly Report

Cancels: 7
Denials: 0
Units: 176
Hours: 84

OLD BUSINESS

None presented.

NEW BUSINESS

1. New Business – Bond Anticipation Note-Determination and Award Certificate –
to be entered into the minutes in full. Interest rate is 4.5%

DETERMINATION AND AWARD CERTIFICATE (\$2,113,185 BOND ANTICIPATION NOTES)

BOROUGH OF NETCONG, COUNTY OF MORRIS, NEW JERSEY

I, JASON GABLOFF, Chief Financial Officer of the Borough of Netcong, in the County of Morris, New Jersey (herein called the "Issuer"), HEREBY CERTIFY as follows:

1. By virtue of the authority conferred upon me by (i) seven general bond ordinances adopted by the Borough Council of the Issuer on September 14, 2017 (Ord. No. 2017-8), May 10, 2018 (Ord. No. 2018-7), May 9, 2019 (Ord. No. 2019-12), May 14, 2020 (Ord. No. 2020-10), June 10, 2021 (Ord. No. 2021-14), May 12, 2022 (Ord. No. 2022-9) and October 13, 2022 (Ord. No. 2022-14) and (ii) five water utility bond ordinances adopted by the Borough Council of the Issuer on June 11, 2015 (Ord. No. 2015-6), April 14, 2016 (Ord. No. 2016-6), May 11, 2017 (Ord. No. 2017-4), June 10, 2021 (Ord. No. 2021-15) and May 12, 2022 (Ord. No. 2022-8), I have determined to issue \$2,113,185 Bond Anticipation Notes, consisting of a \$1,634,685 General Bond Anticipation Note and a \$478,500 Water Utility Bond Anticipation Note, (herein collectively, the "Notes") of the Issuer in accordance with the following description:

TOTAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT:

\$2,113,185

DATED: July 6, 2023

MATURITY: July 3, 2024 (non-callable)

INTEREST RATE PER ANNUM (payable at maturity): 4.50%

SETTLE DATE July 6, 2023 July 6, 2023

REGISTERED OWNER: CEDE & CO.

PLACE OF PAYMENT: 23 Maple Avenue Netcong, New Jersey

2. Pursuant to said authority, I have awarded and will sell the Notes to Oppenheimer & Co., Inc., at the price of \$2,123,116.97 plus an amount equal to the interest on the Notes accrued to the date of payment of the purchase price thereof. I will be the Note Registrar/Paying Agent for the Notes.

3. No obligations of the Issuer other than the Notes have been issued pursuant to the bond ordinances referenced above and are now outstanding.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR TO THE COUNCIL

Councilman Hathaway would like to call attention to an event that happened at DiRenzo Park. On July 4th a group came to his yard to ask if the park was open. They stated the bathrooms were not open yet. They were nice people who stayed for the July 4th event. This past Friday morning, there were people at a neighbor's door stating that the DiRenzo Park bathrooms were not opened. Councilman Hathaway contacted Mr. Canfield at the end of the day to inquire about the bathrooms being open. There was a large group of people at the park (around 100) who were at the park for a long period of time. They had alcohol and cigarettes. The park was trashed.

About 5:00 he came home from work and went over to the park. There were thousands of cigarette butts. Neighbors approached him wanting to know why the borough would allow or permit this. He went on to describe that the police were not notified until 4:00 in the afternoon. Dispatch was not called by anyone while this event was taking place. He said this has been the second time something like this has happened. He feels we need to do something about this so it does not continue. He expects guests to be respectful of our parks. He has come to realize we do not have a policy for these types of events. And direction for the police to be involved in these types of events. Neighbors cleaned up the majority of the mess that was left. Councilman Hathaway lives right by the park so he sees much that goes on. He would like to get the word out that if they see something like this, they should report it. The consensus was that the borough had approved this. Councilman Hathaway would like to know why we can't see the recordings from the camera to find out who is in the park. The mayor offered the current protocol on park closure. Councilman Hathaway stated this is a community problem that should not be dumped on our police or DPW. Councilman Morton stated there are reservation forms available for parties in the park to keep these types of incidents from happening. He gave details on what had to be done to clean up the mess. Councilman Laureys asked for details on when this ended. Councilman Hathaway gave details of this as well as the types of trash that were left. Councilman Sylvester stated we need to create real structure with this. A permit should be issued and given to police and DPW. Large signs should be put up stating no alcohol, pets etc. Also, instructions should be made available to the community to call the police when this is happening. He is also concerned about social media exposure. Our Police Chief looked at our ordinance, which is inadequate. The mayor agreed with needing to issue permits. He is also concerned about the parks being open after dark. There was further discussion on these situations. Mr. Bucco stated he did that ordinance for recreation so the parks could be handled separately and gave the opportunity for the recreation to set the parameters. Mr. Van Houten stated the problem with the ordinance is there is no definition of what a group is. It references a permit but it is for the sports fields not the parks. It is directed at formal groups not family or party groups. The ordinance is already enforceable for alcohol, drugs, pets etc. but group situations are not. Councilman Hathaway also discussed animals in the park. Councilman Sylvester said we must tighten this up. Councilman Morton stated what happens when a group of moms are there with their children. Mr. Bucco stated that is why organized

groups were put in the ordinance, so that small groups would not be included. Councilman Hathaway stated this needs to have sound authorization from the town for these situations. Councilman Laureys provided several thoughts on this issue. Signage is important. The police chief stated the police do random checks of the parks. Residents do not call when these issues are happening. They call several days later when the police cannot perform investigations. He stated that closing parks is generally performed at dusk. It is not 100% as sometimes important issues keep them from regular checks. He stated since this incident, he is having patrol check the park more often. Councilman Hathaway stated we need to set check ins based on the number of people that are at the park. The chief stated if there are a large number of people in the park, he would get out of the car and give a warning to this group. If they do not abide by the rules the group would need to leave. Mr. Bucco stated the patrolman should be following the ordinance and write summons if needed and let the judge decide. There was further discussion among the council on this issue. The mayor stated this group was just driving through and using our park on their way from one place to another. Councilman Sylvester stated we must have a zero tolerance. Permits should be issued and given to the police, DPW and borough hall. There was discussion on how to decide what size crowd would be allowed. Councilman Sylvester stated we are not dealing with people that get permits, we are getting renegade groups. Public messages must go out to see something/do something. Councilman Sylvester reiterated to review signage, review ordinance, social media. Lt. Anthony Coppollela stated that the 24-hour open issue on social media/Google can be removed, but can be put back up again.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS

The mayor had no comment at this time.

RESOLUTIONS

1. Resolution 2023-68 – Authorizing the Refund of Taxes to Rashleigh Bruce Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 54:4-3.32

A Motion was made by Councilman Hathaway and seconded by councilman Morton to approve this ordinance.

Roll Call: 6 Yes

2. Resolution 2023-70 - Authorizing a Public Display of Fireworks by the St. Cesario Society at Arbolino Park

A Motion was made by Councilman Hathaway and seconded by councilman Morton to approve this ordinance.

Roll Call: 5 Yes Abstain Councilman Sylvester

3. Resolution 2023-71 - Delineating an Area in Need of Rehabilitation

A Motion was made by Councilman Hathaway and seconded by councilman Morton to approve this ordinance.

Roll Call: 6 Yes

4. Resolution 2023-72 – Authorizing the Award of a Contract to Northeast Water Technology to Provide Water Leak Detection Services for the Borough of Netcong

A Motion was made by Councilman Hathaway and seconded by councilman Morton to approve this ordinance.

Roll Call: 6 Yes

ORDINANCE INTRODUCTIONS

None Presented

REPORTS

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

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 Yes

PUBLIC PORTION OF MEETING

Bernadette Dalesandro, 32 Barone St., asked if the Grant for garbage cans will cover the complete cost. Mr. Blakeslee stated yes. If a second one is needed, they can be purchased. All cans will have serial numbers. Small sizes will be available.

She had questions about the rehabilitation resolution. Mr. Bucco gave her an explanation. Councilman Hathaway stated this is for the Koch property. She asked for details on what this building will look like and how many rooms there will be in the apartments and how many total apartments there will be. Councilman Hathaway stated these details have not been determined at this time. She thanked the council for their time.

Debra Mott, 3 Hillside, wanted to know if there will be recycling containers as well. She is concerned because there is a big problem with garbage in this town. She wants to know if garbage issues are being enforced. Mr. Blakeslee encouraged her to call if she sees something so it can be checked. She sees trash in front of people's houses all the time and it ends up in the drains. She wants them to be reminded that they should be picking up trash in front of their house. She wants to know if residents can be fined for having trash in front of their house. Councilman Hathaway stated she should call the office when

these incidents occur. He also stated the ordinance has recently been changed to include that all residents have to use cans with lids.

The mayor stated he and Mr. Blakeslee went to the offending businesses requesting they inform their customers to throw trash in the proper refuse containers.

A Motion to Close the Meeting to the Public was made by Councilman Laureys and seconded by Councilman Morton.

Roll Call: 6 Yes

CLOSED SESSION

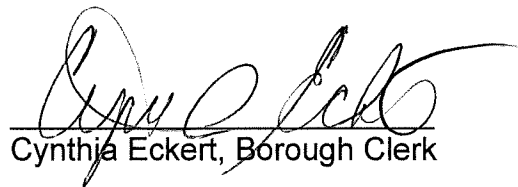
Closed session was not held.

ADJOURNMENT

A Motion to Adjourn the Meeting was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Hathaway at 8:43PM.

Roll Call: 6 Yes

Respectfully submitted:



Cynthia Eckert, Borough Clerk