

**BOROUGH OF NETCONG
MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEETING
NOVEMBER 9, 2023**

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF NETCONG HELD NOVEMBER 9, 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. Please note that Councilman Albensi and Councilman Hathaway are attending this meeting remotely.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

None presented.

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

ORDINANCE ADOPTIONS

1. **Ordinance 2023-20-** AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 194 "LAND DEVELOPMENT PROCEDURES" AND CHAPTER 98 "ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES" OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF NETCONG AND SETTING DISTANCE REQUIREMENTS BETWEEN ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE AND RETAIL CANNABIS LICENSED PREMISES.

A Motion to Read Ordinance 2023-20 by Title Only on Second Reading and a Hearing Held Thereon was made by Councilman Sylvester and seconded by Councilman Morton.

Roll Call: 5 Yes Abstain: Councilman Laureys

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

Roll Call: 5 Yes Abstain: Councilman Laureys

A Motion to Defeat Ordinance #2023-20 was made by Councilman Sylvester and seconded by Councilman Still.

Roll Call: 5 Yes Abstain: Councilman Laureys

CORRESPONDENCE

None presented.

BOROUGH ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance & Insurance: E. Still J. Sylvester

For the month of October 2023, the Borough had a total income of \$738,385.31 as compared to \$1,645,238.77 in October 2022.

For the month of October 2023:

Miscellaneous Revenue Not Anticipated (MRNA):

In 2023 the Borough received \$4,748.66 compared to \$1,015.30 in 2022.

Other Licenses/Borough Clerk's Fees:

The Borough received \$36,340.94 in 2023 compared to \$18,753.43 in 2022.

State Aid:

The Borough received \$121,924.45 in state aid in 2023 and \$61,925.66 in 2022.

Grants in Aid:

There was \$743.00 awarded for Grants in Aid in 2023 and \$2,378.17 awarded in 2022.

Taxes Collected:

The Borough collected \$574,628.26 in 2023 compared to \$1,561,166.21 in 2022.

Income Total Year to Date:

The Total Income Year to date for 2023 is \$9,787,511.94 as opposed to \$10,622,589.57 in 2022.

Economic Development: R. Hathaway E. Still

Met with the owners of Kings View and reviewed a proposed development on their current property. There were no variances needed. The COAH component would be for all units including existing.

Received a report for the Koch property which was distributed to EDC. Councilman Hathaway asked it be sent to the entire Council

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

Councilman Sylvester read his reports and mentioned a letter from the NCP to combine with the fire department to provide funds for equipment. He will keep the Council posted on new developments.

Netcong Fire Department

Total Calls: 10

Drills: 2

Administrative Details: 7

Total Members: 41

Total Time Volunteered: 318 hours and 21 Minutes

Fire Prevention

Total Inspections: 54

Total Violations found: 49

Permits Issued: 3

Penalties Issued: 3

Total Admin: 7

Bureau Monthly Hours: 54

Ambulance Corps.

Total Calls: 60

Total Patients: 43

Total Hospital Trips: 33

Miles Traveled: 1093

Hours Volunteered: 283 hours and 42 minutes

Police Report

816 Calls for Service

69 Motor Vehicle Summons

Last month there was a problem in the Amendola that was brought to the Council's attention. A radar clock has been placed in that area. Councilman Sylvester read the report from the radar clock. Monitoring of the street will continue.

Dept. of Public

Works & Utilities:

J. Albensi

R. Hathaway

Road Department: Picked up 20 cy of leaves, 16 cy of grass, and 24 cy of brush....Cut grass and mulched leaves at Borough Properties....Paved potholes and manhole lids around town in preparation for winter....

Water Department: Repaired damaged water box's at 5 Rt 46, 42 Dell Ave, and 2 Post Rd.... Repaired a leaking service line to 10 Carolyn Way... Continued large scope markout requests for NJ Natural Gas main installation....

Buildings & Grounds: Coastal Clock and Chime was in to perform Main St clock maintenance....Installed a new shelf at Borough Hall for computer equipment....

Snow: Started installing and inspecting salting equipment on DPW trucks.....

Other: Moved weed harvester out of Lake Musconetcong for winter storage....Zach Leader was hired as a laborer for the Dept of Public Works....

Recreation:

T. Morton

J. Albensi

Trunk or Treat was a great success. 150 hot dogs, 150 hamburgers and 200 pretzels were consumed. This was the largest ever attendance. The committee is currently working on the holiday parade which will take place Dec. 3rd. They are looking for more attendees for the tree lighting ceremony.

Public Services:

T. Laureys

T. Morton

(Human Services

Recycling & Solid

Waste Disposal

Dial a Ride October, 2023

Days of service: 19

Miles: 955

Number of Stops: 76

Nutrition for 1 person: 10

Food Shopping: 37

Number of Meals on Wheels: 13

Medical Appointments: 64
Other Appointments: 22
People using Services: 34
Cancels: 6
Denials: 0
Units: 210
Hours 81.5
Additional Notes: 3 days off

OLD BUSINESS

None presented

NEW BUSINESS

None presented

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR TO THE COUNCIL

Council President – He noticed no parking on the north side of Prospect St. There is one car that parks there all the time. It is by the school and causing problems. There is no stop sign. Can we do something about it? It was discussed that the car should be parked in the driveway not the street. Mr. Blakeslee will look into it. Lt. Coppolella has addressed this.

Councilman Morton – The LVR Soccer team played in state finals. They did lose. However, he wanted to thank the PD for giving them an escort on the way back which helped the players.

Councilman Hathaway wanted to thank the PD for their wonderful presence on Halloween night. They were very visible and patrol was substantial.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS

The mayor had no comments at this time.

RESOLUTIONS voted by block

1. **Resolution 2023-96-** A Resolution of The Borough of Netcong, County of Morris, State Of New Jersey, Authorizing the Person-To-Person Transfer of Liquor License No. 1428-33-002-009 From Harris Holding, LLC To Sabor Latino Restaurant, LLC.

A Motion to Adopt Resolution 2023-96 was made by Councilman Morton and seconded by Councilman Sylvester to approve this resolution.
Roll Call: 6 Yes

2. Resolution 2023-97 – Authorizing An Emergency Appropriation to Fund the Replacement of Pump and VFD at Wellhouse Number Five

A Motion to Adopt Resolution 2023-97 was made by Councilman Morton and seconded by Councilman Sylvester to approve this resolution.

Roll Call: 6 Yes

3. Resolution 2023-98- Authorizing the Submission of a Grant Offered by The New Jersey Department of Community Affairs to Fund the Purchase of Fire Equipment

A Motion to Adopt Resolution 2023-98 was made by Councilman Morton and seconded by Councilman Sylvester to approve this resolution.

Roll Call: 6 Yes

ORDINANCE INTRODUCTIONS

1. Ordinance 2023-21 - AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING A REDEVELOPMENT PLAN PURSUANT TO THE LOCAL REDEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING LAW, N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-1, ET SEQ. FOR PROPERTY LOCATED AT BLOCK 26, LOTS 6 AND A PORTION OF LOT 10

Councilman Sylvester stated there has been discussion on this for many months. He reviewed the results of the previous discussions for both the effects on the school and the PILOT and tax amount differences. He gave details on his concerns. He still does not understand why we can't have owner occupied single families. He stated we have too many rentals in this town. We should be done with rentals for the size of our town. He feels this is a project that should not be done.

Councilman Laureys wanted to illustrate how transient renters are. He gave numbers of the turnover at Netcong Heights. He had concerns about the size of single-family homes that were proposed to be built there.

Please note that with a tie, the mayor adds his vote.

A Motion to Introduce Ordinance #2023-21 and Read by Title Only was made by Councilman Hathaway and seconded by Councilman Still.

Roll Call: 4 No: Councilmen Laureys, Morton and Sylvester

A Motion to Pass Ordinance #2023-21 on First Reading was made by Councilman Hathaway and seconded by Councilman Still.

Roll Call: 4 No: Councilmen Laureys, Morton and Sylvester

2. Ordinance 2023-22 - AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 98 "ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES" OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF NETCONG AND SETTING DISTANCE REQUIREMENTS BETWEEN ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE AND RETAIL CANNABIS LICENSED PREMISES.

A Motion to Introduce Ordinance #2023-22 and Read by Title Only was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Hathaway.

Roll Call: 5 No: Councilman Laureys

A Motion to Pass Ordinance #2023-22 on First Reading was made by Councilman Hathaway and seconded by Councilman Still.

Roll Call: 5 No: Councilman Laureys

3. **Ordinance 2023-23** - AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND AND SUPERSEDE ORDINANCE 2023-16 AND AMEND CHAPTER 194 "LAND DEVELOPMENT PROCEDURES" OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF NETCONG FOR CONDITIONAL USE REGULATION OF RETAIL CANNABIS.

A Motion to Introduce Ordinance #2023-23 and Read by Title Only was made by Councilman Albensi and seconded by Councilman Still.

Roll Call: 5 No: Councilman Laureys

A Motion to Pass Ordinance #2023-23 on First Reading was made by Councilman Albensi and seconded by Councilman Still.

Roll Call: 5 No: Councilman Laureys

4. **Ordinance 2023-24** - AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 194 "LAND DEVELOPMENT PROCEDURES" OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF NETCONG.

A Motion to Introduce Ordinance #2023-24 and Read by Title Only was made by Councilman Laureys and seconded by Councilman Morton.

Roll Call: 6 Yes

A Motion to Pass Ordinance #2023-24 on First Reading was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Sylvester.

Roll Call: 6 Yes

5. **Ordinance 2023-25** - AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING CHAPTER 246, "STORMWATER CONTROL," OF THE REVISED GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE BOROUGH OF NETCONG TO INCLUDE NEW ARTICLES CONCERNING STORMWATER CONTROL AND PRIVATELY OWNED SALT STORAGES.

A Motion to Introduce Ordinance #2023-25 and Read by Title Only was made by Councilman Laureys and seconded by Councilman Sylvester.

Roll Call: 6 Yes

A Motion to Pass Ordinance #2023-25 on First Reading was made by Councilman Laureys and seconded by Councilman Still.

Roll Call: 6 Yes

REPORTS

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

Roll Call: 6 Yes

BILLS

A Motion to Pay All Bills When Funds are Available was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Morton.

Roll Call: 6 Yes

PUBLIC PORTION OF MEETING

Mrs. Jessica Parks, of 26 Hilts Lane was concerned about the flooding on her street. She is worried because it will start freezing soon. Mr. Blakeslee stated he sent the pictures directly to the contact at New Jersey Transit. He will follow up on this.

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

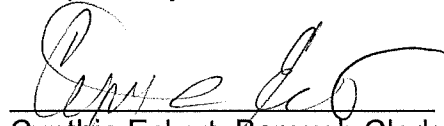
No closed session was held at this meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

A Motion to Adjourn the Meeting was made by Councilman Still and seconded by Councilman Sylvester at 8:07PM.

Roll Call: 6 Yes

Respectfully,


Cynthia Eckert, Borough Clerk