

**BOROUGH OF NETCONG
MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEETING
March 6, 2025**

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF NETCONG HELD March 6, 2025 AT THE NETCONG MUNICIPAL BUILDING, 23 MAPLE AVENUE, NETCONG, NEW JERSEY COMMENCING AT 7:30 PM.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Still 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 21, 2025.
2. Publishing a notice in the Daily Record, the official newspaper of the Borough of Netcong on January 21, 2025 and emailing a copy to the Star Ledger on January 22, 2025.

ROLL CALL

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

PUBLIC PORTION OF MEETING

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

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 March 13, 2025.

1. **Approval of Minutes** - February 6, 2025 Agenda Meeting
Approval of Minutes - February 13, 2025 Regular Meeting

A Motion was made by Councilman Sylvester and seconded by Councilman Hathaway to approve the Feb 6 Agenda Meeting.
Roll Call: 6 Yes

A Motion was made by Councilman Sylvester and seconded by Councilman Hathaway to approve the Feb 13 Meeting.
Roll Call: 5 Yes Abstain: Councilman Hathaway

2. Public Hearing for 2025 Cost Estimate for the Borough's Special Improvement District.

To be carried to the March 13th meeting.

Resolution #2025- - Resolution to Approve the 2025 Cost Estimate for the Borough's Special Improvement District.

To be carried to the March 13th meeting.

3. Ordinance Adoption – Ordinance 2025-2- AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE POLICE CHIEF TO EXECUTE AN APPLICATION FOR A CHARITABLE SOLICITATION PERMIT FOR AMERICAN LEGION AMBULANCE CORP OF STANHOPE/NETCONG'S "COIN DROP" ON JUNE 6TH, JUNE 7TH 2025 AND ON SEPTEMBER 5TH, AND SEPTEMBER 6TH, 2025 AT THE INTERSECTIONS OF ALLEN STREET AND LEDGEWOOD AVENUE AND MAIN STREET AND ROUTE 46 IN THE BOROUGH OF NETCONG, COUNTY OF MORRIS, STATE OF NEW JERSEY

To be carried to the March 13th meeting.

4. Old Business – None Presented

5. New Business – No Parking on Koclas Dr.

Councilman Sylvester asked for this to be put on the agenda. He has had several residents contact him about having no parking signs on Koclas Dr. between Lake St. and Highland Avenue. Councilman Nametko asked for clarification. Councilman Hathaway detailed the areas in question. He feels the challenge is when there are cars on both sides of the street it is potentially unsafe. No emergency vehicles would be able to get through in an emergency. There was discussion among the council on this issue. Councilman Laureys asked for clarification on the current parking status. There was further discussion among the Council on a possible solution to this problem.

Mayor Still requested that this be carried to the March 13th meeting under "Old Business."

6. Correspondence –Letter from Luanne and Mike Canfield

The letter was read for the record:

February 28, 2025

Dear Mayor Still and Members of the Netcong Borough Council,

I would like to take this opportunity, on behalf of our family, to acknowledge and thank the Netcong Borough Police Department for their assistance during a very difficult and challenging time in our family's lives. On several occasions the Netcong Police Department assisted us with support during three separate 911 calls -- One to my parents' home, the Cautero's, at 11 College Road, and two to our home, 9 College Road. In particular, Officer Tavares was present at each of these calls and had proven to be a competent and compassionate presence and made us feel like everything was under control.

We would also like to thank both Chief VanHouten and Lt. Coppolella for their support and assistance on the day of my father's funeral. They assured us that everything would be taken care of and not to hesitate to reach out to them if anything was needed.

It is officers, and gentlemen, such as Officer Tavares, Lt. Coppolella and Chief VanHouten that made my father so proud to be a member of the Netcong community. He loved this town and he had a tremendous amount of home-town pride. We miss him terribly, but know that his legacy will be remembered by those who knew him.

With many thanks and appreciation,

Luanne and Mike Canfield

7. **Resolution 2025-34-** Governor's Alliance on Substance Use Disorder

A Motion was made by Councilman Morton and seconded by Councilman Eddy to approve this resolution.

Roll Call: 6 Yes

8. **Ordinance Introduction** – None presented.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR TO THE COUNCIL

The Council President had no comment at this time.

Councilman Laureys noticed driving on Jenny Lind has all kinds of gravel and material on the sides of the road. Can we get that cleaned up? Mr. Blakeslee will take care of it.

Councilman Morton asked if the DPW put up a new split rail fence at DiRenzo Park and new bathrooms as well. Mr. Blakeslee said this is in the budget for 2025.

Councilman Morton had two reminders: concrete pads for garbage cans there as well as an Invitation for St. Pat pancake breakfast this Saturday from 10-12

MAYORS' COMMENTS

The mayor had no comments at this time.

PUBLIC PORTION OF MEETING

Mr. JW Albensi, 42 College Rd., discussed no parking to Water St. (the parking just discussed) may be an issue for the concerts in the park at night. An exception may have to be made for this. Councilman Hathaway and Mr. Albensi had discussed putting a larger concrete pad in front of the gazebo for dancing and other group activities. This will also make better handicap access by the gazebo. Mr. Blakeslee stated the grant for the park got turned down due to minor deficiencies in the application but the borough has been invited to reapply for this year. This was the dept. of senior services grant application with the state. Mr. Albensi wants to be sure these improvements are not done during the concert season. The mayor stated the engineer will be going down there to assess.

Mrs. Michele Franchi Ruocco, 39 Main St., asked if it is possible to prohibit overnight parking on Main St. She gave her reasons for asking about this. Tenants that live on Main St. tend to park overnight. The council suggested having 2- hour parking all the time, not just during the day. There was discussion among the council on this. Councilman Hathaway stated in the past it was decided to include this in the traffic study for Main St by the Highlands Council. The council does not want to install meters. Mrs. Ruocco suggested parking meters would help to resolve this issue. Councilman Sylvester stated it is hard to enforce the 2-hour parking limit. Councilman Laureys said meters might cause businesses to lose business. The mayor stated we will address this again. Mrs. Ruocco thanked the council for their time.

Mrs. Kim Albensi, 42 College Rd., felt the community fair was successful. She thanked Councilman Nametko and Councilman Sylvester for their contribution. The groups that attended did reap some volunteers.

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

Roll Call: 6 Yes

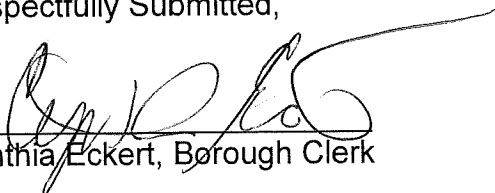
CLOSED SESSION

None this evening.

ADJOURNMENT

A Motion to Adjourn the Meeting was made by Councilman Hathaway and seconded by Councilman Morton at 7:54PM.
Roll Call: 6 Yes

Respectfully Submitted,



Cynthia Eckert, Borough Clerk

Governor's Council on Substance Use Disorder
Fiscal Grant Cycle October 2020-June 2026

Resolution 2025-34

WHEREAS, the Governor's Council on Substance Use Disorder (GCSUD) established the Municipal Alliances for the Prevention of Substance Use Disorder in 1989 to educate and engage residents, local government and law enforcement officials, schools, nonprofit organizations, the faith community, parents, youth and other allies in efforts to prevent substance use disorder in communities throughout New Jersey.

WHEREAS, The Borough Council of the Borough of Netcong, County of Morris, State of New Jersey recognizes that substance use disorder is a serious problem in our society amongst persons of all ages; and therefore, has an established Municipal Alliance Committee; and,

WHEREAS, the Borough Council further recognizes that it is incumbent upon not only public officials but upon the entire community to take action to prevent substance use disorder in our community; and,

WHEREAS, the Borough Council has applied for funding to the Governor's Council on Substance Use Disorder through the County of Morris;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough of Netcong, County of Morris, State of New Jersey hereby recognizes the following:

1. The Borough Council does hereby authorize submission of a strategic plan for the Netcong Municipal Alliance grant for fiscal year 2026 in the amount of:

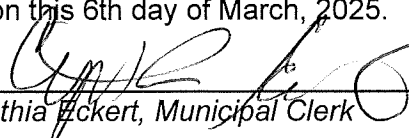
GCSUD Grant	\$2,450.00
Cash Match	\$612.50
In-Kind	\$1,837.50
2. The Borough Council acknowledges the terms and conditions for administering the Municipal Alliance grant, including the administrative compliance and audit requirements.

APPROVED: _____


Elmer Still, Mayor

CERTIFICATION

I, Cynthia Eckert, Municipal Clerk of the Borough of Netcong, County of Morris, State of New Jersey, do hereby certify the foregoing to be a true and exact copy of a resolution duly authorized by the Borough Council on this 6th day of March, 2025.


Cynthia Eckert, Municipal Clerk