

**BOROUGH OF NETCONG  
MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 4, 2025**

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF NETCONG HELD SEPTEMBER 4, 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**

Mr. Wayne Anthony, 24 Dell Ave., would like to complement the recreation committee this year; especially Jessica Parks and Todd Morton for their hard work. The events have been fantastic. There has been a big change in activities and a lot better attendance.

Mr. Anthony also expressed concern about tractor trailers. There was a tree that caused a wire fire near Water Street. There have been multiple incidents near his home. JCP&L and Verizon have been out to inspect the telephone pole near his home. There are 3 houses with damage due to these tractor trailers. The mayor stated it is hard to keep up with this truck traffic. There is not much that can be done. There was discussion among the Council about this issue. The DPW will be fixing the cement work that has been damaged as well as the lawns.

Mr. Anthony commented about the geese. There are abundant goose droppings at the park and a bunch of feathers in his yard. The mayor stated they are working on the goose problem.

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

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 September 11, 2025.***

1. **Minutes** – Regular Meeting – July 10, 2025  
Agenda Meeting – August 7, 2025  
Regular Meeting – August 14, 2025

A Motion was made by Councilman Nametko and seconded by Councilman Morton to approve the minutes noted above.

Roll Call: 6 Yes                      Abstain August 7th: Councilman Hathaway

2. **Ordinance Adoptions** –None presented
3. **Correspondence** – None presented
4. **Old Business** – None presented
5. **New Business**- None presented

### **Resolutions**

6. **Resolution 2025-82** - Resolution of The Borough Council of The Borough of Netcong Authorizing a Final Change Order to The Contract with D.L.S. Contracting, Inc. For The Jenny Lind Street Resurfacing and Sidewalk Improvement Project.

A Motion was made by Councilman Hathaway and seconded by Councilman Laureys to approve the resolution noted above.

Roll Call: 6 Yes

7. **Resolution 2025-83**-Appoint Daniel Dell'Orto DPW Laborer.

A Motion was made by Councilman Hathaway and seconded by Councilman Laureys to approve the resolution noted above.

Roll Call: 6 Yes

8. **Resolution 2025-84**-100% Disabled Vet – 17 Highland Ave.

A Motion was made by Councilman Hathaway and seconded by Councilman Laureys to approve the resolution noted above.  
Roll Call: 6 Yes

**9. Resolution 2025-85-Refund 100% Disabled Vet -17 Highland Ave.**

A Motion was made by Councilman Hathaway and seconded by Councilman Laureys to approve the resolution noted above.  
Roll Call: 6 Yes

**10. Resolution 2025-86- Authorizing The Award of a Contract for Professional Services for a Public Works Consultant.**

A Motion was made by Councilman Hathaway and seconded by Councilman Laureys to approve the resolution noted above.  
Roll Call: 6 Yes

**11. Ordinance Introduction- Ordinance-2025-8- AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND AND SUPPLEMENT CHAPTER 268, VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC, ARTICLE VIII SCHEDULES, OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF NETCONG, COUNTY OF MORRIS, STATE OF NEW JERSEY TO AMEND THE PARKING RESTRICTIONS ON KOCLAS DRIVE AND DELL AVENUE**

To be Carried to the September 11th Meeting.

Councilman Sylvester is concerned this is not totally encompassing as discussed. There was discussion among the Council and it was determined there is already no parking in the area of Koclas Dr. Councilman Laureys is concerned the wording is not as discussed. The attorney stated this was not possible. Councilman Sylvester stated in the end it will meet its intended purpose.

**PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR TO THE COUNCIL**

The Council president had nothing to report at this time.

Councilman Eddy reported that there are some serious flooding problems with the Family Ford property and McMullen St. He feels we need to move on this and possibly use eminent domain. Councilman Hathaway provided additional detail on the flooding in that area. This historically has been a problem. He continued commenting on this issue and noted the changes that have taken place over time. He agrees it is time to act on this problem. We need to do something for these residents. It was discussed among the Council that this property needs to be taken by the borough in order to correct and maintain this area. There was further discussion among the Council on this subject. The Council noted the situation has gotten worse since the circle project was completed and it continues to get worse. Mr. Blakeslee stated he has asked for a meeting with Family Ford but has had no response. He asked if the Council wants to have the attorney write

a letter to Family Ford due to their non-responsiveness. Councilman Nametko stated we need to find a way to keep the water from coming off of Rt. 80. There was discussion on hiring a professional to do a study to correct it and apply for a grant to pay for the repairs. There was additional discussion among the Council on possible solutions and causation for the flooding in this area. Councilman Hathaway stated we cannot continue to spend public funds on private property. Councilman Laureys asked that since this is private property is there any way the borough can maintain this area. The mayor stated Family Ford has filled in this area. There was continued discussion among the Council. He asked if we can have the private owners take care of these issues. Mr. Blakeslee stated we would be dealing with the state and they will not be prompt in solving the issue. Mr. Blakeslee will discuss this with the borough attorney to have him write a letter to Family Ford. Then he will work from there.

Councilman Hathaway wanted to discuss the annex of Roxbury Property for Arbolino Park expansion. He has discussed this with the Roxbury Mayor. He detailed what he would like to see happen. He would like to have Mr. Blakeslee set up a meeting with Roxbury so we can move forward with this annexation. Councilman Sylvester stated they already had a meeting with all parties involved. The mayor stated we should tell the borough attorney the borough will be moving forward with a meeting with Roxbury. The mayor stated we should have an agreement written, have both Mayors sign and move forward with the annexation. There was further discussion among the Council on this subject. Mr. Blakeslee will contact Mr. Bucco and the Roxbury Mayor.

Councilman Morton wanted to follow up on the Christmas tree situation; are there any ideas or plans for this? Councilman Hathaway stated the best idea presented was to have an artificial tree that could be erected in several parking spaces each year. It would be lasting. The mayor stated we may be able to get donations. Councilman Sylvester asked if there was space for a real tree. Councilman Morton is concerned about the timeframe. Councilman Hathaway stated a cut tree could be purchased each year. Councilman Morton would prefer a real cut tree each year. There was brief discussion among the Council on this subject. Councilman Hathaway will do the research to determine the best way to move forward.

### **MAYORS COMMENTS**

Mayor Still reported that he fired Mott MacDonald today. This company will not be doing any more engineering work in this town. French and Parello will be taking over. The mayor has stopped two projects: the DPW parking lot and the firehouse bathroom. There will be a redesign done on these projects so they are done correctly. Councilman Morton asked if they would be paving the entire parking lot.

### **PROCLAMATION**

Mrs. Eckert read the proclamation.

## PROCLAMATION

### OVARIAN CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

**WHEREAS**, ovarian cancer is the **fifth leading cause of cancer-related death among women in the United States**, and the **American Cancer Society estimates that in 2025 approximately 20,890 women** will be diagnosed with ovarian cancer and **12,730 will die** from the disease nationwide—including an estimated **670 new cases and 340 deaths in New Jersey**; and

**WHEREAS**, a woman's lifetime risk of being diagnosed with ovarian cancer is approximately **1 in 91**, and her lifetime risk of dying from the disease is approximately **1 in 143**; and

**WHEREAS**, due to vague, nonspecific symptoms and the **absence of a reliable early detection test**, the majority of women are diagnosed at **Stage III or later**, when the cancer has already spread beyond the ovaries; and

**WHEREAS**, although the **five-year survival rate for Stage I ovarian cancer exceeds 90 percent**, only **15 percent of cases are diagnosed at this early stage**. For those diagnosed in later stages, the **five-year survival rate drops below 30 percent**; and

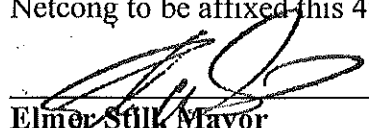
**WHEREAS**, while screening tools such as mammograms and Pap tests exist for breast and cervical cancers, **no equivalent screening test exists for ovarian cancer**, making **awareness of symptoms and risk factors essential** for early intervention; and

**WHEREAS**, increased public education about ovarian cancer can help save lives by promoting earlier diagnosis, supporting access to gynecologic oncology care, and encouraging research funding for better detection and treatment options; and

**WHEREAS**, during the month of September, the Borough of Netcong joins survivors, families, healthcare professionals, advocacy organizations, and all those committed to raising awareness, remembering lives lost, and offering hope for a future with better outcomes and ultimately, a cure.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Mayor Still, do hereby proclaim **September 2025 as OVARIAN CANCER AWARENESS MONTH** in the Borough of Netcong, New Jersey, and encourage all residents to participate in awareness activities, wear teal in support, and engage in conversations that help save lives and support the thousands of families affected by this devastating disease.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the Borough of Netcong to be affixed this 4th of September 2025.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Elmer Still, Mayor  
Borough of Netcong

**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

**CLOSED SESSION**

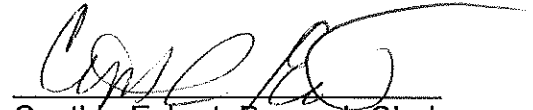
There wasn't a closed session this evening.

**ADJOURNMENT**

A Motion to Adjourn the Meeting was made by Councilman Hathaway and approved by unanimous voice vote at 8:06PM

Roll Call: 6 Yes

Respectfully Submitted,

  
Cynthia Eckert, Borough Clerk

**RESOLUTION 2025-82**

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF NETCONG  
AUTHORIZING A FINAL CHANGE ORDER TO THE CONTRACT WITH D.L.S.  
CONTRACTING, INC. FOR THE JENNY LIND STREET RESURFACING AND  
SIDEWALK IMPROVEMENT PROJECT**

**WHEREAS**, the Borough Council of the Borough of Netcong awarded a contract to D.L.S. Contracting, Inc. for the Jenny Lind Street Resurfacing and Sidewalk Improvement Project in the amount of \$303,053.00 on September 12, 2024; and

**WHEREAS**, the Jenny Lind Street Resurfacing and Sidewalk Improvement Project in was performed and completed by D.L.S. Contracting, Inc. in June of 2025;

**WHEREAS**, the as-built amount completed and billed by D.L.S. Contracting, Inc. is \$239,894.75 a decrease of \$63,158.25 from the contract amount of \$303,053.00;

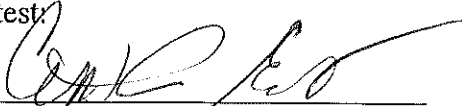
**WHEREAS**, the decrease is based on as-built field measurements and quantities for the completed project.

**WHEREAS**, the NJDOT Local Transportation Grant Program grant for the project is \$250,000.00 and therefore, all construction costs are covered by the grant.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Borough Council of the Borough of Netcong, County of Morris, State of New Jersey that it hereby approves the Change Order amending the final Contract amount to \$239,894.75.

Adopted: September 4, 2025

**BOROUGH OF NETCONG**

Attest:   
Cynthia Eckert, Clerk

By:   
Elmer Still, Mayor

**RESOLUTION #2025-83**

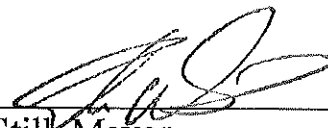
**BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Borough Council of the Borough of Netcong, in the County of Morris and State of New Jersey as follows:

1. The following appointment is hereby made:

Daniel G. Dell'Orto as Laborer on call as needed for the Department of Public Works effective September 8, 2025 at a salary of \$37,440.00, payable semi-monthly.

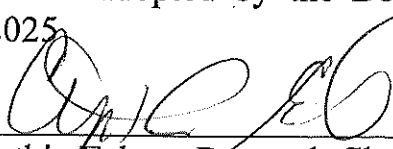
2. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

**BOROUGH OF NETCONG**

By:   
Elmer Still, Mayor

Dated:

I, Cynthia Eckert, Clerk of the Borough of Netcong, do hereby certify the foregoing to be a true copy of a Resolution adopted by the Borough of Netcong at a meeting held September 4, 2025.

  
Cynthia Eckert, Borough Clerk



**RESOLUTION 2025-84**

**BOROUGH OF NETCONG**

**WHEREAS**, for the year 2025 Block 2 Lot 6 known as 17 Highland Ave. is assessed for a total of 355,700 and

**WHEREAS**, said property owner Gonzalo E. Pimentel who purchased 17 Highland Ave. on October 21, 2022 was issued a letter from the Federal Department of Veterans Affairs dated March 11, 2025 stating that Mr. Pimentel has been declared 100% permanently and totally disabled due to his military service; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 54:4-3.30, such designation makes the property fully tax exempt.

**NOW BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Borough Council of the Borough of Netcong, in the County of Morris and State of New Jersey that the Tax Collector is hereby authorized to cancel 2025 property taxes as of March 11, 2025 for the above referenced property.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that this resolution shall take effect immediately.

**BOROUGH OF NETCONG**



\_\_\_\_\_  
Elmer Still, Mayor

Dated:

I hereby certify the foregoing to be a true copy of a resolution adopted by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Netcong at the meeting held on September 4, 2025.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Cynthia Eckert, Borough Clerk

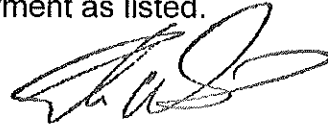
**Resolution 2025-85**

**WHEREAS**, it appears to the satisfaction of the Borough Council of the Borough of Netcong that the following tax overpayment for the year 2025 was made:

Block 2 Lot 6      17 Highland Ave.  
Netcong NJ 07857

\$6,885.76

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Finance Clerk be and hereby is authorized to refund the above overpayment as listed.



Elmer Still, Mayor

I, Cynthia Eckert, do hereby certify the foregoing to be a true copy of a resolution adopted by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Netcong at the meeting held September 4, 2025

  
Cynthia Eckert, Borough Clerk

**Resolution No. 2025-86**

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF NETCONG, COUNTY OF MORRIS,  
STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF A CONTRACT  
FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES FOR A PUBLIC WORKS CONSULTANT**

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Netcong has a need to obtain the services of a consultant to review DPW operations, staffing, equipment and facilities and has determined to award the contract as a professional service without obtaining competitive bids or quotations pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5; and

**WHEREAS**, Richard A. Blood has submitted a proposal indicating that he will provide the services at a rate of \$90 an hour, not to exceed \$15,000; and

**WHEREAS**, the Local Public Contracts Law (N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq.) requires that the resolution authorizing the award of contracts for "Professional Services" without competitive bids and the contract itself must be available for public inspection; and

**WHEREAS**, the Chief Financial Officer has certified that the funds are available for this contract.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Borough Council of the Borough of Netcong, in the County of Morris and State of New Jersey, that the Borough of Netcong hereby appoints Richard A. Blood as a Public Works Consultant and authorizes the Mayor and Borough Clerk to execute a contract with Mr. Blood in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth herein; and

**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED** that a notice of this action shall be printed once in the legal newspaper of the Borough of Netcong as required by law.

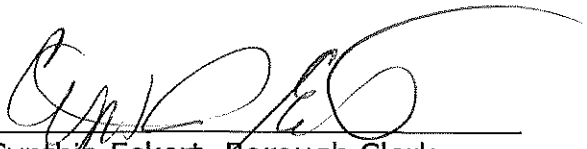
**BOROUGH OF NETCONG**

Dated: 9/4/25

By:   
Elmer M. Still, Mayor

### **CERTIFICATION**

I, Cynthia Eckert, Clerk of the Borough of Netcong, do hereby certify the foregoing to be a true copy of a Resolution adopted by the Borough at a meeting held on September 4, 2025.

  
Cynthia Eckert, Borough Clerk