

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

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

PRESENTATION

UHL AND ASSOCIATES, INC. – New Well Investigation Report

Mr. Uhl stepped forward to present the results of the well study. He started by giving a description of the current wells. He then explained the current pumping rates of the current wells. He also described the detailed steps needed to establish a replacement for Well 1A. The new well would be within 100 feet of the current well. This would save on cost and DEP approvals. He continued to provide the estimated proposed costs for this project. He explained they have also done a study on other possible areas in town for a new well. He showed a map of glacier aquifers in Netcong. He then continued to explain the bedrock systems where there are fractures which would be possible areas to drill for a new well. A final report should be ready by December to show possible areas in town

that could be used for wells. Councilman Nametko had a question about maps that the highlands have which are not available to Netcong. They had stated there is a lot of water under Netcong but it is not accessible. The Council was unsure about that. Mr. Daw gave reasons for drilling a new well. Councilman Hathaway asked how just moving 100 feet from the current well is going to provide a more productive well. Mr. Uhl stated the testing must be done first to determine if this is a good area. The purpose of design boring is to be sure this is a good area to drill a new well. Mr. Daw explained how this could be a better spot even though it is near the current one. He described what the DEP will allow. Performing an exploration would cost another 20 thousand dollars. The mayor asked if anyone had questions. He thanked Mr. Uhl and Mr. Daw for their time. Councilman Nametko asked if building in the surrounding town could affect the performance of our well. He is concerned the absence of recharge will be the same if we construct a well within 100 feet of our current one. There was a brief discussion on this issue. Mr. Blakeslee asked if all work done thus far is covered under the current contract. They said 'yes.'

PUBLIC PORTION OF MEETING

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

Roll Call: 5 Yes

PROCLAMATIONS

Veterans Day – Honoring Those Who Have Served

Whereas, the men and women who served in our armed forces have demonstrated their willingness to satisfy the greatest obligation of their citizenship; and

Whereas, it is fitting that we set aside a special day each year to honor all of our veterans and to express our esteem for them; and

Whereas, the Congress of the United States has set aside one day a year as a legal holiday and designated it a VETERAN'S DAY in honor of our veterans and as a day designated to the cause of world peace;

Now, Therefore, I the undersigned Mayor of Netcong Borough do hereby call upon all of our citizens to observe Tuesday, November 11, 2025, as Veteran's Day, and ask that the day be observed with appropriate ceremonies not only in tribute to our veterans but also, in rededication on the cause of peace with honor throughout the world.

In witness whereof, I have here unto set my hand and caused the seal to be affixed this 6th day of November, 2025.

Councilman Nametko stated we should have a Veterans month not Veterans' Day.

AGENDA ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

The following items are for discussion purposes only. Any action on these items will take place at the meeting of November 13, 2025.

1. **Minutes** – Agenda Meeting – October 2, 2025
Regular Meeting – October 9, 2025
Special Meeting – October 28, 2025

A Motion was made by Councilman Sylvester and seconded by Councilman Nametko.

Roll Call: 5 Yes Abstain: Councilman Morton; October 28

2. **Ordinance Adoptions-** Ordinance 2025-9- An Ordinance to Amend Chapter 247 "Street Obstructions" And Chapter 225 "Property Maintenance", of The Code of The Borough Of Netcong, County of Morris, State of New Jersey

To be carried to the November 13th Meeting.

3. **Correspondence** – Resignation Letter – Crossing Guard Tom Patamia
Resignation Letter – Crossing Guard Frank Schomp
Netcong Fire Company #1 – Fire Truck
Lake Musconetcong – 2026 Budget
The Growing Stage – Grant Award
MUA- 2026 Rate Schedule

4. **Old Business** – None

5. **New Business-** Appointment of Michael Gaccione Firefighter for Fire Co. No.1

A Motion was made by Councilman Sylvester and seconded by Councilman Morton.

Roll Call: 5 Yes

6. **Resolution 2025– 102-** Authorizing Execution of a Municipal Court Shared Services Agreement Between the Borough of Netcong and the Township of Mount Olive

A Motion was made by Councilman Hathaway and seconded by Councilman Sylvester.

Roll Call: 5 Yes

7. **Resolution 2025-103-** 2026 Holiday Schedule

A Motion was made by Councilman Hathaway and seconded by Councilman Sylvester.

Roll Call: 5 Yes

- 8. Resolution 2025- 104 - Authorizing an Extension of a Contract to Fairmount Repair & Services, LLC For Assistance with Snow Plowing And Salting Services**

A Motion was made by Councilman Hathaway and seconded by Councilman Sylvester.

Roll Call: 5 Yes

- 9. Ordinance Introduction – Ordinance 2025-10 - An Ordinance to Amend Chapter 276, Water, of The Code of The Borough of Netcong, County of Morris And State of New Jersey Increasing Various Water Rates**

To be carried to the November 13th Meeting.

- 10. Ordinance Introduction- Ordinance 2025-11- An Ordinance to Amend Chapter 74, Sewers, Article II, Sewer Rents of the "Code of The Borough of Netcong", County of Morris And State of New Jersey**

To be carried to the November 13th Meeting.

- 11. Ordinance Introduction – Bond Ordinance 2025-12- To Amend The Title And Sections 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10 And 11 Of The Bond Ordinance (Ord. No. 2024-16) Entitled: "Bond Ordinance To Authorize The Making Of Various Public Improvements In, By And For The Borough Of Netcong, In The County Of Morris, State Of New Jersey, To Appropriate The Sum Of \$786,000 To Pay The Cost Thereof, 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," Adopted On May 9, 2024.**

To be carried to the November 13th Meeting.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR TO THE COUNCIL

The Council President attended the day of the dead program. He was pleased at how nice it was and commented that it was very well done. Kudos to the recreation department and Todd Morton.

Councilman Sylvester asked about the bonding that we have, because of the incompetence of the previous attorney. He would like to talk to the attorney about recouping some funds for the poor work done at the firehouse. Councilman Hathaway stated the firehouse was not the only issue. There were also issues with the Direnzo playground, Arbolino Park and the village place. He is very displeased with the work of the previous borough engineer. There was further discussion among the Council on this issue.

He also had a question about the annexation of the property from Roxbury. He wants to move forward with this now. There was discussion among the Council on this subject. Roxbury is in agreement with this. Mr. Blakeslee will work on this. Councilman Hathaway provided details regarding the Trail Grant designs that could be part of the Arbolino Park expansion. There was discussion among the Council on the details of this subject. He spoke of several grants that could be applied for this project. He gave detail on what we could ask for the trail and other sources for the Arbolino Park lights. There was further discussion on the importance of getting this annex completed. Councilman Nametko had questions about this property and what we have is allocated as our block and lot. There was discussion on how to accomplish this. Mr. Blakeslee will contact our attorney about this.

Councilman Hathaway would like to complete the issue with the alley way behind Carmines before the end of the year. If the developer puts a fence up, it will not allow the businesses on Main St. to use this area for their garbage. He stated the borough had asked the redeveloper to give an easement to the business owners affected. This needs to be fixed through the planning board as this will have a permanent effect on the existing businesses. We do not want garbage to be put on the curb by our businesses that need the alley space for their dumpsters. The planning board needs to consider this problem and understand the implications. There are no additional plans being submitted to the planning board at this time. Councilman Nametko stated we need to have our borough engineer involved in this discussion. Councilman Hathaway had several comments on this issue and noted possible problems and solutions. He gave details on the emergency response issues. Councilman Hathaway also discussed how this whole situation began and how an intervention and possible solution was discussed with the developer. There was further discussion on this subject. Councilman Hathaway is concerned because this is something that affects the borough and our Main St. The mayor had comments on this issue as well. There was further discussion on this subject among the Council. Councilman Hathaway feels the developer is amenable to having an easement for the business alley way. Mr. Blakeslee will reach out to the developer. They need to come to the planning board this month to get this fixed. There was further discussion on this subject and details of solutions.

Councilman Morton asked about the Christmas tree. Councilman Hathaway stated the tree stand is being built at this time. He has not located a tree yet. Councilman Nametko said they have them at the Abbey in Newton. Councilman Morton wanted to be sure recreation is not responsible. Councilman Hathaway stated this should be a joint effort. There was discussion that there are no rest room facilities at this time at the firehouse. A porta john will be used for the Holiday Parade.

MAYORS COMMENTS

The mayor stated Councilman Hathaway has been a hard-working Councilman in his time on the Council. He stated the newly elected officials have big shoes to fill.

PUBLIC PORTION OF MEETING

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

Roll Call: 5 Yes

CLOSED SESSION

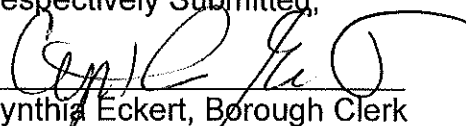
None this evening.

ADJOURNMENT

A Motion to Adjourn the Meeting was made by Councilman Hathaway and moved by unanimous voice vote at 8:25PM.

Roll Call: 5 Yes

Respectively Submitted,


Cynthia Eckert, Borough Clerk

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A MUNICIPAL COURT SHARED SERVICES AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE BOROUGH OF NETCONG AND THE TOWNSHIP OF MOUNT OLIVE

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 2B:12-1, et seq. provides in pertinent part that two or more municipalities may share in its courtrooms, chambers, equipment, supplies and employees for their municipal courts and they may agree to appoint judges and administrators without establishing a joint municipal court; and

WHEREAS, when municipal courts share facilities in this manner, the individual courts shall continue to maintain their own identities in all of the orders and process served out of said courts; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Netcong and the Township of Mount Olive desire to share facilities, equipment, staff and record storage in accordance with the authority established in N.J.S.A. 2B:12-1, et seq. in order to conserve resources and to provide for a more efficient and more economically sound municipal court system; and

WHEREAS, the “Uniform Shared Services and Consolidations Act”, N.J.S.A. 40A:65-1, et seq. allows a local unit to enter into an agreement with any other local unit or units for the above-stated purposes; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Netcong desires to enter into such a shared services agreement with the Township of Mount Olive, a copy of which is attached hereto and made a part hereof.

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 attached

Municipal Court Shared Services Agreement between the Borough of Netcong and the Township of Mount Olive is hereby approved and the Mayor and Borough Clerk are hereby authorized and directed to execute said Agreement on behalf of the Borough; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth in the Municipal Court Shared Services Agreement, the Borough agrees to pay the Township of Mount Olive the annual fee of \$67,500 to conduct four court sessions per month, with an annual increase of 2.25%, in accordance with the terms of the Agreement attached hereto and made a part hereof; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Borough Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to provide a certified copy of this Resolution and the Municipal Court Shared Services Agreement to the Township of Mount Olive for approval by the Township Council and execution by the Mayor and Township Clerk; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the within Agreement shall be effective upon execution by both parties and notice to and approval of the Administrative Office of the Courts and the Assignment Judge of Morris County Superior Court as required by law.

This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

BOROUGH OF NETCONG


By: _____



Elmer 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 November 6, 2025


Cynthia Eckert, Borough Clerk

RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Borough Council of the Borough of Netcong, in the County of Morris, and State of New Jersey, that the attached Holiday Schedule be and is hereby adopted for the 2026 calendar year.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Borough Clerk shall post a copy of the 2026 Holiday Schedule on the bulletin board in the Municipal Building and shall provide a copy of said schedule to all permanent full-time employees not covered by a collective bargaining agreement.

This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

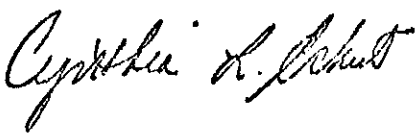
BOROUGH OF NETCONG

By: 
Elmer Still, Mayor

Dated: 11/7/25

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 November 6, 2025.


Cynthia Eckert, Borough Clerk

2026 Holiday Schedule

New Year's Day	Thursday, January 1, 2026
Martin L. King Day	Monday, January 19, 2026
Presidents Day	Monday, February 16, 2026
Good Friday	Friday, April 3, 2026
Memorial Day	Monday, May 25, 2026
Independence Day	Friday, July 3, 2026
Labor Day	Monday, September 7, 2026
Columbus Day	Monday, October 12, 2026
Veteran's Day	Wednesday, November 11, 2026
Thanksgiving	Thursday, November 26, 2026
Day after Thanksgiving	Friday, November 27, 2026
Christmas Day	Friday, December 25, 2026
Election Day	November 5, 2026 - Borough Hall Open – Employee Floating Holiday to be used Friday, January 2, 2026

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN EXTENSION OF A CONTRACT TO
FAIRMOUNT REPAIR & SERVICES, LLC FOR ASSISTANCE WITH SNOW
PLOWING AND SALTING SERVICES**

WHEREAS, the Borough awarded a contract to Fairmount Repair & Services to aid the Borough's DPW for the 2021 - 2022 snow season for plowing and salting services within the Borough; and

WHEREAS, the Borough received **no formal quotes** this year for the performance of said services; and

WHEREAS, the Borough provided an option in the 2021 Request for Proposals that it would be able to extend, on an annual basis for a period not to exceed five (5) years, a contract to the successful contractor; and

WHEREAS, the incumbent contractor, Fairmount Repairs & Services, submitted pricing to perform the required services for the 2025 – 2026 snow season; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-6.1(a) provides that the award of the contract shall be made to the vender whose response is most advantageous, price and other factors considered; and

WHEREAS, the Borough's Superintendent of Public Works and the Borough Administrator have reviewed the remaining quote received and recommend the award of the Contract to Fairmount Repair & Services, LLC. based on the prices quoted; and

WHEREAS, the maximum amount of the Contract is below the mandatory bidding threshold; and

WHEREAS, the Borough wishes to extend its contract to Fairmount Repair & Services, LLC in accordance with its proposal for the following hourly rates:

- 1 - 4 X 4 PICKUP TRUCK WITH AN 8' POWER ANGLE PLOW WITH OPERATOR AT **\$325.00** PER HOUR.
- 2 - 4 X 4 MASON DUMP TRUCK WITH A 9' POWER ANGLE PLOW WITH OPERATOR AT **\$345.00** PER HOUR

1 – 5 YARD SINGLE AXLE DUMP TRUCK WITH A 10' POWER ANGLE PLOW (Used only as a special call out vehicle in the event of a large storm to push back the snow from the sides of the roads) WITH OPERATOR AT \$365 PER HOUR.

1 – TAILGATE SANDER ON MASON DUMP OR SINGLE AXLE DUMP TRUCK WITH OPERATOR AND MATERIALS (used only if requested by the borough) AT \$395 PER HOUR.

WHEREAS, the Borough's Chief Financial Officer has certified that funds are available for this purpose.

NOW, THEREFORE, 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. A contract for snow plowing services is hereby awarded to Fairmount Repair & Services, LLC in accordance with its bid proposal for performing said services at the hourly rates set forth in this Resolution.

2. The Mayor and Borough Clerk are hereby authorized and directed to execute a contract with Fairmount Repair & Services, LLC provided the Contract and Certificate of Insurance are approved by the Borough Attorney.

3. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

BOROUGH OF NETCONG

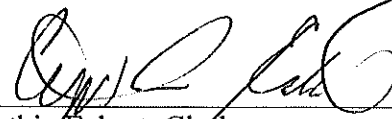
By:


Elmer Still, Mayor

Dated: 11/7/25

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 November 6, 2025.


Cynthia Eckert, Clerk