

**BOROUGH OF NETCONG
MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEETING
MAY 7, 2026**

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF NETCONG HELD MAY 7, 2026 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 9, 2026.
2. Publishing a notice in the Daily Record, the official newspaper of the Borough of Netcong on January 14, 2026, and emailing a copy to the Star Ledger on January 9, 2026.

ROLL CALL

Those in attendance this evening were Councilman Eddy, Councilman Barbaro, 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 Laureys 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 on May 14, 2026.

1. **Minutes** – April 2, 2026
2. **Minutes** – April 9, 2026

A motion was made by Councilman Laureys and seconded by Councilman Sylvester to approve the above noted minutes

Roll Call: 6 Yes Abstain: Councilman Nametko for April 2nd.

3. PUBLIC HEARING AND ADOPTION OF THE 2026 MUNICIPAL BUDGET

- a. **Ordinance Adoption – Ordinance 2026-12** - Ordinance to Exceed the Municipal Budget Appropriation Limits and to Establish a Cap Bank

This adoption will be carried to the May 14th meeting.

PUBLIC HEARING ON THE 2026 MUNICIPAL BUDGET

This will be carried to the May 14th meeting.

- b. **Resolution 2026-** -To Read the 2026 Budget by Title Only.

This Resolution will be carried to the May 14th meeting.

- c. **Resolution 2026-**To Adopt the 2026 Budget

This Resolution will be carried to the May 14th meeting

4. ANNUAL AUDIT

- a. **Resolution #2026-** - Certification of the Annual Audit.

This Resolution will be carried to the May 14th meeting.

- b. **Resolution #2026--**To Approve the 2025 Corrective Action Plan.

This Resolution will be carried to the May 14th meeting.

5. Public Hearing and Adoption of SID Budget

Public Hearing SID Budget

This adoption will be carried to the May 14th meeting.

Resolution 2026-- Approving the 2026 Budget for the Special Improvement District of the Borough of Netcong

This Resolution will be carried to the May 14th meeting.

- 6. Ordinance Adoption – Ordinance 2026-13-** An Ordinance Fixing the Salaries of Certain Officers and Employees of The Borough of Netcong, In the County of Morris, State of New Jersey

This adoption will be carried to the May 14th meeting.

Councilman. Sylvester requested a finance meeting to discuss this ordinance.

7. Ordinance Adoption – Ordinance 2026-14- An Ordinance Amending Chapter 227 of The Revised General Ordinances of The Borough of Netcong and Providing for The Appointment of up to Two Alternate Members of The Recreation Committee

This adoption will be carried to the May 14th meeting.

8. Ordinance Adoption – Ordinance 2026-15 - An Ordinance Amending Chapter 194, “Land Development Procedures,” of The Code of The Borough of Netcong and Amending the Regulations Governing Cannabis Retailers

This adoption will be carried to the May 14th meeting.

9. Bond Ordinance Adoption – Bond Ordinance 2026-16- 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 \$1,112,320 To Pay The Cost Thereof, To Appropriate Various Grants, To Make A Down Payment Or Fund Appropriations From The Capital Improvement Fund, 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.

This adoption will be carried to the May 14th meeting.

10. Bond Ordinance Adoption – Bond Ordinance 2026-17- 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 \$251,000 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.

This adoption will be carried to the May 14th meeting.

11. Capital Ordinance Adoption – Capital Ordinance 2026-18- Capital Ordinance of The Borough of Netcong, In the County of Morris, State of New Jersey Authorizing Various Vehicle and Equipment Acquisitions In, By and For the Sewer Utility of The Borough, Appropriating Therefor the Sum Of \$122,000 And Providing That Such Sum So Appropriated Shall Be Raised from The Sewer Utility Capital Improvement Fund.

This adoption will be carried to the May 14th meeting.

12. Capital Ordinance Adoption – Capital Ordinance 2026-19- Capital Ordinance Of The Borough Of Netcong, In The County Of Morris, State of New Jersey Authorizing The Undertaking Of A Hydrological Study For A New Well Location In The Vicinity Of Well No. 1a In, By And For The Water Utility Of The Borough, Appropriating Therefor The Sum Of \$30,000 And Providing That Such Sum So Appropriated Shall Be Raised From The Water Utility Capital Improvement Fund.

This adoption will be carried to the May 14th meeting.

13. Correspondence – None

14. Old Business - None

15. New Business- Personnel Policy Changes

Mr. Blakeslee distributed a memo on this subject. He explained the reason for the update. The use of AI and comp time are several of the items needed to be updated. Councilman. Sylvester asked if there could be a cap put on comp time. There was discussion among the Council about comp time. Mr. Blakeslee explained that comp time is used to balance the budget. Councilman. Sylvester was concerned about back issues if comp time is accrued year by year. Mr. Blakeslee will go back and review the changes and bring that back to the Council. This is for all employees. Councilman Eddy asked if this includes overtime. He is concerned about the new rules for the overtime changes. Mr. Blakeslee explained this has come from federal legislation. There was lengthy discussion among the Council on this issue. Mr. Blakeslee stated the auditor will be here next week and will be available to answer questions on this subject. Councilman. Sylvester stated let us hear from our professionals on this subject.

16. New Business- Appointment of Fire Fighter Christina M. Magrini for Fire Co. 1.

A motion was made by Councilman Sylvester and seconded by Councilman Barbero.

Roll Call: 6 Yes

17. Resolutions – None

18. Ordinance Introduction – None

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR TO THE COUNCIL

Councilman. Nametko thanked the Mayor, Council and staff for nominating him for the senior of the year award. The Council congratulated him.

Councilman Morton reported that the hometown hero banner request is up on Facebook. He asked if the Council could share the post. The legion is working on this. Councilman. Morton is assisting.

MAYORS' COMMENTS

Mayor Still reminded everyone that all need to get ready for the June 20th celebration. There are \$13,500.00 in donations so far. Councilman. Morton will have updates on this next week.

PROCLAMATION

None

PUBLIC PORTION OF MEETING

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

None

ADJOURNMENT

A Motion to Adjourn was made by Councilman Sylvester and seconded by Councilman Morton at 7:53 p.m.
Roll Call: 6 Yes

Respectfully Submitted,

Cynthia Eckert

Cynthia Eckert, Borough Clerk