

**BOROUGH OF NETCONG
MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEETING
June 4, 2026**

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF NETCONG HELD June 4, 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 Barbero, 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 Athony, 23 Dell Ave., OEM Coordinator, wanted to extend an invitation for National Night Out Tuesday, August 4th at DiRenzo Park 5:30-8:00 pm. Councilman Eddy asked what DPW equipment will be needed. There will be a DJ, Smokey the Bear and Helicopter flyover. Plus, they are working on obtaining a face painter.

Mr. Paul DiRupo, 816 Robin Ct. Ledgewood, is here for Co #1. Secretary and Treasurer. He has two concerns. They have not had a bathroom since August of 2025, and he would like to know when the parking lot will be complete. It is difficult for disabled people to access the firehouse. He will not use the elevator as it does not function properly. Mr. Blakeslee stated the parking lot should be completed by the end of this month. There were issues with the drainage. He will check with the engineer when the topcoat will be complete. The bathroom is more complicated. Mr. Blakeslee noted that they have hired an architect to redesign the bathroom. He cannot give a date at this time when it will be

complete. He can give dates for the architect's drawings and engineering. He explained the reasons why there have been delays with this project and recommendations made by our new engineer on how to deal with these projects going forward. He explained all the problems that have been holding up with this project including asbestos found and plumbing that was done incorrectly. The contractor filed a complaint which caused a stop work order for this project. He stated this has been unfortunate, but the project is now moving in the right direction. He is hoping to go out to bid soon to finish the project. He gave further details on the tests that needed to be done due to the asbestos issue. There have been multiple problems that had to be addressed. There were flaws in the previous engineer's design. Mr. DiRupo stated nobody in Company #1 has had this explanation. He is here on his own to explain how difficult it is for him to complete his work at the firehouse because of his personal disability. He asked again for a date for completion and Mr. Blakeslee stated he cannot give a date at this time. Mr. Blakeslee gave further information on the bathroom project. He stated this is not how the borough likes to do these major projects. The mayor offered that he is welcome to come to work in the borough hall when needed. Mr. DiRupo thanked the Council for their time.

Mr. Wayne Anthony, 24 Dell Ave., stated that the elevator has been stuck several times for Mr. DiRupo. Mr. Anthony asked if monthly service could be done to make sure it works properly.

Mr. Patrick Kunkle, 13 Church St., asked if there has been any action on having no parking signs for Church St. or making it a one-way street. He also asked about putting in additional parking spaces. Mr. Blakeslee will meet with the police chief on this subject. There are still state signs that have been up for years. He is asking if they can be taken down. Mr. Blakeslee will take care of this as well.

Councilman Laureys asked about a sign that was by Church St. that is sticking out of the ground and wondered if this could be removed so no one gets injured.

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 June 11, 2026.

3. Minutes – May 7, 2026

Minutes – May 14, 2026

A Motion to approve the minutes was made by Councilman Sylvester and seconded by Councilman Eddy.

Roll Call: 6 Yes

4. **Ordinance Adoptions** -None presented.

5. **Correspondence** – None presented.

6. **Old Business**

a. Outdoor Dining

Mr. Blakeslee sent a memo on this subject. They recommend we do not change the zoning and instead issue permits for this so these can be reviewed, and a permit is issued each year. It is issued for Main St., but the Council could include the business zones. Councilman Sylvester does not want to exclude other restaurants on Rt. 46. The Council is ok with adding areas other than the business center. Councilman Laureys asked if only sidewalks will be used or if parking lot areas can be used. Mr. Blakeslee explained some restaurants have site plans which allow certain areas to be used. They would not be able to use parking lots. Mr. Blakeslee explained that is why doing a yearly license will help to monitor these issues.

b. Fence Height Ordinance-

Mr. Blakeslee has a draft ready for this. Zoning permits will be needed but no planning board application.

c. Outside Duty Fee Ordinance

Mr. Blakeslee explained he and the chief and finance clerk have been discussing this issue. He gave reasons for this increase. The Council does not have a problem with this increase. Mr. Blakeslee asked what other districts are charging. He said they were \$10.00 or as high as \$15.00 per hour.

7. **New Business**- Social Affair Permit – St. Cesario Feast

A Motion was made by Councilman Nametko and seconded by Councilman Barbero to approve the permit.

Roll Call: 5 Yes Abstain: Councilman Sylvester

8. **Resolutions Voted by Block**

Councilman Sylvester asked for an explanation of resolution 2026-55. Mr. Blakeslee gave an explanation.

a. **Resolution 2026-55**-Authorizing an Official Street Address Change for Property Located on Long Street (Unnumbered)

- b. **Resolution 2026-56**-To Hire Christine Chuddley as Alternate Crossing Guard
- c. **Resolution 2026-57**- Authorizing The Borough Administrator To Execute an Agreement with The County of Morris for The Acceptance of a Donated Boat, Motor and Trailer for Use by The Netcong Fire Department

Councilman Sylvester explained this resolution. With the understanding the boat that was purchased will be sold.

A Motion was made by Councilman Sylvester and seconded by Councilman Laureys to approve this agreement.
Roll Call: 6 Yes

9. Ordinance Introduction

- a. **Ordinance 2026-20** – Amending the Code of the Borough of Netcong and Providing Licensing for Outdoor Sidewalk Dining

To be carried to the June 11 meeting.

- b. **Ordinance 2026-21** - AMENDING CHAPTER 194, "LAND DEVELOPMENT PROCEDURES, OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF NETCONG AND INCREASING THE HEIGHT LIMITATION FOR FENCES IN REAR YARDS TO SIX (6) FEET.

To be carried to the June 11 meeting.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR TO THE COUNCIL

Councilman Nametko asked about the May 19th letter and the May 26th final warning letter. He wanted to know why a letter gives them 3 days to fix this and then gets a second letter. The Council agrees that no second letter to be issued.

Councilman Eddy noted the weeds in sidewalks because the sidewalks on Maple Ave. look terrible. He wants to know why we are not sending letters to residents to pull the weeds. Mr. Blakeslee will make sure this is enforced.

Councilman Barbero wanted to discuss the Santa Train.

Councilman Sylvester stated he has been doing the Polar Express for years. He wants to make sure there is a backout if ticket funds are not collected. Councilman Barbero gave detail on the process and how to make it possible. Councilman Nametko asked how people will be reimbursed. It was noted that this will be an online system that will automatically return the funds. Councilman Barbero stated if we start early, it should be

possible. The Growing Stage is interested in promoting this. The mayor has no problem with it if we can back out. There was further discussion among the Council on this subject.

MAYORS' COMMENTS

The mayor asked why there was no letter on 1 Prospect St. Ralph will follow up with Charlie.

PROCLAMATION

None presented.

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

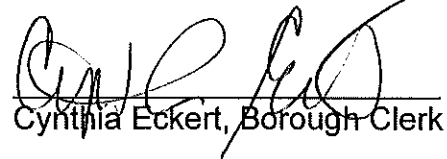
CLOSED SESSION

A closed session was not held this evening.

ADJOURNMENT

A Motion to Adjourn the Meeting was made by Councilman Sylvester and moved by unanimous voice vote at 8:12PM.
Roll Call: 6 Yes

Respectfully Submitted,



Cynthia Eckert, Borough Clerk

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN OFFICIAL STREET ADDRESS CHANGE FOR PROPERTY LOCATED ON LONG STREET (UNNUMBERED)

WHEREAS, the property identified as an unnumbered parcel located on Long Street which is shown on the official Tax Map of the Borough of Netcong as Block 8, Lot 16, currently holds a mailing address that is confusing and potentially conflicts with the Township's address system; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Administrator was contacted by the property owner who indicated that the current address has caused confusion and difficulty with deliveries as the properties on either side have addresses on Stoll Street; and

WHEREAS, THE Borough Administrator and Tax Assessor have reviewed the property and determined that the official address should be corrected/changed to improve navigation and postal delivery; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the public health, safety, and welfare of the residents of the Borough to maintain accurate and clear property identification records.

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. The official street address for the property known as Block 8 Lot 16 is hereby changed from Long Street to 62 Stoll Street.
2. The Borough Tax Assessor is hereby authorized and directed to update the official municipal tax records, the municipal map, and the assessment list to reflect this address change.
3. The Borough Clerk is authorized and directed to forward a certified copy of this resolution to the property owner(s), the Tax Collector, the County Clerk, the United States Postal Service, and the local emergency services dispatch center.

4. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

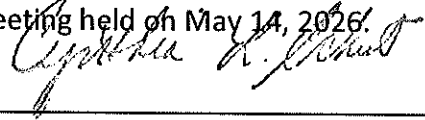
BOROUGH OF NETCONG

By: 
Elmer Still, Mayor

Dated: 6/5/26

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 May 14, 2026.


Cynthia Eckert, Borough Clerk

RESOLUTION

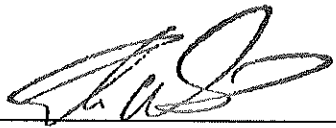
BE IT RESOLVED, by the Borough Council of the Borough of Netcong, in the County of Morris, and State of New Jersey as follows:

1. The following appointment be and is hereby made:

Christine Chuddley as Alternate Crossing Guard for the Borough of Netcong, effective June 5, 2026, shall be paid a fee of \$24.00 per hour.

2. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

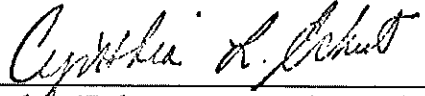
BOROUGH OF NETCONG

By: 

Elmer Still, Mayor

Dated: 6/5/26

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 on June 4, 2026.


Cynthia Eckert, Borough Clerk

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE BOROUGH ADMINISTRATOR TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH THE COUNTY OF MORRIS FOR THE ACCEPTANCE OF A DONATED BOAT, MOTOR AND TRAILER FOR USE BY THE NETCONG FIRE DEPARTMENT

WHEREAS, the County of Morris has determined that a 1989 Boston Whaler vessel, Hull Identification No. BWC5947BG889, together with one (1) Evinrude E-Tec motor and trailer, Identification No. 4YPAB2025XT012326 (collectively, the "Vessel"), is no longer needed for County purposes; and

WHEREAS, the County of Morris has offered to transfer ownership of the Vessel to the Borough of Netcong for the nominal consideration of One Dollar (\$1.00) pursuant to an Agreement for Transfer of Vehicle dated June 10, 2026; and

WHEREAS, the County has acknowledged that the Vessel shall be utilized by the Netcong Fire Department for public safety and emergency response purposes; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Council has determined that acceptance of the Vessel will enhance the emergency response capabilities of the Netcong Fire Department and serve the public interest; and

WHEREAS, the proposed Agreement provides that the Vessel shall be transferred in "AS IS" condition without warranty and further provides that the Borough shall not transfer ownership of the Vessel for a period of two (2) years following receipt, unless first offered back to the County of Morris for the sum of One Dollar (\$1.00); and

WHEREAS, the Borough Council finds it appropriate to authorize the Borough Administrator to execute the Agreement and any ancillary documents necessary to complete the transfer.

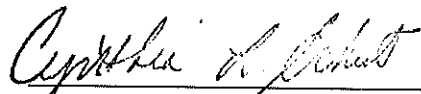
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Netcong, County of Morris, State of New Jersey, as follows:

1. The Borough hereby accepts the transfer of the 1989 Boston Whaler vessel, together with the associated Evinrude E-Tec motor and trailer, from the County of Morris for the consideration of One Dollar (\$1.00), subject to the terms and conditions contained in the Agreement for Transfer of Vehicle.
2. The Borough Administrator is hereby authorized and directed to execute the Agreement and any related documents necessary to effectuate the transfer on behalf of the Borough.

3. The Netcong Fire Department is authorized to take possession of and utilize the Vessel for emergency response, rescue, training, and other public safety purposes consistent with applicable laws and regulations.
4. The Borough Clerk, Borough Administrator, Fire Chief, and any other appropriate Borough officials are hereby authorized to undertake all actions necessary to implement this Resolution and complete the transfer.
5. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption.

CERTIFICATION

I, Cindy 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 June 4, 2026.


Cynthia Eckert, Borough Clerk