

**MINUTES OF THE WORKSHOP SESSION OF THE MAYOR AND COMMITTEE
OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE, HELD AT THE WANTAGE TOWNSHIP
MUNICIPAL BUILDING, 888 STATE HIGHWAY 23, WANTAGE, N.J. ON THE DATE
OF JANUARY 15, 2009**

Mayor Parker Space called the regular meeting of the Mayor and Committee of the Township of Wantage to order, and requested the Clerk to call the roll. Upon roll call, the following members of the governing body were present: Mayor Space, Committee members DeBoer and Nuss. The following member was absent: None

Mayor Space stated, "This meeting is being held in compliance with the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act, Public Laws 1975, Chapter 231. It has been properly noticed and posted to the public, and certified by the Clerk."

Mayor Space led the assembly in the Salute to the Flag.

BUDGET WORKSHOP

Mr. Doherty presented the Committee with preliminary budget figures for 2009. Mr. Doherty informed the Committee that many of Wantage Township employees have proposed a voluntary offer to accept at 3.25% increase rather than the 3.75% offered in 2006 when the current union contract was negotiated. This offer was signed by employees to help control costs for the taxpayers during this severe economic recession. The Committee was appreciative of the offer, but felt that it would be necessary to implement a pay freeze for non-union employees for the year 2009.

Discussion took place regarding the proposed budget. Mr. Doherty explained that he has looked into leasing vehicle rather than paying mileage for the building inspector, but feels it would be wiser to wait for newer technology for "greener" running vehicles and any incentives municipalities may receive in the future from their use. Further consideration was tabled for future discussion.

OPEN PUBLIC SESSION

Mayor Space opened the meeting to the public for any questions or comments.

Mr. Gettler asked for a copy of the materials discussed at this meeting. Mr. Gettler voiced concerns regarding equalized valuation and the tax impact those numbers would reflect.

Mr. Doherty provided Mr. Gettler with copies of the budget worksheets.

As there was no one else from the public who wished to address the Committee, Mayor Space closed the meeting to the public.

There being no other items for consideration at this time, Mr. DeBoer moved to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Nuss seconded the motion. Upon roll call,

Ayes: DeBoer, Nuss, Space **Nays:** None **Absent:** None **Abstain:** None

Mayor Space declared this meeting to be adjourned.

James R. Doherty, Administrator/Clerk