MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE, HELD AT THE WANTAGE TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL BUILDING, 888 STATE HIGHWAY ROUTE 23, WANTAGE, N.J., <u>ON DECEMBER 8, 2011</u>

<u>Mayor DeBoer</u> called the meeting to order, and requested the Clerk to call the roll. Upon roll call, the following members of the governing body were present: Mayor DeBoer, Committeeman Gaechter, and Committeeman Bassani. The following members were absent: None. Also Present: Township Attorney Michael Garofalo.

<u>Mayor DeBoer</u> 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 DeBoer led the assembly in the salute to the American Flag.

OUTSTANDING YOUNG FARMER AWARD RECOGNITION

<u>Mayor DeBoer</u> presented Duce Tallamy with a plaque of congratulations for having been named the Outstanding Young Farmer of New Jersey for the year 2011. The members of the governing body joined with all persons in the audience to applaud Mr. Tallamy on his accomplishment and recognition.

MUNICPAL CLERK OF THE YEAR RECOGNITION

<u>Mayor DeBoer</u> invited all persons present in the audience to offer congratulations to Jim Doherty for having been named the Municipal Clerk of the Year in the State of New Jersey for the year 2011.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor DeBoer requested that the members of the Committee review the Consent Agenda.

Mr. Bassani requested the Bill list be given separate consideration.

There being no other Committee member present wishing to comment on the proposed Consent Agenda, <u>Mayor DeBoer</u> requested approval of the Consent Agenda as adjusted.

Mr. Bassani moved to approve the filing of the following reports:

- ≅ Construction Department Report for November 2011
- ≅ Board of Health Report for November 2011
- ≃ Tax Collector Report for November 2011
- ≅ Registrar Report for November 2011
- Mr. Gaechter seconded the motion. Upon roll call,

Ayes: Gaechter, DeBoer, Bassani Nays: None Absent: None Abstain: None

<u>Mr. Bassani</u> moved to approve Raffle License RL11-29, to Friends of Lake Neepaulin, Inc., for Off Premise Merchandise Raffle to be held January 15, 2012. Mr. Gaechter seconded the motion. Upon roll call,

Ayes: Gaechter, DeBoer, Bassani Nays: None Absent: None Abstain: None

Mr. Bassani moved to authorize refund of tax overpayments as follows:

\$2,722.61 to W. Winters Esq., J.&E. Huffsmith, Block 125 Lot 2.07 for tax overpayment

\$3,134.66 to Empire Tax Fund IV LLC, Block 154 Lot 4 for tax overpayment

\$1,634.80 to Rowland & John Friebely, Block 159 Lot 7.01 Q0057 for tax overpayment

\$1,195.49 to David & Brenda Zabriskie, Block 159 Lot 7.02 for tax overpayment

\$ 124.53 to Clifford & Beatrice Van Etten, Block 156 Lot 7 for tax overpayment

\$ 250.00 to Larry & Sharon Sebright, Block 98 Lot 30 for tax overpayment

\$ 91.37 to Mohawk Associates, LLC, Block 17 Lot 38.01 QFARM for tax overpayment Mr. Gaechter seconded the motion. Upon roll call,

Ayes: Gaechter, DeBoer, Bassani Nays: None Absent: None Abstain: None

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CONSENT AGENDA, continued

<u>Mr. Bassani</u> moved to authorize refund of tax sale premiums in the amount of \$1,000.00 to US Bank, for Block 76 Lot 29. Mr. Gaechter seconded the motion. Upon roll call, Ayes: Gaechter, DeBoer, Bassani Nays: None Absent: None Abstain: None

<u>Mr. Bassani</u> moved to authorize refund of Land Use Application L-9-2010 to Gary & Debra Olysyn in the amount of \$2,964, for Block 23 Lot 12.01. Mr. Gaechter seconded the motion. Upon roll call, Ayes: Gaechter, DeBoer, Bassani Nays: None Absent: None Abstain: None

<u>Mr. Bassani</u> moved to authorize renewal of Animal Control and Pound Shared Service Contract with Andover Township for calendar year 2012. Mr. Gaechter seconded the motion. Upon roll call, Ayes: Gaechter, DeBoer, Bassani Nays: None Absent: None Abstain: None

<u>Mr. Bassani</u> moved to authorize renewal of Animal Control and Pound Shared Service Contract with Franklin Borough for calendar year 2012. Mr. Gaechter seconded the motion. Upon roll call, Ayes: Gaechter, DeBoer, Bassani Nays: None Absent: None Abstain: None

<u>Mr. Bassani</u> moved to authorize renewal of Animal Control and Pound Shared Service Contract with Ogdensburg Borough for calendar year 2012. Mr. Gaechter seconded the motion. Upon roll call, Ayes: Gaechter, DeBoer, Bassani Nays: None Absent: None Abstain: None

<u>Mr. Bassani</u> moved to authorize renewal of the Contract with Space Wild animal Farm for removal of deer carcasses frm municipal road rights of way for calendar year 2012. Mr. Gaechter seconded the motion. Upon roll call, Ayes: Gaechter, DeBoer, Bassani Nays: None Absent: None Abstain: None

<u>Mr. Bassani</u> moved to confirm the award of contract to Kovatch Mobile Equipment Corp. in the amount of \$424,124 for the purchase of Fire Vehicle, in accordance with bid specifications submittal of November 2, 2011. Mr. Gaechter seconded the motion. Upon roll call, Ayes: Gaechter, DeBoer, Bassani Nays: None Absent: None Abstain: None

<u>Mr. Bassani</u> moved to authorize Renewal of Junkyard License to Charles & Annette Meissner for the year 2012, for Block 117, Lot 33. Mr. Gaechter seconded the motion. Upon roll call, Ayes: Gaechter, DeBoer, Bassani Nays: None Absent: None Abstain: None

<u>Mr. Bassani</u> moved to authorize Renewal of Junkyard License to Beemerville auto Wrecking for the year 2012, for Block 125, Lot 6.02. Mr. Gaechter seconded the motion. Upon roll call,

Ayes: Gaechter, DeBoer, Bassani Nays: None Absent: None Abstain: None

BILL LIST

Mr. Bassani requested Check number 17518 on the Bill List be given separate consideration.

Mr. Gaechter moved to approve the Bill List for the meeting of December 8, 2011, excluding check 17518. Mr. Gaechter seconded the motion. Upon roll call, Ayes: Gaechter, DeBoer, Bassani Nays: None Absent: None Abstain: None

<u>Mr. Bassani</u> moved to approve the payment of Bill for Check number 17518. Mr. Gaechter seconded the motion. Upon roll call, Ayes: Gaechter, DeBoer Nays: None Absent: None Abstain: Bassani

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ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

Mr. Doherty informed the members of the governing body that Sussex Borough has approved the renewal of the Shared Service Agreement with Wantage Township for Assessor services for 2012.

<u>Mr. Gaechter</u> moved as follows:

Be it resolved, the Mayor and Clerk are authorized to sign the Shared Services Agreement with Sussex Borough for Wantage to provide Sussex Borough with the services of Tax Assessor for the year 2012. Mr. Bassani seconded the motion. Upon roll call, Ayes: Gaechter, DeBoer, Bassani Nays: None Absent: None Abstain: None

<u>Meeting Dates for 2012</u>: Mr. Doherty reviewed with the governing body proposed meeting dates for the year 2012. Mr. Doherty requested clarification regarding the desired meeting date for the month of July. After review and consideration, the date of July 26 was agreed upon by consensus.

Organization Meeting Agenda: Mr. Doherty reported that he has previously shared a draft agenda with the governing body for the Organization Meeting. Mr. Doherty invited input for any desired changes prior to that meeting date. Mr. Bassani asked if it was acceptable to make changes at the meeting. Mr. Doherty responded in the affirmative, explaining that the governing body could make any decisions they desired at the meeting.

Enabling Resolution to Receive Green Acres Grant: Mr. Doherty reviewed a proposed resolution needed by the State of New Jersey Green Acres Program for the release of a \$72,500 grant to Wantage, which will reimburse the Township's Open Space Trust Fund 50% of the money used to purchase the Plagar property for open space preservation earlier this year.

<u>Mr. Bassani</u> moved to adopt the following STATE OF NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION GREEN ACRES ENABLING RESOLUTION:

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, Green Acres Program ("State"), provides loans and/or grants to municipal and county governments and grants to nonprofit organizations for assistance in the acquisition and development of lands for outdoor recreation and conservation purposes; and

WHEREAS, Wantage Township desires to further the public interest by obtaining a grant of \$72,500 from the State to fund the following project: Wantage Township Plagar Site Acquisition NOW, THEREFORE, the governing body/board resolves that Mayor William DeBoer or the

successor to the office of Mayor is hereby authorized to:

(a) Make application for such a grant

(b) Provide additional application information and furnish such documents as may be required (c) Act as the authorized correspondent of the above named applicant, and

WHEREAS, the State shall determine if the application is complete and in conformance with the scope and intent of the Green Acres Program, and notify the applicant of the amount of the funding award; and

WHEREAS, the applicant is willing to use the State's funds in accordance with such rules, regulations and applicable statutes, and is willing to enter into an agreement with the State for the above named project;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE

1. That the Mayor of the above named body is hereby authorized to execute an agreement and any amendment thereto with the State for the project known as Wantage Township Plagar Site Acquisition, and;

2. That the applicant has its matching share of the project, if a match is required, in the amount of \$127,500.

3. That, in the event the State's funds are less than the total project cost specified above, the applicant has the balance of funding necessary to complete the project, and;

4. The applicant agrees to comply with all applicable federal, state, and local laws, rules, and regulations in its performance of the project.

5. That this resolution shall take effect immediately.

Mr. Gaechter seconded the motion. Upon roll call,

Ayes: Gaechter, DeBoer, Bassani Nays: None Absent: None Abstain: None

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ADMINISTRATOR REPORT, continued

Proposed Resolution for Canceling Current Year Appropriations to Surplus: Mr. Doherty presented a proposed resolution which would cancel certain appropriation balances directly to surplus. Mr. Doherty explained the pros and cons of pursuing this budgeting strategy.

Mr. Gaechter moved to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-60 allows the cancellation of unexpended balances of current year appropriations prior to December 31, and

WHEREAS, there are currently balances in the 2011 current fund budget which will not be encumbered, and grant revenues offset by appropriations which will not be physically realized,

NOW, THERFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the governing body of the Township of Wantage, County of Sussex, State of New Jersey that the following budget appropriations be cancelled to surplus:

Tax Collector Other Expenses	\$ 5,000
Legal Service Other Expenses	30,000
Land Use Other Expenses	25,000

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the governing body of the Township of Wantage, County of Sussex, State of New Jersey that the following budget line items be cancelled:

Energy Efficiency Grant Revenue \$13,903.00

Energy Efficiency Grant Appropriation: \$13,903.00

Mr. Bassani seconded the motion. Upon roll call,

Ayes: Gaechter, DeBoer, Bassani Nays: None Absent: None Abstain: None

Proposed Newsletter: Mr. Doherty reviewed the proposed December newsletter with the governing body, mentioning that the Township would be undertaking a Christmas Tree collection through the Public Works Department this January. The members of the governing body expressed their consensus for proceeding with the newsletter.

<u>RFP For Alarm Monitoring Services</u>: Discussion took place regarding the outcome of the recent solicitation for Alarm Monitoring Services proposals, in which the only proposal received was from the existing vendor. Mr. Bassani outlined a proposed course of action for revisiting this solicitation process. The members of the governing body offered consensus for this proposed course of action.

Negotiations: Mr. Doherty stated that an executive session has been requested to discuss the status of employee union negotiations.

<u>Appointments</u>: Mr. Doherty explained that two actions are ready for confirmation, after having sifted through the bureaucracy of the New Jersey Civil Service Commission. Both of these actions represent previously-agreed upon appointments locally; the Township is now at a point where the State's procedures have caught up with the Township's desires.

Mr. Gaechter moved to

- a) Confirm appointment of Kevin Kervatt to the position of Fire Official of Wantage Township, in accordance with the procedures of the New Jersey Civil Service Commission.
- b) Confirm appointment of John Wyckoff to the position of Plumbing Subcode Official of Wantage Township, in accordance with the procedures of the New Jersey Civil Service Commission.

Mr. Bassani seconded the motion. Upon roll call,

Ayes: Gaechter, DeBoer, Bassani Nays: None Absent: None Abstain: None

NJDOT Recommendation for "No Passing Zone" on State Route 284: Mr. Doherty presented a letter from the New Jersey Department of Transportation, requesting the governing body consider adopting a resolution of endorsement for the creation of a No Passing Zone on Route 284. The members of the governing body directed Mr. Doherty to request additional data and background information regarding this issue prior to taking action.

<u>ATTORNEY REPORT</u>: Mr. Garofalo requested a brief executive session to discuss matters of attorney client privilege regarding Bonding for Clove Hill Manor project.

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COMMITTEE REPORTS:

<u>Mayor DeBoer</u> updated the governing body on his efforts to secure a meeting with JCP&L and SREC to review the possibility of adjustments to service territory within Wantage Township for electric serviced providers. A meeting is being pursued for later this month.

<u>Mr. Bassani</u> reported progress on reviewing Construction Fee schedule amendments with Construction Official Patrick Stefanelli.

OLD BUSINESS

Drainage Issue on Ryan Road: Mr. Kevin Craig of 26 Ryan Road offered a presentation to the governing body regarding a drainage problem he is experiencing because of a covered pipe drainage system installed by his neighbor. General review and discussion regarding the details of Mr. Craig's situation took place, after which Mayor DeBoer requested that Township Engineer Harold Pellow review the situation and offer input.

Renewal of Sussex Fire Department First Responder Agreement: Sussex Fire Chief Dan Stoll and Wantage Fire Chief John Cannici agreed that the proposed agreement is close to finalization, and suggested that an informal meeting among the Fire Department personnel and Mr. Doherty would most likely achieve a completed contract for consideration of adoption in the near future. Mr. Garofalo confirmed that until such time a new agreement is reached and approved, the current existing contract terms would continue in effect.

Approval of Section 125 Flexible Spending Account Plan: Mr. Doherty reported that CFO Michelle La Starza has completed her review of available providers for this newly-mandated service option under state law, and has offered a recommendation for action. Discussion included possible procedures by which the members of the governing body would have an opportunity to review summaries of extensive statutes to better help them understand the details of actions arising from those new statutes. Mr. Doherty and Mr. Garofalo stated the best resources for this are the Local Finance Notice bulletins distributed by the New Jersey Division of Local Government Services, and the Mayor Advisories released from time to time by the New Jersey League of Municipalities.

Mr. Bassani moved to adopt a RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PRIME PAY AS ADMINISTRATOR OF THE MUNICIPALITY'S SECTION 125 - FLEXIBLE SPENDING ACCOUNTS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE REGULATIONS PROMULGATED BY CHAPTER 78 OF THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY:

WHEREAS, the Township of Wantage (hereinafter, the municipality) provides an Employee Health Benefits Program for eligible employees and their eligible dependents; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 78 of the laws of the State of New Jersey requires public entities to implement a Section 125 - Flexible Spending Accounts (FSA's) program in accordance with the rules promulgated by the United Sates Internal Revenue Service; and

WHEREAS, the Municipality's Benefits Consultant has performed due diligence and researched the marketplace for firms specializing in the administration of FSA's and developed a due diligence compliance report which quantifies the services provided by each potential firm, such work product made a part of this Resolution.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Committee of the Township of Wantage, County of Sussex, State of New Jersey, in accordance with the due diligence performed by the Municipal Administrative Team and the Municipal Benefits Consultant, the firm of Prime Pay is hereby appointed as Administrator for the Municipality's Section 125 - Flexible Spending Account, effective upon passage of this Resolution for a January 1, 2012 effective date; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Administrative Officer is hereby authorized to execute all documents necessary for the implementation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, a certified copy of this Resolution shall be provided to the Municipal Finance Officer, Auditor and PIA Security Programs, Inc., 429 Hackensack Street, Carlstadt, NJ 07072, Benefits Consultant to the Municipality.

Mr. Gaechter seconded the motion. Upon roll call,

Ayes: Gaechter, DeBoer, Bassani Nays: None Absent: None Abstain: None

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NEW BUSINESS

Final Adoption of Ordinance 2011-12: Solar Energy Ordinance

<u>Mr. Gaechter</u> moved to adopt on final reading, Ordinance 2011-12 entitled "AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 13 OF THE COMPREHENSIVE LAND USE ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE TO PERMIT AND REGULATE MINOR SOLAR ENERGY SYSTEMS AND TO ALLOW MAJOR SOLAR ENERGY SYSTEMS AS A CONDITIONALLY PERMITTED USE". Mr. Bassani seconded the motion. Prior to roll call, <u>Mayor DeBoer</u> opened the meeting to the public for any questions or comments with respect to this proposed Ordinance.

Mr. William Gettler, Gemmer Road, presented concerns with respect to the proposed ordinance being given consideration, including references to distributed solar energy systems, repetition of subsection numbering in Ordinance 2011-12 and 2011-13, maximum size of systems and their impact on sunny days, ground-mounted versus roof-mounted systems, labeling, the requirement for a 90 day time period provided within the ordinance, the involvement of the construction official in the process, the prohibition against front yard locations, the Zoning Officer's involvement in the process, a reference to "as set forth below" in the ordinance which Mr. Gettler claimed then has nothing set forth below. The members of the governing body and Mr. Garofalo offered responses to Mr. Gettler's observations and comments.

When Mr. Gettler's input and observations had continued for 18 minutes, with no end in sight to the observations and comments being offered, Mr. Garofalo suggested that the governing body could if they so choose, take the position of proceeding with consideration of adoption for this ordinance at this time, and invite Mr. Gettler to submit his comments and observations in writing. Mr. Garofalo pointed out that a number of Mr. Gettler's observations fall under the category of adjustments that can be made during the codification phase of an adopted ordinance without impacting the basic integrity of the ordinance as adopted. Mr. Doherty stated that any of Mr. Gettler's comments or observations which would involve a substantive change to the ordinance, could then be presented to the governing body for consideration of amendment thereafter without holding up the adoption of a time sensitive item of regulation. The members of the governing body expressed general consensus that this would be an appropriate course of action to follow, and invited Mr. Gettler to submit his observations and comments in writing.

Mr. Gettler declined to do so.

Mayor DeBoer asked if anyone else had any questions or comments regarding this proposed Ordinance.

Mr. Douglas Ricker, Beemer Road, offered comments regarding the fencing in of systems. Mr. Gaechter offered a response to this observation. Mr. Ricker then asked if this ordinance would allow solar farms to exist in Wantage. The members of the governing body explained that this was, in fact, one of the main purposes of the ordinance, to regulate such projects.

There being no one else present wishing to address the governing body on this proposed Ordinance, <u>Mayor DeBoer</u> requested a roll call on the motion. Upon roll call, Ayes: Gaechter, DeBoer, Bassani Nays: None Absent: None Abstain: None

Final Adoption of Ordinance 2011-13: Wind Energy Ordinance

<u>Mr. Gaechter</u> moved to adopt on final reading, Ordinance 2011-13 entitled "AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 13 OF THE COMPREHENSIVE LAND USE ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE TO PERMIT AND REGULATE SMALL WIND ENERGY SYSTEMS AS A CONDITIONALLY PERMITTED USE". Mr. Bassani seconded the motion. Prior to roll call, <u>Mayor DeBoer</u> opened the meeting to the public for any questions or comments with respect to this proposed Ordinance.

Mr. Gettler stated his belief that this ordinance was full of problems.

Mr. Ricker expressed concern regarding large propellers.

There being no one else present wishing to address the governing body on this proposed Ordinance, <u>Mayor DeBoer</u> requested a roll call on the motion. Upon roll call, Ayes: Gaechter, DeBoer, Bassani Nays: None Absent: None Abstain: None

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NEW BUSINESS, continued

Final Adoption of Ordinance 2011-15: Salary Amendment

<u>Mr. Bassani</u> moved to adopt on final reading, Ordinance 2011-15 entitled "ORDINANCE FIXING THE SALARIES OF OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE, COUNTY OF SUSSEX AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY, FOR THE YEAR 2011 and 2012".

Mr. Gaechter seconded the motion. Prior to roll call, <u>Mayor DeBoer</u> opened the meeting to the public for any questions or comments with respect to this proposed Ordinance. There being no one present wishing to address the governing body on this proposed Ordinance, Mayor DeBoer closed the meeting to the public and requested a roll call vote. Upon roll call,

Ayes: Gaechter, DeBoer, Bassani Nays: None Absent: None Abstain: None

Final Adoption of Ordinance 2011-16: Wood Burning Stove Ordinance

<u>Mr. Bassani</u> moved to adopt on final reading, Ordinance 2011-16 entitled "AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 13 OF THE COMPREHENSIVE LAND USE ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE TO PERMIT AND REGULATE OUTDOOR WOOD BURNING FURNACES", with a final hearing date scheduled for December 8, 2011.

Mr. Gaechter seconded the motion. Prior to roll call, <u>Mayor DeBoer</u> opened the meeting to the public for any questions or comments with respect to this proposed Ordinance.

Rudy solar, Mt. Salem Road, expressed the opinion that the proposed ordinance was not needed; expressed opposition to the proposed 300 foot from property line restriction, objected to the removal of any existing stove, expressed opposition to the 10-acre requirement; and objected to the proposed dates for seasonal use of the outdoor stoves.

<u>Mr. Gaechter</u> explained that any existing outdoor stoves are grandfathered. The governing body members expressed consensus for removing the words "authorized installer", and Mr. Garofalo confirmed that doing so represents a minor variation in the proposed ordinance which does not affect the integrity of the adoption process this evening. The members of the governing body stated that any applicant who has a good case to present regarding any of Mr. Solar's expressed concerns always has the option of seeking a variance before the Land Use Board.

Mr. Ricker stated his agreement with Mr. Solar's comments.

Mr. Gettler expressed his dislike for the proposed ordinance. Mr. Gettler stated his belief that regulating against the burning of "resin" compromises the ability of any person to use an outdoor stove. Mr. Gettler also expressed concern regarding wording in the ordinance as it relates to wood pellets use.

Mr. Gaechter expressed disagreement with Mr. Gettler's interpretation of the proposed ordinance.

There being no one else present wishing to address the governing body on this proposed ordinance, <u>Mayor DeBoer</u> closed the meeting to the public and requested a roll call vote. Upon roll call, Ayes: Gaechter, DeBoer, Bassani Nays: None Absent: None Abstain: None

Approval of Minutes: <u>Mr. Bassani</u> moved to approve the minutes of the Regular and Executive session minutes of the Wantage governing body meeting held on November 10, 2011. Mr. Gaechter seconded the motion. Upon roll call, Ayes: Gaechter, DeBoer, Bassani Nays: None Absent: None Abstain: None

OPEN PUBLIC SESSION

<u>Mayor DeBoer</u> opened the meeting to the public at this time, for any questions or comments involving the good and welfare of the community.

Mr. Solar asked if the members of the governing body were aware of a meeting being held on Monday at High Point Regional High School regarding use of school budget surplus.

The members of the governing body indicated they were indeed aware of that meeting.

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Mr. Edward Mainardi and Mr. Jim Mainardi, representing Laser One, inquired regarding the Township's position on "Bring Your Own Bottle" for the restaurant/food handling function of their operation.

<u>Mayor DeBoer</u> stated that as Mayor, he could take no formal position in favor of, or against, such an operation. <u>Mr. Gaechter</u> observed that the proposed course of action is allowable under the law, based on input received from the Township Attorney, but beyond that it was not proper for the governing body to discuss or weigh in on the topic.

Mr. Mainardi thanked the governing body for their time.

Mr. Doug Ricker offered his congratulations to Duce Tallamy, and asked if the Township offered similar recognition to previous Wantage farmers who have won this award. Mr. Doherty confirmed that such recognition has indeed been offered to all Wantage farmers who have received the Outstanding Young Farmer designation.

Mr. Gettler offered a reminder of a Tea Party meeting that was upcoming; offered observations and concerns regarding fees associated with installation of sprinkler systems in residences; and reiterated the comment by Mr. Solar regarding a meeting at High Point High School on Monday. Mr. Gettler offered comments regarding his analysis of school finances, and tax burden versus surplus utilization.

Mayor DeBoer stated that a prior commitment with the First Aid Squad will prevent him from attending the Monday meeting at the high school, but stated his belief the excess in surplus should be returned to the taxpayers.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

<u>Mr. Gaechter</u> moved to enter into closed executive session as follows:

WHEREAS, the Open Public Meetings Act, P. L. 1975, Chapter 231 permits the exclusion of the public from a meeting in certain circumstances; and
WHEREAS, this public body is of the opinion that such circumstances presently exist;
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Committee of the Township of Wantage, that the public shall be excluded from discussion of the following matters:
Matters falling within the attorney-client privilege; and Negotiations
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, Minutes will be kept on file in the municipal clerk's office, and once the matter involving the confidentiality of the above no longer requires that confidentiality, then the minutes shall be made public.

Mr. Bassani seconded the motion. Upon roll call, Ayes: Bassani, Gaechter, DeBoer Nays: None Absent: None Abstain: None

After meeting in closed executive session, <u>Mr. Bassani</u> moved to return to open session and continue with the regular course of action. Mr. Gaechter seconded the motion. Upon roll call, Ayes: Bassani, Gaechter, DeBoer Nays: None Absent: None Abstain: None

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further items for the attention of the governing body, <u>Mr. Bassani</u> moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Gaechter seconded the motion. Upon roll call, Ayes: Bassani, Gaechter, DeBoer Nays: None Absent: None Abstain: None

Mayor DeBoer declared this meeting adjourned.

James R. Doherty, Municipal Clerk