

**MINUTES FOR THE ORGANIZATION 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., ON JANUARY 8, 2015**

Administrator Clerk Jim Doherty called the meeting to order.

OATH OF OFFICE

Administrator Clerk James Doherty read the "Statement of Determination" of the Board of County Canvassers, for the Election held on November 4, 2014.

Mr. Doherty administered the Oath of Office to Committeeman-elect Jon Morris for a three-year term as Committee Member of the Township of Wantage.

ROLL CALL OF TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEMBERS FOR THE YEAR 2015

Present: William Gaechter, Ronald Bassani, Jonathan Morris

Absent: None

4. COMMITTEE APPOINTMENT: MAYOR FOR THE YEAR 2015

Mr. Doherty opened the floor for Committee nominations to the position of Mayor for 2015.

Mr. Bassani moved to name William Gaechter as Mayor for 2015. Mr. Morris seconded the motion. Upon Roll call,

Aye: Bassani, Morris, Gaechter Nays: None Absent: None Abstain: None

Mayor Gaechter assumed the Mayor's seat, at this time.

OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT COMPLIANCE

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

FLAG SALUTE

Mayor Gaechter invited all persons present to participate in the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States Flag.

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENT: DEPUTY MAYOR FOR THE YEAR 2015

Mayor Gaechter opened the floor for Committee nominations to the position of Deputy Mayor for 2015.

Mr. Morris moved to name Ronald Bassani as Deputy Mayor for 2015. Mayor Gaechter seconded the motion. Upon Roll call,

Aye: Morris, Gaechter, Bassani Nays: None Absent: None Abstain: None

PRESENTATIONS

On behalf of the 2015 Governing Body, Mayor Gaechter offered a token of appreciation to 2014 Mayor Bill DeBoer for his years of service to the Wantage Community.

All persons present joined in a round of applause for Mr. DeBoer.

On behalf of the 2015 Governing Body, Mayor Gaechter offered an Expression of Appreciation and Recognition to Justin Sudol for his life-saving actions on the date of October 22, 2014 when he responded to an accident on Route 628 in Wantage.

All persons present joined in a round of applause for Mr. Sudol.

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BOARDS, COMMISSIONS, AND COMMITTEES

LAND USE BOARD

Mayor Gaechter announced appointments to the Land Use Board, as follows:

Bill Gaechter, Class I member, for a term running thru 12/31/15
Patrick Stefanelli, Class II member, for a term running thru 12/31/15
Bill DeBoer, Alternate #1, for a term running thru 12/31/16
Bill Semmens, Alternate #2, for a term running thru 12/31/15

Mayor Gaechter opened the floor to the Committee, for the Class III appointment to the Land Use Board, for a one-year term running through 12/31/15.

Mr. Morris moved to name Ronald Bassani as Land Use Board Member Class III for 2015.

Mayor Gaechter seconded the motion. Upon Roll call,

Aye: Morris, Gaechter, Bassani Nays: None Absent: None Abstain: None

BOARD OF RECREATION COMMISSIONERS

Mayor Gaechter announced appointments to the Board of Recreation Commissioners, as follows:

Greg Williams, for a term running thru 12/31/19
Christy Tuper, for a term running thru 12/31/19

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

Mayor Gaechter made known his nominations for appointment to the various boards, agencies and commissions of the Township, as follows:

BOARD OF HEALTH

Linda Kelly, Regular member, for a term running thru 12/31/19

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Emergency Management Coordinator	Joseph Konopinski	thru 12/31/17
Deputy Coordinator #1	Edward Vander Berg	thru 12/31/15
Deputy Coordinator #2	Thomas Madsen	thru 12/31/15
F.A.S., EMC member	Stan Gardner	thru 12/31/15
F.A.S., EMC Alternate	Rich Stickle	thru 12/31/15
Damage Assessment	Patrick Stefanelli	thru 12/31/15
Fire Chief, EMC member	Larry Bono	thru 12/31/15
Facilities, EMC Member	Amy Heater	thru 12/31/15
Communications, EMC Member	William Gebhart	thru 12/31/15
Communications, EMC Member	Michael Puskas Sr.	thru 12/31/15
DPW Supt., EMC Member	Claude Wagner	thru 12/31/15
Sanitarian, EMC Member	Michael Plaza	thru 12/31/15
Finance/Resource Mgt., EMC Member	Michelle La Starza	thru 12/31/15
Resource Management	Jon Morris	thru 12/31/15
Mayor, EMC Member	TBA	thru 12/31/15
Public Information Officer	James Doherty	thru 12/31/15
Media	New Jersey Herald	thru 12/31/15
Evacuation	Leroy Little	thru 12/31/15
Operations, EMC Member	Donald Slate	thru 12/31/15
Operations, EMC Member	John Du Pont	thru 12/31/15
Operations, EMC Member	Leo Kinney	thru 12/31/15

Mr. Bassani moved to confirm the Mayor's nominations, as shown above. Mr. Morris seconded the motion. Upon Roll call,

Aye: Morris, Gaechter, Bassani Nays: None Absent: None Abstain: None

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PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

Mayor Gaechter offered his nominations for professional appointments of the Township in 2015, as follows:

Township Attorney:	Glenn Kienz	thru 12/31/15
Township Bond Counsel:	Edward McManimon	thru 12/31/15
Township Auditor:	Thomas Ferry	thru 12/31/15
Township Architect:	Charles Schaffer	thru 12/31/15
Township Prosecutor:	William Haggerty	thru 12/31/15
Township Engineer:	Harold Pellow	thru 12/31/15
Township Public Defender:	James P. Sloan	thru 12/31/15

Mr. Bassani moved to confirm the Mayor's nominations, as shown above. Mr. Morris seconded the motion. Upon Roll call,

Aye: Morris, Gaechter, Bassani Nays: None Absent: None Abstain: None

MAYOR'S APPOINTMENTS

At this time, Mayor Gaechter presented his nominations for appointment to the various positions of Township Government for the year 2015, as follows:

Subdivision Approval Certification Officer:	James R. Doherty
Recycling Coordinator:	James R. Doherty
Principal Public Works Manager:	James R. Doherty
Assessment Search Officer:	James R. Doherty
Qualified Purchasing Agent:	James R. Doherty
Municipal Affordable Housing Liaison:	James R. Doherty
Public Agency Compliance Officer for Affirmative Action:	James R. Doherty
Municipal Chief Finance Officer: – 4 year apt thru 12/31/15	Michelle LaStarza
PERS/PFRS Certifying Agent:	Michelle LaStarza
Tax Search Officer:	Melissa Caton
Tax Collector for 4 year term effective 1/1/15	Melissa Caton
Animal Control Officer:	John Abate
Risk Management Consultant – Health Benefits:	Frank Covelli, PIA
Risk Management Consultant – Statewide Insurance Fund:	Scott Readlinger, HUB
Emergency 911 Coordinator:	Joseph Konopinski

Mr. Bassani moved to confirm the Mayor's nominations, as shown above. Mr. Morris seconded the motion. Upon Roll call,

Aye: Morris, Gaechter, Bassani Nays: None Absent: None Abstain: None

OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

At this time, Mayor Gaechter presented his nominations for appointment of members to the 2015 Open Space Advisory Committee of Wantage Township:

Mr. Ronald Bassani, 6 Roberts Way
Mr. Scott Sargent, 50 Dyer Road
Mr. Rudy Solar, 152 Mount Salem Road
Mr. Thomas P. Davis, 63 Walnut Street
Ms. Diane Snure, 150 Mt. Salem Road
Mr. Kenneth Nelson, 2 Volcanic Hill Road
Mr. Douglas Ricker, Beemer Road
Mr. Patrick Stefanelli, 168 Clove Road

Mr. Bassani moved to confirm the Mayor's nominations, as shown above. Mr. Morris seconded the motion. Upon Roll call,

Aye: Morris, Gaechter, Bassani Nays: None Absent: None Abstain: None

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RECOGNITION OF LINE OFFICERS

Fire Department

At this time, Mayor Gaechter introduced Fire Chief Larry Bono, who recognized the 2015 Line Officers of the Wantage Township Fire Department:

Larry Bono Department Chief
Justin Vander Groef Deputy Chief – Beemerville Co. 1
Mark Snook Captain - Beemerville Co. 1
Charlie Rokosny 1st Lieutenant - Beemerville Co. 1
Griff Adkins 2nd Lieutenant – Beemerville Co. 1
Alex Rubin Deputy Chief – Colesville Co. 2
Scott Paladino Captain – Colesville Co. 2
Todd Tarrant – 1st Lieutenant Colesville Co. 2
Steve Merck – 2nd Lieutenant Colesville Co. 2
Joe Marrocco – Fire Police Captain
Joe Vallone – Fire police Lieutenant
Harry Festa – Safety Officer
John Cannici – Safety Officer

Mr. Doherty administered the Oath of Office to the above-named line officers.

First Aid Squad

At this time, Mayor Gaechter introduced First Aid Squad Captain Rich Stickle, who introduced First Aid Squad Line Officers Bill DeBoer and Joe Martin.

Mr. Doherty administered the Oath of Office to the above-named line officers.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Gaechter requested that the Committee review the Consent Agenda. There being no member of the governing body who wished an item on the consent agenda to be discussed or considered separately, Mayor Gaechter requested approval of the Consent Agenda.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES RESOLUTIONS

Mr. Bassani moved to adopt a Professional Services Resolution, as follows:

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5 et. seq. Allows for a municipality to award a contract without public advertising for bids and bidding thereof under certain circumstances, and
WHEREAS, the Township has a need for assistance during the course of this calendar year involving various professional services, and
WHEREAS, the services being solicited are essential to the security of the community, and
WHEREAS, the contract award for these services complies with requirements set forth by N.J.S.A.19:44A-20.4 et seq., as shown on the attached Pay to Play Compliance Statement; and
WHEREAS, the governing body of the Township of Wantage is of the opinion that the circumstances for professional service contractual arrangements, as required by NJSA 40A:11-5(1) are satisfied in this situation,
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Committee of the Township of Wantage, in the County of Sussex, New Jersey, that the following contracts be and they are hereby approved without the need for public advertisement of bids and bidding thereof:

Awarded to: Glenn Kienz, of the law firm Weiner Lesniak of Parsippany, NJ
Services: Township Attorney
Duration: calendar year of 2015
Amount: Varies based on service per fee schedule attached to contract

Awarded to: Edward McManimon, of the law firm McManimon & Scotland of Newark, NJ
Services: Township Bond Counsel.
Duration: calendar year of 2015.
Amount: Varies based on service per fee schedule attached to contract

Awarded to: Harold E. Pellow of the Firm of Harold E. Pellow and Associates, of Augusta, N.J.
Services: Township Engineer.
Duration: calendar year of 2015.
Amount: Varies based on service per fee schedule attached to contract

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Awarded to: Thomas Ferry, of the Accounting & Auditing firm
Ferraioli, Wielkotz, Cerullo & Cuva of Newton, N.J.
Services: Township Auditor.
Duration: calendar year of 2015.
Amount: Varies based on service per fee schedule attached to contract

Awarded to: William Haggerty, of the law firm Dolan & Dolan of Newton, N.J.
Services: Township Prosecutor.
Duration: calendar year of 2015.
Amount: Varies based on service per fee schedule attached to contract

Awarded to: James Sloan, Esq., of Allamuchy, N.J.
Services: Public Defender
Duration: calendar year of 2015.
Amount: Based on 2015 Contract

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, in accordance with the requirements of N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5, the Township Clerk is hereby directed to post a copy of this resolution on the bulletin board of the Township Hall, and publish a brief public notice stating the nature, duration, service and amount of the contracts herein awarded, and stating that said contract and this resolution are on file and available for public inspection in the office of the Municipal Clerk.

Mr. Morris seconded the motion. Upon Roll call,

Aye: Morris, Gaechter, Bassani Nays: None Absent: None Abstain: None

TEMPORARY BUDGET

Mr. Bassani moved to adopt the 2015 local temporary budget for the Township of Wantage, as per the attached resolution.

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-1 et seq. deals with state regulation of local budget matters and these regulations require a temporary budget be adopted covering the first quarter of the fiscal year, and

WHEREAS, the total appropriations exclusive of capital improvements, debt service, deferred charges and reserve for uncollected taxes amounted to \$3,870,272 in the 2014 municipal budget,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the governing body of the Township of Wantage, County of Sussex, State of New Jersey that the 2015 temporary budget be and it is hereby adopted in the amount of \$322,522 per month until such time as the 2015 budget is finally adopted.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the governing body of the Township of Wantage, County of Sussex, State of New Jersey that the 2015 temporary Water/Sewer budget be adopted in the amount of \$11,046 per month until such time as the 2015 budget is finally adopted.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the governing body of the Township of Wantage, County of Sussex, State of New Jersey that the 2015 temporary Open Space budget be adopted in the amount of \$5,021 per month until such time as the 2015 budget is finally adopted.

Mr. Morris seconded the motion. Upon Roll call,

Aye: Morris, Gaechter, Bassani Nays: None Absent: None Abstain: None

RATES OF INTEREST

Mr. Bassani moved to adopt a resolution to establish the rate of interest as per the following resolution:

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 54:4-67 permits the governing body of each municipality to fix the rate of interest to be charged for non-payment of taxes or assessments subject to any abatement or discount for the late payment of taxes as provided by law; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 54:4-67 has been amended to permit the fixing of said rate of 8% per annum on the first \$1,500.00 of the delinquency and 18% per annum on any amount in excess of \$1,500.00, and allows an additional penalty of 6% to be collected against a delinquency in excess of \$10,000.00 on properties that fail to pay the delinquency prior to the end of the calendar year;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Committee of the Township of Wantage, in the County of Sussex, New Jersey, as follows:

1. The Tax Collector is hereby authorized and directed to charge 8% per annum on the first \$1,500.00 of taxes becoming delinquent after due date and 18% per annum on any amount of taxes in excess of \$1,500.00, becoming delinquent after the due date, and if the total amount due on December 31, is in excess of \$10,000.00, an additional penalty of 6% shall be charged against the delinquency.
2. There will be a ten (10) day grace period for quarterly tax payments. However, any payments not paid within the ten day grace period will be charged interest from the due date.

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3. The Tax Collector is hereby authorized to proceed in accordance with N.J.S.A. 54:4-123, "Receiver of Rents and Income from Real Property in the Municipality for Collection and Satisfaction of Delinquent Taxes", as provided by statute, for collection of delinquent taxes.
4. The Township Clerk shall provide a certified copy of this resolution to the Tax Collector, Township Attorney, and Township Auditor for the Township of Wantage.

Mr. Morris seconded the motion. Upon Roll call,

Aye: Morris, Gaechter, Bassani Nays: None Absent: None Abstain: None

OVERPAYMENT/UNDERPAYMENT OF TAXES

Mr. Bassani moved to adopt a motion to authorize the Tax Collector to cancel of record any overpayment or underpayment of taxes and utilities in the amount of \$10.00 or less for the calendar year 2015, in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A 40A: 5-17.1.

Mr. Morris seconded the motion. Upon Roll call,

Aye: Morris, Gaechter, Bassani Nays: None Absent: None Abstain: None

CASH MANAGEMENT PLAN

Mr. Bassani moved to adopt the Cash Management Plan of the Township of Wantage for 2015.

Mr. Morris seconded the motion. Upon Roll call,

Aye: Morris, Gaechter, Bassani Nays: None Absent: None Abstain: None

OFFICIAL DEPOSITORIES

Mr. Bassani moved to designate banks as the Official Depositories for Township funds in 2015.

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Committee of the Township of Wantage, in the County of Sussex, New Jersey, that the following Banks be and they are hereby designated as depositories for the funds of the Township of Wantage for the calendar year 2015:

New Jersey Cash Management Fund
Chase Bank
Sussex Bank
TD Securities (USA) LLC
Lakeland State Bank
Commerce Bank
Oppenheimer & Co., Inc.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Chief Finance Officer of the Township of Wantage be and she is hereby authorized to invest and reinvest the Township's Funds in the above-designated official depositories, in accordance with the statutory duties of the office of Chief Finance Officer and the Municipal Ordinances governing said duties.

Mr. Morris seconded the motion. Upon Roll call,

Aye: Morris, Gaechter, Bassani Nays: None Absent: None Abstain: None

MEETING DATES

Mr. Bassani moved to establish the regular meeting nights of the Mayor and Committee for calendar year 2015, as follows:

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**MAYOR AND COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE
SCHEDULE OF 2015 MEETINGS AND FIRST 2016 REGULAR MEETING**

LOCATION: Wantage Township Municipal Building, 888 State Route 23, Wantage, New Jersey 07461

<u>DATE:</u>	<u>TYPE OF MEETING</u>	<u>TIME</u>
January 8, 2015	Organization Meeting Regular Meeting	7:00 p.m. immediately thereafter.
January 15, 2015	Budget Work Session	9:00 a.m.
January 22, 2015	Budget Work Session	9:00 a.m.
January 29, 2015	Regular Meeting	7:00 p.m.
February 12, 2015	Regular Meeting	7:00 p.m.
February 26, 2015	Regular Meeting	7:00 p.m.
March 12, 2015	Regular Meeting	7:00 p.m.
March 26, 2015	Regular Meeting	7:00 p.m.
April 9, 2015	Regular Meeting	7:00 p.m.
April 30, 2015	Regular Meeting	7:00 p.m.
May 14, 2015	Regular Meeting	7:00 p.m.
May 28, 2015	Regular Meeting	7:00 p.m.
June 11, 2015	Regular Meeting	7:00 p.m.
June 25, 2015	Regular Meeting	7:00 p.m.
July 9, 2015	Regular Meeting	7:00 p.m.
August 13, 2015	Regular Meeting	7:00 p.m.
September 10, 2015	Regular Meeting	7:00 p.m.
September 24, 2015	Regular Meeting	7:00 p.m.
October 8, 2015	Regular Meeting	7:00 p.m.
October 29, 2015	Regular Meeting	7:00 p.m.
November 12, 2015	Regular Meeting	7:00 p.m.
December 10, 2015	Regular Meeting	7:00 p.m.
Thursday, January 7, 2016	Organization Meeting Regular Meeting - immediately following Organization Meeting	7:00 p.m.

Mr. Morris seconded the motion. Upon Roll call,

Aye: Morris, Gaechter, Bassani Nays: None Absent: None Abstain: None

OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT COMPLIANCE

Mr. Bassani moved to adopt a resolution of compliance with the Provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act for 2015, as per the attached text of resolution.

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Committee of the Township of Wantage desire to continue to keep the public informed of its activities and comply with the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq.,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,

- (A) The Mayor and Committee of the Township of Wantage, in the County of Sussex, New Jersey, hereby announce that they shall hold their regular 2015 meetings and the 2016 Organization Meeting at the Municipal Building, 888 State Highway Route 23, in the Township of Wantage at the dates and times set forth on the schedule attached hereto and made a part hereof.
- (B) The newspapers, to which all notices required by the aforesaid Act are to be sent, shall be the New Jersey Herald, and the Newark Star Ledger.
- (C) The public place at which all notices shall be posted shall be the bulletin board situated in the Wantage Municipal Building.

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- (D) Any person requesting copies of any regular meeting schedule or revision and any advance written notice of any regular, special or rescheduled meeting, in accordance with the aforesaid act, shall be charged in accordance with the existing fee schedule of the Township of Wantage for each and every notice to be so mailed. No notice shall be mailed to any person unless prepayment of the aforesaid annual charge has been received. The Clerk, upon request for notice of regular and special meeting shall estimate the number of special meetings to be called, based on the previous year, and require of person(s) seeking notice, to deposit the appropriate sum with the Clerk. If said sum be expended at the rate set forth, applicants will be requested by the Township Clerk to deposit a reasonable sum for additional notices. No refunds will be made of unexpended amounts. Notwithstanding the foregoing, any notices requested by the news media shall be mailed to the news media, free of charge.
- (E) The rules of procedure by which this body operates are hereby amended to provide that at the commencement of every meeting, the presiding person shall announce publicly, and shall cause to be entered in the Minutes, a statement to the effect that adequate notice of the meeting has been provided, specifying the time, place and manner in which such notice was provided; or, if adequate notice was not provided, the nature of the urgency and importance of the matter to be discussed and the substantial harm to the public interest likely to result in the event of a delay; that the meeting will be limited to discussion of such matter of urgency and importance; the time, place and manner in which notice of the meeting was provided; and either that the need for such a meeting could not reasonably have been foreseen at the time when adequate notice could have been provided and specifying the reason why such could not have been foreseen or alternately that such need could have reasonably been foreseen at a time when adequate notice could have been provided, that such notice was not provided and the reason therefore.
- (F) The Clerk shall forthwith post a copy of this resolution and schedule included herewith upon the bulletin board of the Municipal Building and transmits copies thereof to the newspapers designated herein.

Mr. Morris seconded the motion. Upon Roll call,

Aye: Morris, Gaechter, Bassani Nays: None Absent: None Abstain: None

OFFICIAL SIGNATORIES

Mr. Bassani moved to adopt a resolution establishing the Mayor and/or Deputy Mayor, Administrator Clerk, and Township Chief Finance Officer as the authorized individuals for withdrawal of funds from Township Depositories.

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Committee of the Township of Wantage, in the County of Sussex, New Jersey, that the following Township Officials are hereby designated as those authorized to sign checks and warrants for the withdrawal of funds from the official depositories of the Township of Wantage for the year 2015:

Mayor William Gaechter and/or Deputy Mayor Ronald Bassani
Administrator Clerk James Doherty
Chief Finance Officer Michelle La Starza

Mr. Morris seconded the motion. Upon Roll call,

Aye: Morris, Gaechter, Bassani Nays: None Absent: None Abstain: None

OFFICIAL NEWSPAPERS

Mr. Bassani moved to designate the New Jersey Herald, the New Jersey Sunday Herald, and the Newark Star Ledger as official newspapers of the Township of Wantage for the year 2015.

Mr. Morris seconded the motion. Upon Roll call,

Aye: Morris, Gaechter, Bassani Nays: None Absent: None Abstain: None

DEFENSE AGAINST TAX APPEALS

Mr. Bassani moved to authorize the Township Attorney and the Township Tax Assessor to defend the Township of Wantage against all tax appeals filed during calendar year 2015.

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Committee of the Township of Wantage, in the County of Sussex, New Jersey, that the Township Attorney Glenn Kienz, and the Township Tax Assessor Kristy Lockburner, be and they are hereby officially authorized to represent the Township of Wantage for Tax Appeals filed for 2015, for the purpose of correcting the Township of Wantage Tax List including but not limited to rollback complaints, added and omitted assessment complaints, and such other appeals as are necessary to correct the assessment for the Township of Wantage,

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Township Attorney and the Township Tax Assessor be and they are hereby designated as the agents of the Township of Wantage for the purpose of entering into and signing settlements of the foregoing matters by stipulation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Township Attorney and the Township Tax Assessor shall be compensated for their services in the defense and representation of the Township, with respect to Tax Appeals filed for 2015, in accordance with the existing employment contract on file for the Township Attorney and Township Tax Assessor, respectively, in effect for calendar year 2015.

Mr. Morris seconded the motion. Upon Roll call,

Aye: Morris, Gaechter, Bassani Nays: None Absent: None Abstain: None

ESTABLISHING LEGAL HOLIDAYS

Mr. Bassani moved to establish the Legal Holidays to be observed within the Township of Wantage for calendar year 2015.

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township Of Wantage, that the following dates shall be recognized as official Township Holidays for calendar year 2015, during which municipal offices shall be closed to the public in recognition of the said Holidays:

Thursday, January 1, 2015	New Year's Day
Monday, January 19, 2015:	Martin Luther King Jr. Day
Monday, February 16, 2015:	President's Day
Friday, April 3, 2015:	Good Friday
Monday, May 25, 2015:	Memorial Day
Friday, July 3, 2015:	Independence Day (Recognized)
Monday, September 7, 2015:	Labor Day
Wednesday, November 11, 2015:	Veterans Day
Thursday, November 26, 2015:	Thanksgiving Day
Friday, November 27, 2015:	Day after Thanksgiving
Thursday, December 24, 2015	Christmas Eve
Friday, December 25, 2015:	Christmas

Mr. Morris seconded the motion. Upon Roll call,

Aye: Morris, Gaechter, Bassani Nays: None Absent: None Abstain: None

ACCEPTING INSURANCE BONDS

Mr. Bassani moved to approve the Insurance Bonds for various municipal officials and the Blanket Bond covering all Bondable officials for calendar year 2015.

Mr. Morris seconded the motion. Upon Roll call,

Aye: Morris, Gaechter, Bassani Nays: None Absent: None Abstain: None

AUTHORIZING PURCHASING AUTHORITY OF THE ADMINISTRATOR CLERK

Mr. Bassani moved to authorize the Administrator Clerk, as the Qualified Purchasing Agent, to have discretionary spending authority of up to \$5,000 on any given purchase or project during calendar year 2015, with any proposed expenditure above this amount being brought to the governing body for authorization prior to the issuance of a purchase order.

Mr. Morris seconded the motion. Upon Roll call,

Aye: Morris, Gaechter, Bassani Nays: None Absent: None Abstain: None

NAMING STATEWIDE INSURANCE FUND REPRESENTATIVE

Mr. Bassani moved to confirm the Administrator Clerk as the Wantage Township Commissioner for the Statewide Insurance Fund for calendar year 2015.

Mr. Morris seconded the motion. Upon Roll call,

Aye: Morris, Gaechter, Bassani Nays: None Absent: None Abstain: None

NAMING SAFETY/LOSS PREVENTION REPRESENTATIVE

Mr. Bassani moved to confirm the Administrator Clerk as the Wantage Township Safety & Loss Prevention Representative for the Statewide Insurance Fund for calendar year 2015.

Mr. Morris seconded the motion. Upon Roll call,

Aye: Morris, Gaechter, Bassani Nays: None Absent: None Abstain: None

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AUTHORIZING THE TREASURER TO PAY BILLS BETWEEN MEETINGS

Mr. Bassani moved to authorize the Treasurer to pay bills involving statutory requirements and contractual obligations, as of their due dates, rather than waiting until the next available regularly scheduled meeting.

WHEREAS, all claims of payment by the Township Of Wantage, County of Sussex, State of New Jersey, are required to be first submitted to the Township Committee for consideration before payment is made, and

WHEREAS, due to the nature of certain claims, and timing of the particular meeting involved, certain claims should be paid when presented which are statutory and regular in nature, rather than held for the next meeting of the Township Committee due to the nature of said bills,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township Of Wantage, as follows:

1. The Township Of Wantage does hereby approve of the payment between meetings of the following enumerated claims for payment, when the same are presented to the Township Committee and Chief Finance Officer of the Township Of Wantage:
 - a. Township of Wantage payroll accounts and payroll agency accounts
 - b. Sussex/Wantage Regional Board of Education
 - c. High Point Regional High School
 - d. Sussex County Treasurer (County Taxes only)
 - e. Banks for investment purposes, interfund transfers, and/or debt service payment
 - f. Township Attorney (normal monthly billings)
 - g. Township Auditor (normal monthly billings)
 - h. Land Use Board Attorney (normal monthly billings)
 - i. Township Prosecutor (normal monthly billings)
 - j. Telephone Utility Companies (normal monthly billings)
 - k. Health Benefits premiums and Dental Insurance premiums
 - l. Life Insurance premiums
 - m. U.S. Postmaster and/or Sussex/Wantage Postmaster
 - n. Electric Utility Companies (normal monthly billings)
 - o. Petty Cash
 - p. Insurance Advisors and Premiums
 - q. Reissue of checks after a stop payment has been enforced
 - r. Sussex County – Permit Fees and Application Fees
 - s. 10% Bid Bond Returns
 - t. Sussex County Municipal Utilities Authority bills
 - u. State of New Jersey – Application Fees, Permit Fees, NJDEP License Fees, State Surcharges
 - v. Payments to Contractors of Capital Projects including those subject to Prompt Payment of Construction Contracts Legislation, P.L.2006, c.96.
 - w. COAH / Affordable Housing Contractual invoices
2. That the Chief Finance Officer be and she is hereby authorized and directed to prepare the proper vouchers for payment of the above recited accounts when the same is properly presented to her for payment, and that thereafter said clam shall be listed on the List of Bills to be approved by the Township Committee.
3. A certified copy of this resolution shall be forwarded to the Chief Finance Officer and to the Township Auditor of the Township Of Wantage.

Mr. Morris seconded the motion. Upon Roll call,

Aye: Morris, Gaechter, Bassani Nays: None Absent: None Abstain: None

MAYOR'S STATEMENT

Mayor Gaechter addressed the Committee and the public with remarks concerning priorities and goals for the Township of Wantage in 2015. Mayor Gaechter welcomed Mr. Morris to the governing body, and offered his thanks to his family for their support. Mayor Gaechter stated his goals for 2015, which included the continued diligence of overseeing the municipal budget, maximizing recreational opportunities at Lake Neepaulin, reviving an Economic Development Committee for the Township, and increasing the lines of communication between Wantage Township and Sussex Borough.

**PAGE ELEVEN OF THE MINUTES FOR THE ORGANIZATION MEETING OF THE
MAYOR & COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE, HELD ON 01/08/15**

COMMITTEE COMMENTS

Mayor Gaechter invited each member of the Committee to offer remarks concerning 2015 Committee goals and priorities.

Mr. Bassani reinforced Mayor Gaechter's earlier comments by offering thanks to Mr. DeBoer for his years of service to the community, and also welcomed Mr. Morris to the governing body. Mr. Bassani stated he looked forward to working with Mayor Gaechter to achieve the goals that the Mayor outlined for this year, reminding the public that the governing body has been fiscally responsible when it comes to managing the local tax burden, which is only a small slice of the pie when considering the entire tax bill burden. Mr. Bassani also stated his desire to maximize recreational opportunities at Lake Neepaulin, and encouraged greater participation from the general public in the government process.

Mr. Morris thanked the general public for their expression of trust in him by electing him to office. Mr. Morris thanked Mr. DeBoer for his service, stating that it was Mr. DeBoer who mentored him and encouraged him to take this step of elected representation. Mr. Morris thanked all volunteers for their service to the Wantage community, and again thanked Justin Sudol for his heroism in assisting another person in their time of need. Mr. Morris stated that he appreciated this opportunity to serve his community, and thanked his family for their support.

OPEN PUBLIC SESSION

Mayor Gaechter opened the meeting to the public, for any questions or comments involving the good and welfare of the community.

Kathy Gorman, Fernwood Road, offered expressions of hope for good decisions in 2015, and stated her agreement with the choice of Glenn Kienz for the position of Municipal Attorney.

There being no one else wishing to speak at this time, Mayor Gaechter closed the meeting to the public and the governing body continued with the regular order of business.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Bassani moved to adjourn the Organization meeting and commence the First Regular Meeting of the Year. Mr. Morris seconded the motion. Upon Roll call,
Aye: Morris, Gaechter, Bassani Nays: None Absent: None Abstain: None

James R. Doherty, Administrator Clerk