

**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., ON
JANUARY 8, 2015.**

Mayor Gaechter called the regular meeting to order, and requested the Clerk call the roll. Upon roll call, the following members of the governing body were present: Mayor Bill Gaechter, Committeeman Ron Bassani, and Committeeman Jon Morris. The following members were absent: None.

Mayor Gaechter 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 and certified by the Clerk."

CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Gaechter requested that the governing body review the Consent Agenda.

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

- Municipal Clerk Report for December 2014
- Board of Health Report for December 2014
- Registrar of Vital Statistics Report for December 2014
- Tax Collector Report for December 2014
- Construction Department Report for December 2014
- Zoning/Code Enforcement Report for December 2014

Mr. Morris seconded the motion. Upon Roll Call:

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

Mr. Bassani moved to approve the Confirming Transfer Resolution dated January 8, 2015, confirming the actions taken on December 29, 2014 to transfer various budget line items for the purpose of meeting contractual financial obligations of the Township. Mr. Morris seconded the motion. Upon Roll Call:

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

Mr. Bassani moved to authorize Change Order #2 to the contract with Tilcon, NY on the project "Milling and Paving the Parking Lot at Colesville Fire Department," reducing the contract amount by \$810.75 based on field adjustments of materials used, as certified by the Township Engineer.

Mr. Morris seconded the motion. Upon Roll Call:

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

Mr. Bassani moved to authorize Change Order #2 to the contract with Tilcon, NY on the project "Paving Volcanic Hill Road," reducing the contract amount by \$202.11 based on field adjustments of materials used, as certified by the Township Engineer. Mr. Morris seconded the motion. Upon Roll Call:

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

Mr. Bassani moved to confirm the action taken by the Chief Finance Officer to renew Bond Anticipation Note in the amount of \$4,303,129.16 to TD Securities LLC New York, who submitted the lowest responsive, responsible quote for interest rate at 1.25%. Mr. Morris seconded the motion. Upon Roll Call:

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

Mr. Bassani moved to authorize the Renewal of Contract with Sussex County Office of Public Health Nursing for the handling of Hepatitis-B Vaccination services for emergency responders in Wantage Township for the year 2015. Mr. Morris seconded the motion. Upon Roll Call:

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

Mr. Bassani moved to authorize the First Aid Squad to hold Coin Toss Fundraisers within the Township of Wantage on various dates during calendar year 2015, at the intersection of County Route 628 and County Route 565 (McCoy's Corner), subject to approval by the County of Sussex.

Mr. Morris seconded the motion. Upon Roll Call:

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

Mr. Bassani moved to authorize Renewal of Junkyard License for Beemerville Auto Wrecking for 2015.

Mr. Morris seconded the motion. Upon Roll Call:

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

Mr. Bassani moved to authorize Renewal of Junkyard License for Annette Meissner for the year 2015.

Mr. Morris seconded the motion. Upon Roll Call:

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

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CONSENT AGENDA, Continued

Mr. Bassani moved to authorize Renewal of Kennel License for Roger & Ellen Titus at 1167 Route 23 for the year 2015. Mr. Morris seconded the motion. Upon Roll Call:

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

Mr. Bassani moved to authorize Renewal of the Shared Services Contract for Animal Control and Pound services with Newton Town for the year 2015. Mr. Morris seconded the motion. Upon Roll Call:

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

Mr. Bassani moved to authorize Renewal of the Shared Services Contract for Animal Control and Pound services with Branchville Borough for the year 2015. Mr. Morris seconded the motion. Upon Roll Call:

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

Mr. Bassani moved to authorize Renewal of the Shared Services Contract for Animal Control and Pound services with Hamburg Borough for the year 2015. Mr. Morris seconded the motion. Upon Roll Call:

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

Mr. Bassani moved to authorize Renewal of the Shared Services Contract for Animal Control and Pound services with Franklin Borough for the year 2015. Mr. Morris seconded the motion. Upon Roll Call:

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

Mr. Bassani moved to authorize Renewal of the Shared Services Contract for Animal control services with Andover Township for the year 2015. Mr. Morris seconded the motion. Upon Roll Call:

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

Mr. Bassani moved to authorize waiver of Developer Fee Contribution on property at Block 11 Lot 4 based on fact that the home built has a 30 year deed restriction which creates an affordable housing unit, which satisfies the requirement in lieu of paying a Developer Fee.

Mr. Morris seconded the motion. Upon Roll Call:

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

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Mr. Doherty requested a clarification from the governing body regarding their preference on the topic of when the Minutes of the governing body meetings should be posted on the website.

The members of the governing body asked Mr. Kienz for input on this topic. Mr. Kienz stated from a legal perspective it is advisable to wait until minutes are officially approved before posting them to the public.

The governing body expressed consensus agreement with Mr. Kienz suggestion.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT: None

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Mr. Morris moved to approve the following Resolution:

TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT FUNDING TO STATE PARKS

WHEREAS, the residents of Wantage Township make considerable use of the hiking, biking, fishing, swimming, canoeing, birding, photography, and other recreational activities afforded the public at State Parks; and

WHEREAS, the availability of said recreational opportunities represents an integral part of the economic viability of many businesses in the area; and

WHEREAS, there currently exists a greater than \$400 million backlog of repairs, new construction and improvements to existing facilities in state parks and historic sites; and

WHEREAS, recent passage of New Jersey Ballot Question 2 will have serious financial impact on state parks and historic sites, severely limiting their ability to fund capital projects, such as building or repairing restrooms, roads, and bridges, since past dedicated funding through the Corporation Business Tax (CBT) has been virtually eliminated;

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COMMITTEE REPORTS, Continued

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Committee of Wantage Township do hereby request that the New Jersey Senate Environment and Energy Committee ensure that the legislation implementing distribution of funds as part of Ballot Question 2 fully restores funding for the programs for capital improvements and stewardship of state parks and historic sites to the same or greater levels as prior to diversion of funds from the CBT; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Committee of Wantage Township request that new legislation be enacted that would allow income from concessions agreements for specific state parks and historic sites be directed into a dedicated account for that specific state park or historic site, so that the income derived from these private concessions on public lands be utilized to repair, enhance or improve the state park or historic site from which the income is generated; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Committee of Wantage Township request that no taxpayer funds be allocated to non-profit NGOs for stewardship of lands held by these nonprofit land trusts, since these NGOs and their members already benefit from funds generated by programs they run, and are eligible for private and foundational funding, unlike governmental agencies; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Committee of Wantage Township directs the Township Clerk to forward copies of this resolution to New Jersey Senate Environment and Energy Committee; New Jersey State Senator Steven Oroho; New Jersey Assembly Members Alison McHose and Parker Space; The Sussex County Board of Chosen Freeholders; and the Governing Bodies of all Sussex County Municipalities.

Mr. Bassani seconded the motion. Upon Roll Call:

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

OLD BUSINESS:

Dispatch Agreement Renewal

Mr. Bassani moved to approve the following Resolution:

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A SHARED SERVICE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TOWNSHIP OF VERNON AND TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE FOR 9-1-1 SERVICES

WHEREAS, the Township of Vernon and the Township of Wantage wish to enter into a Shared Service Agreement for 9-1-1 dispatching services; and

WHEREAS, the terms of the proposed agreement, effective January 1, 2015, are to provide a telecommunications service to the Wantage Fire Department and First Aid Squad and the service of answering telephone or telephone dispatching emergency services by radio as may be required as a result of telephone calls received over said telephones and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40:8A-1 et seq. permits municipalities to enter into a local service agreement for the sharing of services and expenses.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor is authorized to execute a Shared Service Agreement between the Township of Vernon and the Township of Wantage for 9-1-1 dispatching emergency services for 5 years, starting January 1, 2015 at an annual amount of \$55,000.00 to be paid by the Township of Wantage quarterly; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution shall be forwarded to the Mayor and Clerk of the Township of Vernon.

Mr. Morris seconded the motion. Upon Roll Call:

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

NEW BUSINESS:

Introduction of Ordinance 2015-01: Bond Ordinance for Volcanic Hill Road

Mr. Bassani moved to introduce on first reading, Ordinance 2015-01, entitled "BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO VOLCANIC HILL ROAD IN AND BY THE TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE, IN THE COUNTY OF SUSSEX, NEW JERSEY, APPROPRIATING \$134,000 THEREFOR, AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$127,300 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE TOWNSHIP FOR FINANCING PART OF THE COST THEREOF AND DIRECTING THE SPECIAL ASSESSMENT OF PART OF THE COST THEREOF." Final hearing date set for January 29, 2015.

Mr. Morris seconded the motion. Upon Roll Call:

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

NEW BUSINESS, Continued

Approval of Liquor License Transfer

Mr. Bassani moved to approve the following resolution:

APPROVAL RESOLUTION FOR PERSON-TO-PERSON TRANSFER OF LIQUOR LICENSE

WHEREAS

WHEREAS

WHEREAS

WHEREAS

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED

Mr. Morris seconded the motion. Upon Roll Call:

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

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Bassani moved to approve the following:

- 1) The minutes of the Special Meeting and Executive Session of the Wantage Township governing body held on December 2, 2014.
- 2) The minutes of the Regular Meeting and Executive Session of the Wantage Township governing body held on December 4, 2014.
- 3) The minutes of the Special Meeting and Executive Session of the Wantage Township governing body held on December 29, 2014.

Mr. Morris seconded the motion. Upon Roll Call:

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

Mr. Bassani moved to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting and Executive Session of the Wantage Township governing body held on December 16, 2014. Mr. Morris seconded the motion. Mayor Gaechter, who was absent from this meeting, informed he would recuse himself from this motion.

Upon Roll Call:

Ayes: Bassani, Morris Nays: None Absent: None Abstain: None

OPEN PUBLIC SESSION:

Mayor Gaechter opened the meeting to the public at this time.

Ms. Kathy Gorman, Fernwood Road, offered comments and observations regarding Lake Neepaulin.

There being no one else present wishing to address the governing body at this time, Mayor Gaechter closed the meeting to the public.

CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Bassani moved to go into executive session, as follows:

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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 consideration of the employment of a specific prospective public employee, namely the Municipal Court Judge; and Negotiations regarding Potential Consultant Services for Bid Specification Review.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that 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. Morris seconded the motion. Upon roll call,

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

After meeting in closed executive session, Mr. Bassani moved to return to open session. Mr. Morris seconded the motion. Upon roll call,

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

PROCLAMATION

Mayor Gaechter presented Henry Richard Byma with a Proclamation Honoring Mr. Byma upon being named the Outstanding Young Farmer for the State of New Jersey. All persons present joined with Mayor Gaechter for a round of applause in appreciation for Mr. Byma's accomplishment.

Mayor Gaechter stated that Mr. Byma joins the list of honored Wantage Citizens who have won the Outstanding Young Farmer Recognition Award in previous years: Jeffrey VanderGroef in 2005, H. William Sytsema in 2009, and Paul "Duce" Tallamy II in 2012.

Appointment of Judge

Mr. Bassani moved to appoint Glenn Gavan to the position of Judge of the Joint Court System of Wantage Township. Mr. Morris seconded the motion. Upon Roll call,

Ayes: Bassani, Gaechter, Morris **Nays:** None **Absent:** None **Abstain:** None

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further items for the attention of the governing body, Mr. Bassani moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Morris seconded the motion. Upon Roll call,

Ayes: Bassani, Gaechter, Morris **Nays:** None **Absent:** None **Abstain:** None

Mayor Gaechter declared this meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

James R. Doherty, Municipal Clerk