

**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
MARCH 12, 2015.**

Mayor Gaechter called the 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 Jon Morris. The following members were absent: Committeeman Ron Bassani.

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. Morris moved to approve For Filing the Following Reports:

- Annual Visitation Report of Municipal Court Operations by NJ court System, Morris/Sussex Vicinage
- Year End Report of Fire Prevention Bureau
- Municipal Clerk Report for February 2015
- Land Use Board Report for February 2015
- Zoning/Property Maintenance Report for February 2015
- Registrar Report for February 2015
- Tax Collector Report for February 2015
- Board of Health Report for February 2015

Mayor Gaechter seconded the motion. Upon Roll Call:

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

Mr. Morris moved to authorize the Mayor to sign the employment contract with Glenn Gavan as Acting Municipal Court Judge.

Mayor Gaechter seconded the motion. Upon Roll Call:

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

Mr. Morris moved to authorize the refund of funds for tax sale redemption and premiums, as follows:

- \$27,237.90 to US Bank, Block 135 Lot 8.06 for tax sale certificate 12-32.
- \$ 1,800.00 to US Bank, Block 135 Lot 8.06 for tax sale premium.

Mayor Gaechter seconded the motion. Upon Roll Call:

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

Mr. Morris moved to authorize the refund of funds for state tax appeals, as follows:

- \$646.06 to Courter, Kobert & Cohen, P.C., Block 4.02, Lot 4
- \$323.03 to Courter, Kobert & Cohen, P.C., Block 4.02, Lot 5
- \$430.71 to Courter, Kobert & Cohen, P.C., Block 4.01, Lot 8
- \$753.74 to Courter, Kobert & Cohen, P.C., Block 4.02, Lot 3
- \$430.71 to Courter, Kobert & Cohen, P.C., Block 4.01, Lot 7
- \$323.03 to Courter, Kobert & Cohen, P.C., Block 4.02, Lot 6
- \$753.74 to Courter, Kobert & Cohen, P.C., Block 4.01, Lot 6

Mayor Gaechter seconded the motion. Upon Roll Call:

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

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT: None

ATTORNEY'S REPORT: None

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Mr. Morris offered an update on the previously scheduled meeting of the NJ Department of Transportation's public information session on the Route 23 Bridge scheduled to undergo replacement. The public information session will be rescheduled for some time in April. Mr. Morris clarified that the location of this bridge is on the southerly border of Wantage Township.

Mayor Gaechter announced that his schedule will prevent him from attending the governing body meeting on April 9, 2015. Upon review with Mr. Doherty, the Mayor finds that there are no issues scheduled for discussion or action on that night, so the Mayor suggested the meeting be canceled. Mr. Morris agreed with this suggestion.

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NEW BUSINESS

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Morris moved to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Wantage Township governing body held on February 26, 2015. Mayor Gaechter seconded the motion. Upon Roll Call:
Ayes: Gaechter, Morris Nays: None Absent: Bassani Abstain: None

OPEN PUBLIC SESSION:

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

Kathleen Gorman, Fernwood Road, asked for a clarification regarding the manner in which the Open Space Advisory Committee conducts business, and why they do not hold public meetings. Mr. Doherty offered an explanation in response, regarding the definition of a public body under the Sunshine Law. Mr. Gorman expressed a desire to have the Open Space Advisory Committee allow the public to attend its meetings. Mayor Gaechter stated he would carry that request to the Chairman of the committee for their consideration.

Ann Smulewicz, Route 23, agreed with Mrs. Gorman's position on the Open Space Advisory Committee. Mrs. Smulewicz complimented Mr. Morris for delivering a committee report, expressing her appreciation for being kept up to date on activities within the Township.

At this time, Mayor Gaechter closed the meeting to the public.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further items for the attention of the governing body, Mr. Morris moved to adjourn the meeting. Mayor Gaechter seconded the motion. Upon Roll Call:
Ayes: Gaechter, Morris Nays: None Absent: Bassani Abstain: None

Mayor Gaechter declared this meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

James R. Doherty, Municipal Clerk