

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COMMITTEE OF THE
TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE. HELD AT THE WANTAGE TOWNSHIP BUILDING, 888 STATE
ROUTE 23, WANTAGE NJ, AT 7:00 PM, ON
SEPTEMBER 22, 2016.**

Mayor Bassani called the meeting to order, and requested that the Clerk call the roll. Upon roll call, the following members of the governing body were present: Mayor Ronald Bassani, Committeeman Jon Morris, and Committeeman William Gaechter. Also present: Deputy Clerk Christine M. Von Oesen.

Mayor Bassani stated, "This meeting is being held in compliance with the provisions of the Open Public Meeting Act, Public Laws 1975, Chapter 231, it has been properly notice and certified by the Clerk."

Mayor Bassani invited all those in attendance to join in the Salute to the Flag.

Mayor Bassani requested a Motion to Approve the Consent Agenda.

CONSENT AGENDA

Resolution (Approval for the following actions):

A Motion is in Order to approve the minutes of the September 8, 2016 Wantage Township Mayor and Committee Meeting.

A Motion is in order to approve the sale of the following items via on-line auction:

- (2) 2002 Ford 4x4 F450 Pick-ups
- 2003 Rood Chipper
- Truck Wash System
- Brine Maker System
- (2) Brine Spray Tanks
- Free Standing Garage
- Tenco Side Dump, Front Discharge Body

A Motion is in order to approve the September 2016 Bill List, with the exception of Bassani Power Equipment LLC PO#13607 in the amount of \$830.72.

Motion by Mr. Gaechter. Second by Mr. Morris.

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

A Motion is in Order to approve Bassani Power Equipment LLC PO#13607 in the amount of \$830.72 from the Bill Lost.

Motion by Mr. Morris. Second by Mr. Gaechter

Ayes: Gaechter, Morris Nays: None Absent: None Abstain: None Not Voting: Bassani

REPORTS

Clerk Report –The Annual 5K, held of September 17, was a great success, with the most participants ever, 187. The youngest finishers were each 6 years old, Eloise Demeter, who finished in 24 minutes 8 seconds, and August Cone, who finished in 34 minutes, 9.1 seconds. The oldest finisher was Emil Ogrinz, age 85, with a time of 50 minutes 56.2 seconds. The overall top female finisher was Lauren Nelson, age 36, with a time of 21 minutes, 20.2 seconds. The overall top male finisher was Shane Schwarz, age 33, with a time of 19 minutes, 2.1 seconds. Wantage will be holding the 9th Annual Veterans Memorial Car, Truck and Bike Show on October 9, from 11 to 4, at Woodbourne Park. Proceeds will benefit the Welcome Home Vets Fund of New

Jersey, Inc. Wantage will be holding its Annual Tire Turn-In Day and Paper Shredding event on October 15 from 9am to noon at the Wantage Township Building. The Sussex Elks Club, on Route 565 in Wantage, is accepting donations of new or in very good condition used household items such as pillows, blankets, towels, pots, pans, glassware, lamps and other items to help set up households for veterans.

Administrator Report - None

Committeeman Gaechter – None

Committeeman Morris – Committeeman Morris advises there is no progress to report regarding Wantage First Aid Squad issues.

Mayor Report: Mayor Bassani plans on attending the November 6 Court of Honor Ceremony for Eagle Scout Joseph Barta, of Troop 84. Jeff Spittola sent invitations to Wantage Committee members regarding a meeting of Legislators to be held at the Hardyston Municipal Building on October 19 at 10 am. The Open Space Committee is sending a written proposal to the owners of the Berry Road property.

OLD BUSINESS - None

NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Bassani is poised to make an offer of employment to the person who has been chosen to fill the position of Administrator and asks for a Motion to proceed.

Motion by Mr. Morris. Second by Mr. Gaechter.

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

A Motion is in order to adopt of final reading Ordinance #2016-09 AMENDING A SECTION OF CHAPTER 8, ENTITLED “PROPERTY MAINTENANCE” OF THE “REVISED GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE TONWSHIP OF WANTAGE, NEW JERSEY” ADDING A NEW SECTION TO ESTABLISH STANDARDS FOR THE REGISTRATION AND MAINTENANCE OF VACANT AND ABANDONED RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES INCLUDING PROPERTIES IN FORECLOSURE.

Motion made by Mr. Morris. Second by Mr. Gaechter.

Mayor Bassani opened the floor to those in attendance to hear questions or comments regarding Ordinance #2016-09 prior to voting on this ordinance.

Kathy Gorman asks if she can submit a list of homes to the Township. Mayor Bassani replied that she could.

Melanie LiTrenta asked who will enforce the Property Maintenance ordinance. Mayor Bassani replied that the ordinance will be enforced primarily by Patrick Stefanelli, and as necessary, township attorneys for the legal process.

Hearing no further questions or comments from those in attendance, Mayor Bassani asked for a roll call to approve Ordinance #2016-09 on final reading.

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

A Motion is in order to approve on first reading Ordinance #2106-10 AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING SPEED LIMITS FOR QUARRY ROAD WITHIN THE TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE.

Motion by Mr. Gaechter. Second by Mr. Morris.

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

A Motion is in order to approve the sealing of cracks in Woodbourne Park walking paths, basketball court and parking lot areas, to be contracted with Micro Pave Systems, using the Morris County Cooperative price of \$0.454 per linear ft., not to exceed \$12,000.00.

Motion by Mr. Morris. Second by Mr. Gaechter.

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

OPRN PUBLIC SESSION

Tim Loughery states that he is a resident of the Lake Windsor and has lived in Sussex County for over 50 years, and Wantage Township, for 35 years. He states that in recent years, a neighbor has caused much commotion and noise including tailgates slamming, truck and equipment motors and concrete being crushed, which he feels should not be happening in a residential area. He asks the committee to value quality of life and property values for residents and not one man who has a business where it should not be. Mayor Bassani suggested that Mr. Loughery attend the next Land Use Board meeting on October 18, 2016.

Melanie LiTrenta is discouraged that the Lake Windsor concerns are taking so long to be addressed and feels that timing is being orchestrated by the other party, citing delays and a cancellation of the last LUB meeting due to a publication error. She states that the cease and desist order continues to be ignored. Mayor Bassani understands Ms. LiTrenta's perception, but feels it is incorrect. Ms. LiTrenta states that Wantage ordinances clearly speak to equipment noise, and that they further indicate that the Zoning Officer shall enforce the ordinances. Ms. LiTrenta concluded by saying that the weakness is not in the ordinances, but in enforcement, and enforcement should not be ruled by variance.

Karen Merritt warns that sealing cracks at Woodbourne Park should be timed so that sealant will not damage vehicles at the car show.

Christy Tuper spoke about the 5K and said that it was a huge success. She adds that the Car Show is scheduled for October 9, with a rain date of October 16, 2016. She thanks the committee for approving the repairs to cracks in the pavement at Woodbourne Park.

Warren Wisse advised that golf carts are needed for the Car Show event.

Kathy Gorman asked if there were any updates on the Wantage First Aid squad. Mr. Morris responded that there would be a meeting in the near future between Wantage and Sussex and that talks continue. Mayor Bassani added that we are covered for emergencies, in addition to our Wantage First Aid Squad, by the Sussex Boro First Aid Squad, and if not Sussex, then Atlantic Healthcare. Ms. Gorman asked if the Committee has any updates regarding Lake Neepaulin swimming rules. Mayor Bassani answered that there were none at this time.

Melanie LiTrenta shared that High Point Regional High School is having an all day 50th anniversary event on October 1. Other events scheduled for October 1 include the Fire Department Parade in Wantage and Sussex, and a Christian School event at the Fairgrounds in Augusta. Mayor Bassani attended a recent Sussex Wantage Chamber Council breakfast meeting, where Deb Anderson spoke about the HPRHS event.

Christy Tuper advises that the slide at Woodbourne Park is cracked. Mayor Bassani called for an immediate replacement of same.

Hearing no further comment from those in attendance, Mayor Bassani closed Open Public Session.

Mayor Bassani requested a Motion to adjourn the meeting.

Motion by Mr. Morris. Second by Mr. Gaechter.

Ayes: Gaechter, Morris, Bassani

Nays: None

Absent: None

Abstain: None

Respectfully Submitted,
Christine M. Von Oesen
Deputy Clerk