

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, NJ, ON JANUARY 5, 2017

Acting Municipal Clerk Debra J. Millikin called the meeting to order.

OATH OF OFFICE

Acting Municipal Clerk Debra J. Millikin read the "Statement of Determination" of the Board of County Canvassers, for the Election held on November 8, 2016.

Mrs. Millikin administered the Oath of Office to Committeeman-elect Ronald Bassani for a three-year term as Committee Member of the Township of Wantage.

ROLL CALL OF TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEMBERS FOR THE YEAR 2016

Present: Mayor Ronald Bassani, William Gaechter, Jonathan Morris

COMMITTEE APPONTMENT: MAYOR FOR THE YEAR 2016

Mrs. Millikin opened the floor for the Committee nominations for the position of Mayor for 2016.

Mr. Bassani moved to name Jonathan Morris as Mayor for 2017. Mr. Gaechter seconded the motion. Upon Roll Call:

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

Mayor Morris assumed the Mayor's chair at this time.

Mayor Morris stated he wanted to Thank Mr. Bassani for his guidance and leadership during the 2016 year. He presented him with a pocket watch from the Township.

OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT COMPLIANCE

Mayor Morris 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 Morris invited all those in attendance to join in the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States Flag.

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENT: DEPUTY MAYOR FOR THE YEAR 2016

Mayor Morris opened the floor for Committee nominations for the position of Deputy Mayor for 2017.

Mr. Bassani nominated William Gaechter. Mayor Morris seconded the motion.

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

BOARDS, COMMISSIONS, AND COMMITTEES

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

LAND USE BOARD

- Jonathan Morris, Class I Member, for a term running through 12/31/2017
- Patrick Stefanelli, Class II Member, for a term running through 12/31/2017
- Michael C, Class IV Member, for a term running through 12/31/2020
- Victoria Gill, Class IV Member, for a term running through 12/31/2020
- William DeBoer, Alternate # 1, for a term running through 12/31/2019

Mayor Morris opened the floor to the Committee, for the Class III appointment to the Land Use Board, for a one year term running through 12/31/2017.

Mr. Bassani nominated William Gaechter for the Class III appointment to the Land Use Board. Mayor Morris seconded the motion.

Ayes: All in Favor Nays: None Absent: None Abstain:
None

BOARD OF RECREATION COMMISSIONERS

Lorraine Card, Regular Member, for a term running through 12/31/2021

Karen Merrit, Regular Member, for a term running through 12/31/2021

COMMITTEE APOINTMENTS

Mayor Morris offered the following nominations for Township Boards and Committees as follows:

BOARD OF HEATLH

Dr. Arthur Braunwell, Regular Member, for a term running through 12/31/2021

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Emergency Management Coordinator	Joseph Konopinski	thru 12/31/17
Deputy Coordinator #1	Edward Vander Berg	thru 12/31/17
Deputy Coordinator #2	Thomas Madsen	thru 12/31/17
F.A.S., EMC member	Stan Gardner	thru 12/31/17
F.A.S., EMC Alternate	Jeff Post	thru 12/31/17
Damage Assessment	Patrick Stefanelli	thru 12/31/17
Fire Chief, EMC member	Justin Vander Groef	thru 12/31/17
Facilities, EMC Member	Amy Heater	thru 12/31/17
Communications, EMC Member	William Gebhart	thru 12/31/17
DPW Supt., EMC Member	Claude Wagner	thru 12/31/17
Sanitarian, EMC Member	Michael Plaza	thru 12/31/17
Finance/Resource Mgt., EMC Memb	Michelle La Starza	thru 12/31/17
Resource Management	Larry Bono	thru 12/31/17
Mayor, EMC Member	Jon Morris	thru 12/31/17
Public Information Officer	Debra Millikin	thru 12/31/17
Media	New Jersey Herald	thru 12/31/17
Evacuation	Leroy Little	thru 12/31/17

Recycling Coordinator:	SCMUA
Assessment Search Officer:	Debra J. Millikin
Qualified Purchasing Agent:	Debra J. Millikin
Municipal Affordable Housing Liaison:	Debra J. Millikin
Public Agency Compliance Officer for Affirmative Action:	Debra J. Millikin
Municipal Chief Finance Officer – 4 year appt through 12/31/19	Michelle La Starza
PERS/PFRS Certifying Agent:	Michelle La Starza
Tax Search Officer:	Melissa Caton
Tax Collector through 12/31/18:	Melissa Caton
Principal Public Works Manager:	Claude Wagner
Animal Control Officer:	John Abate
Emergency 911 Coordinator:	Joseph Konopinski
Risk Management Consultant-Health Benefits:	
Risk Management Consultant-Statewide Insurance Fund:	Keith Mitchell, The Mitchell Agency

Mr. Bassani made a motion to approve the above nominations. Mr. Gaechter seconded the motion.

Ayes: All in Favor Nays: None Absent : None Abstain:
None

OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Mayor Morris offered the following nominations for appointment of members to the 2016 Open Space Advisory Board of Wantage Township:

- Mr. Ronald Bassani, 6 Roberts Way
- Ms. Victoria Gill, 47 Courtright Road
- Mr. Thomas P. Davis, 63 Walnut Street
- Mr. Patrick Stefanelli, 168 Clove Road
- Mr. Justin Dudzinski, 804 Greenville Road

Mr. Bassani made a motion to approve the above nominations. Mr. Gaechter seconded the motion.

Ayes: All in Favor
None

Nays: None

Absent: None

Abstain:

RECOGNITION OF LINE OFFICERS

Mayor Morris advised that due to the fire call the Fire Department and First Aid Squad Members had left and will be placed on the next agenda.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Morris requested a motion to approve the Consent Agenda items I to XVII. Motion made by Mr. Gaechter, and seconded by Mr. Bassani.

Upon Roll Call:

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

Absent: None

I. PROFESSIONAL SERVICES RESOLUTIONS

TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE

RESOLUTION 2017

Designate Appointment of Municipal Attorney, Bond Counsel, Municipal Judge, Engineer, Risk Manager, Municipal Prosecutor, and Public Defender for Calendar Year 2017

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, Esq., of the law firm Weiner Lesniak, Parsippany, NJ
Services: Township Attorney
Duration: calendar year of 2017

Amount: Varies based on service per fee schedule attached to contract

Awarded to: Edward McManimon, of the law firm McManimon Scotland and Baumann of Roselle Park, NJ

Services: Township Bond Counsel.

Duration: calendar year of 2017.

Amount: Varies based on service per fee schedule attached to contract

Awarded to: Thomas Ferry, of the Accounting & Auditing firm Ferraioli, Wielkotz, Cerullo & Cuva of Newton, N.J.

Services: Township Auditor.

Duration: calendar year of 2017.

Amount: Varies based on service per fee schedule attached to contract

Awarded to: William Haggerty, of the firm Dolan & Dolan of Newton, N.J.

Services: Township Prosecutor.

Duration: calendar year of 2010.

Amount: Varies based on service per fee schedule attached to contract

Awarded to: Keith Mitchell, The Mitchell Agency of Newton, NJ

Services: Risk Management Consultant

Duration: calendar year of 2017.

Amount: Commission based on service contract with Statewide Insurance Fund

Awarded to: Charles Schaffer of Charles Schaffer Associates of Newton, N.J.

Services: Architect Consultant

Duration: calendar year of 2017.

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 2017.

Amount: \$12,000 stipend

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.

II. TEMPORARY BUDGET

TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE

RESOLUTION 2017

APPROVING TEMPORARY BUDGET FOR 2017

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 \$3,816,144 in the 2016 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 2017 temporary budget be adopted in the amount of \$318,012 per month until such time as the 2017 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 2017 temporary Water Utility budget be adopted in the amount of \$10,899 per month until such time as the 2017 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 2017 temporary Road Assessment budget be adopted in the amount of \$1,060 per month until such time as the 2017 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 2017 temporary Open Space budget be adopted in the amount of \$5,000 per month until such time as the 2017 budget is finally adopted.

III. RATES OF INTEREST

TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE

RESOLUTION 2017

ESTABLISH THE RATE OF INTEREST TO BE CHARGED FOR NON-PAYMENT OF TAXES & UTILITIES

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.
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.

IV. OVERPAYMENT/UNDERPAYMENT OF TAXES

**TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE
RESOLUTION 2017
OVERPAYMENT/UNDERPAYMENT OF TAXES**

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Committee of the Township of Wantage, in the County of Sussex, New Jersey, that the Tax Collector be and she is hereby authorized to cancel of record any overpayment or underpayment of taxes and/or utilities in the amount of \$10.00 or less for the calendar year 2017, in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A 40A:5-17.1.

V. CASH MANAGEMENT PLAN

**TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE
RESOLUTION 2017**

ESTABLISH CASH MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE

BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Committee of the Township of Wantage, County of Sussex, State of NJ, that for the calendar year 2017, the following shall serve as the cash management plan of the Township of Wantage.

The Chief Financial Officer is directed to use this cash management plan as the guide and is empowered to invest cash funds as bank balances will allow from time to time in order to realize a revenue.

The following are authorized as suitable investments:

- Interest-bearing bank accounts in banks as authorized above for deposit of local unit funds (GUDPA approved).
- Certificates of deposit in GUDPA approved banking institutions.
- Bonds or other obligations of the United States of America or obligations guaranteed by the United States of America. This includes instruments such as Treasury Bills, Notes and Bonds.
- Government money market mutual funds that comply with N.J.S.A. 40A:5-15.1(e).
- Any federal agency or instrumentality obligation authorized by Congress that matures within 397 days from the date of purchase, and has a fixed rate of interest not dependent on any index or external factors.
- Bonds or other obligations of the local unit or school district of which the Town is a part.
- Any other obligations with maturities not exceeding 397 days, as permitted by the State Division of Investments.
- Local government investment pools which comply with N.J.S.A. 40A:5-15.1(e) and conditions set by the Division of Local Government Services.
- New Jersey Cash Management Fund.
- Repurchase agreements (repos) of fully collateralized securities which comply with N.J.S.A. 40A:5-15.1(e).
- New Jersey Asset & Rebate Management Program.
- New Jersey CLASS

There are no approved security broker/dealers. In the event that a security broker/dealer should be approved during the year, the registered principal of said brokerage firm so approved shall be provided with and sign an acknowledgment that they have seen and reviewed the cash management plan.

VI. OFFICIAL DEPOSITORIES

TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE

RESOLUTION 2017

DESIGNATE BANKS AS THE OFFICIAL DEPOSITORIES FOR TOWNSHIP FUND IN 2017

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 2017: Chase Bank, Sussex Bank, Lakeland Bank, Commerce Bank; and TD Bank

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.

VII. MEETING DATES

TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE

RESOLUTION 2017

Establishing Schedule of Public Township Committee Meetings for 2017

WHEREAS, Section 13 of the Open Public Meetings act, approved October 21, 1975 as Chapter 231, P.L. 1975, requires every public body to post and maintain posted throughout the year a schedule of the meetings of said public body;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Town of Wantage, Sussex County, New Jersey that the following schedule for 2017 indicates all public meetings of the Wantage Township Committee will be held on the second and fourth Thursdays of each month, unless otherwise indicated, in the Committee Room, 888 Route 23, Wantage, New Jersey; and

Committee Meetings						
7:00 p.m.						
January	5	and	26	July	13	
February	9	and	23	August	10	
March	9	and	23	September	14	and 28
April	13	and	27	October	12	and 26
May	11	and	25	November	9	
June	8	and	22	December	14	and 28

January 4, 2018*

*Reorganization and Regular Meeting

VIII. OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT COMPLIANCE

TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE

RESOLUTION 2017

COMPLIANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT FOR 2017

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 2017 meetings and the 2017 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 New Jersey Sunday Herald.
- (C) The public place at which all notices shall be posted shall be the bulletin board situated in the Wantage Municipal Building.
- (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.

IX. OFFICIAL SIGNATORIES

TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE

RESOLUTION 2017

**ESTABLISH THE OFFICIAL SIGNATORIES AUTHORIZED INDIVIDUALS FOR WITHDRAWAL OF
FUND 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 2017: Mayor Jon Morris (and/or Deputy Mayor William Gaechter); Administrator Acting Clerk Debra Millikin; Chief Finance Officer Michelle La Starza

X. OFFICIAL NEWSPAPERS

TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE

RESOLUTION 2017

Designate Legal Newspaper for Calendar Year 2017

WHEREAS, by the Township Committee of the Township of Wantage that the newspapers listed below be designated as the official newspapers for the Township of Wantage for legal advertising during the 2017 calendar year.

New Jersey Herald

New Jersey Sunday Herald

XI. DEFENSE AGAINST TAX APPEALS

TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE

RESOLUTION 2017

**AUTHORIZE THE TOWNSHIP ATTORNEY AND THE TOWNSHIP TAX ASSESSOR TO DEFEND THE
TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE AGAINST ALL APPEALS FILED DURING CALENDAR YEAR 2017**

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 2017, 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,

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 2017, in accordance with the existing employment contract on file for the Township Attorney and Township Tax Assessor, respectively, in effect for calendar year 2017.

XII. ESTABLISHING LEGAL HOLIDAYS

TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE RESOLUTION 2017 Legal Township Holidays for 2017

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Wantage, that the following dates shall be recognized as official Township Holidays for the calendar year 2017, during which municipal offices shall be closed to the public in recognition of the said Holidays:

Monday, January 2, 2017	New Year's Day (Observed)
Monday, January 16, 2017	Martin Luther King Jr. Day
Monday, February 20, 2017	President's Day
Friday, April 14, 2017	Good Friday
Monday, May 29, 2017	Memorial Day
Tuesday, July 4, 2017	Independence Day
Monday, September 4, 2017	Labor Day
Monday, October 9, 2017	Columbus Day
Friday, November 10, 2017	Veterans Day (Observed)
Thursday, November 23, 2017	Thanksgiving Day

Friday, November 24, 2017
Friday, December 22, 2017
Monday, December 25, 2017

Day after Thanksgiving
Christmas Eve (Observed)
Christmas Day

XIII. ACCEPTING INSURANCE BONDS

TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE

RESOLUTION 2017

APPROVE THE INSURANCE BONDS AND BLANKET BONDS FOR VARIOUS MUNICIPAL

OFFICIALS

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Committee of the Township of Wantage, in the County of Sussex, New Jersey, approve the insurance bonds for various municipal officials and the blanket bond covering all bondable officials for the calendar year 2017.

XIV. AUTHORIZING PURCHASING AUTHORITY OF THE ADMINISTRATOR CLERK

TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE

RESOLUTION 2017

AUTHORIZE THE ADMINISTRATOR ACTING CLERK TO HAVE DISCRETIONARY SPENDING AUTHORITY

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Committee of the Township of Wantage, in the County of Sussex, New Jersey, authorize the Administrator Acting Clerk to have discretionary spending authority of up to \$17,500 on any given purchase or project during calendar year 2017, with any proposed expenditure above this amount being brought to the governing body for authorization prior to the issuance of a purchase order.

XV. NAMING STATEWIDE INSURANCE FUND REPRESENTATIVE

TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE

RESOLUTION 2017

AUTHORIZE THE ADMINISTRATOR ACTING CLERK TO REPRESENT THE TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE AS A COMMISSIONER FOR STATEWIDE INSURANCE FUND

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Committee of the Township of Wantage, in the County of Sussex, New Jersey, to confirm the Administrator Clerk as the Wantage Township Commissioner for the Statewide Insurance Fund for calendar year 2017.

XVI. NAMING SAFETY/LOSS PREVENTION REPRESENTATIVE

TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE

RESOLUTION 2017

AUTHORIZE THE ADMINISTRATOR ACTING CLERK TO REPRESENT THE TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE AS SAFETY AND LOSS PREVENTION REPRESENTATIVE FOR STATEWIDE INSURANCE FUND

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Committee of the Township of Wantage, in the County of Sussex, New Jersey, confirm the Administrator Clerk as the Wantage Township Safety & Loss Prevention Representative for the Statewide Insurance Fund for calendar year 2017.

XVII. AUTHORIZING THE TREASURER TO PAY BILLS BETWEEN MEETINGS

TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE

RESOLUTION 2017

AUTHORIZE THE TREASURERE 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 retainer)
 - g. Township Auditor (normal retainer)
 - h. Land Use Board Attorney (normal retainer)
 - i. Township Prosecutor (normal retainer)
 - 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 subject to Prompt Payment of Construction Contracts Legislation, P.L.2006, c.96
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.

MAYOR'S STATEMENT

I would consider myself relatively green when it comes to politics and being part of this committee. I cannot say enough about the Leadership and Commitment that these two gentlemen have shown me over the past two years. Bill, Ron... Thank you for all you do for Wantage and all you have done. I don't think people realize the amount of commitment that you both have given to this job. Thank you

While it is always important to keep our taxes stable, it is equally important to provide the best possible services for the people of Wantage. Planning for the future with our Roads, our Parks and our Emergency services are some of the many important issues we face. This committee has a good track record of keeping the budget in check. I look forward to working with Committeemen Gaechter and Bassani to accomplish these goals in 2017.

2016 came with its share of sadness as well as its flickers of hope. Our longtime Administrator, a confidant and a friend, Jim Doherty, passed away in early April. A man that wore many hats was no longer with us leaving big shoes to fill. Our Mayor, Committee and especially our Staff all stepped up while we began the lengthy, difficult process of filling this huge loss. This wasn't easy and surely wasn't pretty, but everyone stepped up in some way and for that I would like to say Thank you.

In October we hired a new administrator, Debra Millikin. While she has big shoes to fill, I can honestly say that the old adage of "no grass grows under her feet" fits her to a tee. She started here in early November, has hit the ground running and never looked back. For that, Debi I say Thank you.

In 2017 we have much to look forward to. I ask that if you pray, you pray for our new leaders. If you pray, you pray for our soldiers. If you pray, you pray for our many volunteers which you just saw leave here before. If you pray, pray for each other.

May God Bless you and your families in 2017.

COMMITTEE COMMENTS

Mr. Gaechter thanked Jon. My goals 2017 are the same as 2016, 2015 number one priority is always the budget. I want to continue to try to hold the budget flat. I think Jon, Ron and I work very well together and hope to continue in 2017. Mr. Gaechter stated losing Mr. Doherty in 2016 unexpectedly and untimely really left us and Wantage Township with a big hole. I have to give a lot of credit to Ron who as Mayor stepped up and was the glue that held this place together while we found a replacement for Jim. Jim was a special guy and needed a special person to fill his shoes. I think we found that in Debi. I am very happy to be working with her in 2017. I think she will do a great job and I think everyone can attest to her qualifications. More general priorities working with Sussex Borough and Shop Rite. They are our neighbor and we need to continue to work with the fire department, ambulance squad, and keep a healthy relationship with the Borough. Last year and the year before I wanted to put together a Economic Development Committee, however, working with this committee and the Land Use Board this has been a defacto Committee and I look forward to continuing to work on projects for the Township. It has been a pleasure working with both Jon and Ron and I look forward to a good 2017.

Mr. Bassani thank you both for your kind words. We have established a fine team and at the core for every decision is what is in the best interest of our taxpayers in Wantage. As Jon & Bill have stated it has been a challenging year and we worked really hard finding a replacement for Jim and this provides an absolute new set of eyes. Thank you both for all your support for last year. I look forward to 2017 and all the challenges it brings us. Thank you.

Mayor Morris stated before public session he indicated in his speech the volunteers and that they are the glue of the community. Although they had to leave I would like to read the list of volunteers.

2017 Line Officers

Wantage Fire Department

Justin Vander Groef	Department Chief
Alex Rubin	Deputy Chief - Colesville
Mark Snook	Deputy Chief - Beemerville
Charlie Rokosny	Captain - Beemerville
Steve Merck	Captain - Colesville
Griff Adkins	1 st Lieutenant-Beemerville
Todd Tarrant	1 st Lieutenant - Colesville
Hunter Space	2 nd Lieutenant - Beemerville
John Cannici	2 nd Lieutenant - Colesville
Harry Festa -	Safety Officer
Scott Paladino	Safety Officer

Joe Marrocco	Fire Police Captain
Ben Langevin	Fire Police Lieutenant
Joe Vallone	Fire Police Lieutenant

Wantage Township First Aid Squad

President:	Jeffrey Post
Vice President:	Stan Gardner
Secretary:	Krina Hemsworth
Treasurer:	Trudy Congdon
Engineer:	William DeBoer
2nd Lieutenant:	Christopher Little
Training Officer:	Patrick Hanson

OPEN PUBLIC SESSION

Mary Ellen Shoen a resident at Clove Hill Manor stated several names you mention for the Fire Department & First Aid Squad were students of mine and I will keep praying for them.

Mr. Gaechter stated he wanted to recognize Mr. George Graham one of the Sussex County Freeholder's. I want to work with them as well and try to attend more meetings.

Mrs. Gorman stated she will join Mr. Gaechter at those meetings as well.

ADJOURMENT

Mayor Morris asked for a motion to adjourn from the Organization Meeting.

Motion made by Mr. Bassani, and seconded by Mr. Gaechter.

All in Favor

Respectfully Submitted,

Debra J. Millikin, Acting Municipal Clerk