

**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, HELD AT 7 P.M. ON
January 5, 2017**

Mayor Morris 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 Jonathan Morris, Committeeman William Gaechter, and Committeeman Ronald Bassani . Also present: Administrator/Acting Clerk Debra Millikin and Mr. Glenn Kienz, Township Attorney.

Mayor Morris stated, "This meeting is being held in compliance with the provisions of the Open Public Meeting Act, P.L. 1975, Chapter 231. It has been properly noticed and certified by the Clerk."

CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Morris requested a motion to approve the Consent Agenda items Resolution 1-2017 through 16-2017. Motion made by Mr. Gaechter, and seconded by Mr. Bassani.

Upon Roll Call:

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

TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE

RESOLUTION 1-2017

**AUTHORIZE EXECUTION OF SHARED SERVICE AGREEMENT FOR ANIMAL CONTROL
AND POUND SERVICES WITH BOROUGH OF BRANCHVILLE**

WHEREAS, the Borough of Branchville desires to enter into a shared service agreement with the Township of Wantage for animal control and pound services for 2017; and

WHEREAS, the annual fee for the calendar year 2017 is \$2,652.00; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Town of Wantage, Sussex County, New Jersey that the Mayor and Acting Municipal Clerk are authorized to execute an agreement for animal control and pound services with Borough of Branchville for the calendar year 2017.

TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE
RESOLUTION 2-2017
AUTHORIZE EXECUTION OF SHARED SERVICE AGREEMENT FOR ANIMAL CONTROL
AND POUND SERVICES WITH BOROUGH OF FRANKLIN

WHEREAS, the Borough of Franklin desires to enter into a shared service agreement with the Township of Wantage for animal control and pound services for 2017; and

WHEREAS, the annual fee for the calendar year 2017 is \$11,750.00; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Town of Wantage, Sussex County, New Jersey that the Mayor and Acting Municipal Clerk are authorized to execute an agreement for animal control and pound services with Borough of Franklin for the calendar year 2017.

TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE
RESOLUTION 3-2017
AUTHORIZE EXECUTION OF SHARED SERVICE AGREEMENT FOR ANIMAL CONTROL
AND POUND SERVICES WITH TOWN OF NEWTON

WHEREAS, the Town of Newton desires to enter into a shared service agreement with the Township of Wantage for animal control and pound services for 2017; and

WHEREAS, the annual fee for the calendar year 2017 is \$17,021.00; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Town of Wantage, Sussex County, New Jersey that the Mayor and Acting Municipal Clerk are authorized to execute an agreement for animal control and pound services with Town of Newton for the calendar year 2017.

TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE
RESOLUTION 4-2017
AUTHORIZE EXECUTION OF SHARED SERVICE AGREEMENT FOR ANIMAL CONTROL
AND POUND SERVICES WITH BOROUGH OF OGDENSBURG

WHEREAS, the Borough of Ogdensburg desires to enter into a shared service agreement with the Township of Wantage for animal control and pound services for 2017; and

WHEREAS, the annual fee for the calendar year 2017 is \$12,319.00; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Town of Wantage, Sussex County, New Jersey that the Mayor and Acting Municipal Clerk are authorized to execute an agreement for animal control and pound services with Borough of Ogdensburg for the calendar year 2017.

TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE

RESOLUTION 5-2017

AUTHORIZE EXECUTION OF SHARED SERVICE AGREEMENT FOR ANIMAL CONTROL AND POUND SERVICES WITH TOWNSHIP OF SANDYSTON

WHEREAS, the Township of Sandyston desires to enter into a shared service agreement with the Township of Wantage for animal control and pound services for 2017; and

WHEREAS, the annual fee for the calendar year 2017 is \$2,331.00; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Town of Wantage, Sussex County, New Jersey that the Mayor and Acting Municipal Clerk are authorized to execute an agreement for animal control and pound services with Township of Sandyston for the calendar year 2017.

TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE

RESOLUTION #6-2017

AUTHORIZING REFUND

WHEREAS, the Tax Collector has recommended the Mayor and Committee of the Township of Wantage reimburse funds for a tax sale certificate redeemed with premium.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Committee of the Township of Wantage, County of Sussex, does hereby authorize the refund of

\$5,289.30 to US Bank for Block 12.091 Lot 13.06 for Certificate #16-05
\$4,800.00 to US Bank for Block 12.091 Lot 13.06 for Tax Sale Premium

This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE

RESOLUTION #7-2017

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CHANGE ORDER NO. 1 LINE STRIPING LOWER UNIONVILLE ROAD- SECTION III

WHEREAS, on the Township of Wantage awarded a contract for line striping, on September 8, 2016, in the amount of \$2,989.80; and

WHEREAS, the Town Engineer, Harold E. Pellow, of Harold E. Pellow & Associates, recommends approving Change Order No. 1, line striping Lower Unionville Road Section III in the amount of \$1,683.90 for a new contract total of \$4,673.70;

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer has certified funds are available for the increase of \$1,689.90 based on the attached certification;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that by the Township Committee of the Township of Wantage, County of Sussex that it hereby concurs with the Town Engineer's recommendation and accepts Change Order No. 1 line striping Lower Unionville Road Section III; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of Change Order No. 1, be attached to and made part of this Resolution.

TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE

RESOLUTION #8-2017

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CHANGE ORDER NO. 1 LINE STRIPING PIDGEON HILL ROAD – SECTION IV

WHEREAS, on the Township of Wantage awarded a contract for line striping, on June 23, 2016, in the amount of \$7,579.92; and

WHEREAS, the Town Engineer, Harold E. Pellow, of Harold E. Pellow & Associates, recommends approving Change Order No. 1, line striping Pidgeon Hill Road – Section IV in the amount of \$129.12 for a new contract total of \$7,709.04;

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer has certified funds are available for the increase of \$129.12 based on the attached certification;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that by the Township Committee of the Township of Wantage, County of Sussex that it hereby concurs with the Town Engineer's recommendation and accepts Change Order No. 1 line striping Pidgeon Hill Road – Section IV; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of Change Order No. 1, be attached to and made part of this Resolution.

TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE

RESOLUTION 9-2017

RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT SUSSEX COUNTY CLEAR PROGRAM – COMMUNITY LAW ENFORCEMENT ADDICTION RECOVERY

WHEREAS, it is well-established that drug use and addiction is a major problem that impacts all of us on a multiple levels; individuals, families and communities bear the many ill-effects that it has on our safety, health and the economy; and

WHEREAS, the alarming reality of the heroin/opiate epidemic, in particular, has created an urgent need to work together to reverse these trends; and

WHEREAS, one in three people is affected by substance use disorders, no matter their occupation, income level, race or community status; and

WHEREAS, in 2015 there were 25 overdose deaths in Sussex County due to heroin, prescription medications and illicit substances, as well as 44 overdoses where Narcan was used to revive a person;

WHEREAS, we recognize that for any anti-drug program to be effective, strong enforcement must be supported by an effort to reduce the demand for illegal substances and this is best accomplished through continued prevention education along with improved access to treatment and recovery support;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Town of Wantage, Sussex County, New Jersey that we do hereby resolve our community's support of the Sussex County C.L.E.A.R – Community Law Enforcement Addiction Recovery program, whose mission it is to form a collaborative network of professionals in our community who will facilitate medical intervention, improved access to treatment and recovery support for those struggling with drug addiction who seek assistance, without fear of arrest or prosecution, in order to make a positive difference in the quality of life for individuals, families and our entire community; and

TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE

RESOLUTION #10-2017

RESOLUTION APPROVING TEMPORARY LICENSE FOR SOIL REMOVAL TO BICSAK/WANTAGE STONE (NOW EASTERN MATERIALS) TILL APRIL 30, 2017

WHEREAS, the Township Engineer, Harold E. Pellow, of Harold E. Pellow & Associates completed an inspection of Block 11, Lot 5 in the Township of Wantage; and

WHEREAS, the Town Engineer, Harold E. Pellow, of Harold E. Pellow & Associates, in his letter dated December 21, 2016, recommends approval of a temporary soil removal permit till April 30, 2017, for items out lined in his letter to be completed.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that by the Township Committee of the Township of Wantage, County of Sussex that it hereby concurs with the Town Engineer's recommendation and approves the temporary license for soil removal to Bicsak/Wantage Stone (now Eastern Materials) to April 30, 2017.

TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE

RESOLUTION #11-2017

RESOLUTION APPROVING TEMPORARY LICENSE FOR SOIL REMOVAL TO 565 LAND DEVELOPMENT, LLC TILL APRIL 30, 2017

WHEREAS, the Township Engineer, Harold E. Pellow, of Harold E. Pellow & Associates completed an inspection of Block 117, Lot 38.01 in the Township of Wantage; and

WHEREAS, the Town Engineer, Harold E. Pellow, of Harold E. Pellow & Associates, in his letter dated December 21, 2016, recommends approval of a temporary soil removal permit till April 30, 2017, for items out lined in his letter to be completed.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that by the Township Committee of the Township of Wantage, County of Sussex that it hereby concurs with the Town Engineer's recommendation and approves the temporary license for soil removal to 565 Land Development, LLC to April 30, 2017.

TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE

RESOLUTION #12-2017

RESOLUTION APPROVING JUNK LICENSE FOR 2017 TO MEISSNER

WHEREAS, under section 4.3 of the revised general ordinance book of Wantage Township allows for Junk Yards to be licensed; and

WHEREAS, Charles and Annette Meissner own Block 117, Lot 33 and are reapplying for a junk license for 2017;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that by the Township Committee of the Township of Wantage, County of Sussex that it hereby approves the junk license for 2017 to Charles and Annette Meissner for Block 117, Lot 33.

TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE

RESOLUTION #13-2017

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT WITH SPACE FARMS ZOO and MUSEUM FOR DEER CARCASSES REMOVAL FOR 2017

WHEREAS, Space Farms Zoo and Museum have provided deer carcasses removal for the Township of Wantage; and

WHEREAS, the price for 2017 is \$31.00 per deer carcasses removal,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that by the Township Committee of the Township of Wantage, County of Sussex that it authorizes the Township Administrator to enter into an agreement for 2017 for deer carcasses removal with Space Farms Zoo and Museum.

TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE

RESOLUTION #14-2017

RESOLUTION APPROVING KENNEL LICNSE FOR ROGER & ELLEN TITUS

WHEREAS, under section 5-3 of the revised general ordinance book of Wantage Township allows for kennels to be licensed; and

WHEREAS, Roger & Ellen Titus own Block 139, Lot 19 and are reapplying for a kennel license for 2017;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that by the Township Committee of the Township of Wantage, County of Sussex that it hereby approves the kennel license for 2017 to Roger & Ellen Titus for Block 139, Lot 19.

TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE

RESOLUTION #15-2017

**RESOLUTION APPROVING TEMPORARY LICENSE FOR SOIL REMOVAL TO 284 AGGREGATES,
LLC TILL APRIL 30, 2017**

WHEREAS, the Township Engineer, Harold E. Pellow, of Harold E. Pellow & Associates completed an inspection of Block 1, Lots 8, 9, 36, 37 and 38 in the Township of Wantage; and

WHEREAS, the Town Engineer, Harold E. Pellow, of Harold E. Pellow & Associates, in his letter dated December 21, 2016, recommends approval of a temporary soil removal permit till April 30, 2017, for items out lined in his letter to be completed.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that by the Township Committee of the Township of Wantage, County of Sussex that it hereby concurs with the Town Engineer's recommendation and approves the temporary license for soil removal to 284 Aggregates, LLC to April 30, 2017.

TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE

RESOLUTION #16-2017

RESOLUTION RELEASING BOND FOR DOLLAR GENERAL

WHEREAS, the Township Engineer, Harold E. Pellow, of Harold E. Pellow & Associates in a letter dated November 17, 2016 recommends the release of the \$2,500 bond posted by Dollar General for the lights that have been installed, and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that by the Township Committee of the Township of Wantage, County of Sussex that it hereby release the \$2,500 bond posted by Dollar General per the Township Engineer's recommendation.

REPORTS

Clerk – Mrs. Millikin advised that a member of the public advised of a correction needed in the minutes from June 9, 2016 from the Consent Agenda under Resolutions. 1. It states: Appointing Kirsty Lockburner to the position of Municipal Tax Collector for a four-year term from July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2020. The position should be Municipal Tax Assessor. This needs to be noted on the recorder. Mr. Bassani made a motion to accept the change and was seconded by Mr. Gaechter.

Upon Roll Call:

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

Administrator – Mrs. Millikin advised she received an e-mail request from Rev. Vincent P. Ricciardi, Sr. who is a 100% disable Vietnam Veteran who has built his retirement home here in Wantage. The home is being financed through the VA and he is requesting waiving of the COAH fee for developers or builders since he will be living in this home.

Mrs. Millikin advised that Mrs. Lockburner the Tax Assessor provided her with the total developer fee payment which would be \$7,126.50. I advised Mr. Ricciardi I would have to bring this to the committee for discussion. I also had forwarded this request to Mr. Kienz as well. If the committee approves this to move forward I will work with Mr. Kienz on the ordinance.

Mayor Morris asked the Committee's thoughts. Mr. Bassani asked Mr. Kienz's recommendation. Mr. Kienz stated an ordinance can be drafted under the Municipal Land Use Law that allows for exceptions to allow for other veterans as well as exempt them from the COAH fee. Mr. Bassani questioned would the ordinance read that 100% disabled. Mr. Kienz advised it would be based on the specific law based on the exception. Mr. Bassani stated he would recommend that Mr. Kienz draft this ordinance for the next meeting. Mr. Gaechter seconded the recommendation to have Mr. Kienz draft the COAH Fee. All in favor "Aye"

Mrs. Millikin next requested establishing dates for the budget meeting. January 23rd, January 24th prior to the regular meeting, January 30th, January 31st, February 1st, February 2nd. January 24th at 5 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. She recommended setting up another meeting the following week if the Committee Members are available. February 2nd at 5:30 p.m. for the other hearing with the department representatives.

Attorney – Mr. Kienz said thank you for the reappointment and looking forward to a good year.

Mayor – none

Committee Member Report – Mr. Gaechter – none

Committee Member Report – Mr. Bassani – none

OLD BUSINESS – None

NEW BUSINESS

Introduction of Ordinance

Mayor Morris will request a motion to approve the first reading of Ordinance #2017-1. An Ordinance to Release and Extinguish the Right of the Public on a Portion of Black Dirt Road.

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

Upon Roll Call:

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

TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE

ORDINANCE #2017-1

AN ORDINANCE TO RELEASE AND EXTINGUISH THE

RIGHT OF THE PUBLIC ON A PORTION OF BLACK DIRT ROAD

WHEREAS, Black Dirt Road, a portion of which is unimproved, is a right of way and/or paper street located within the Township of Wantage in the County of Sussex which was previously created for public use; and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee of the Township of Wantage believes that the public interest would be best served by abandoning, vacating, releasing and extinguishing any and all public rights which the Township may have in and to the portion of Black Dirt Road from Lot 3.02 in Block 34 and Lot 1.04 in Block 30 to the existing northerly right of way line of the existing cul-de-sac on Black Dirt Road as more particularly described in Schedule A attached hereto; and

WHEREAS, upon successful adoption of this Vacation Ordinance, one half of the area to be vacated would be conveyed to each of the adjoining property owners; and

WHEREAS, it has been demonstrated that the portion of Black Dirt Road described in this Ordinance is not needed for public use and would not prevent police and emergency vehicles from accessing adjacent properties; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Wantage that:

Section 1. That portion of the right-of-way of Black Dirt Road described on Schedule "A" annexed and incorporated in this Ordinance be vacated and the public rights in the road extinguished, excepting all rights and privileges currently possessed by public utilities, as defined in N.J.S.A. 48:2-13, and by any cable television company as defined the "Cable Television Act", N.J.S.A. 48-5A-1, et seq., to maintain, repair and replace their existing facilities in, adjacent to, over or under the road to be vacated.

Section 2. One-half of the portion to the center line of Black Dirt Road being vacated shall be added to Lot 1.04 in Block 30 and one-half of the portion to the center line of Black Dirt Road being vacated shall be added to Lot 3.02 in Block 34.

Section 3.

1. After being introduced and having passed a first reading, this Ordinance shall be published at least once not less than ten (10) days prior to the time fixed for further consideration for final passage.
2. At least one (1) week prior to the time fixed for further consideration of this Ordinance for final passage, a copy thereof, together with notice of its introduction and the time and place when and where the Ordinance will be further considered for final passage, shall be mailed to every person whose lands are contiguous to the vacated portion of Black Dirt Road as described on Schedule "A" and to all other persons the Township Committee reasonably believes are the owners of lands that may be affected by this Ordinance. The Township Clerk shall mail said notice in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40:49-6.

Section 4. Copies of this Ordinance shall be on file in the Office of the Township Clerk and are available for inspection. The Township Clerk shall, within sixty (60) days of the effective date of this Ordinance, file a copy of this Ordinance certified by her under seal of the Township to be a true copy thereof, together with a copy of the proof of publication thereof, with the Clerk of Sussex County.

Section 5. It is the interest of the Township Committee to vacate the aforementioned interests the public may have in the right of way, and to provide that all interest in the right of way, in its "as is" condition, be conveyed to the adjoining property owners.

Section 6. The Mayor and Township Clerk are authorized and directed to execute any documents as may be required to complete the transfer of whatever interest the public may have had, now vacated, in the property described above.

Section 7. If any part of this Ordinance is for any reason held to be invalid, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portion of the Ordinance. Any Ordinance or portion thereof that may be inconsistent with the Ordinance is hereby repealed to the extent of the inconsistency.

Section 8. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall take effect in the time and manner prescribed by law.

Proclamation

Mayor Morris read the proclamation in to the record.

Office of the Mayor

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, all children in Wantage Township should have access to the highest-quality education possible; and,

WHEREAS, Wantage Township recognizes the important role that an effective education plays in preparing all students in Wantage Township to be successful adults; and

WHEREAS, quality education is critically important to the economic vitality of Wantage Township, and

WHEREAS, is home to a variety of high quality public and nonpublic schools from which parents can choose for their children, in addition to families who educate their children in the home; and

WHEREAS, educational variety not only helps to diversity our economy, but also enhances the vibrancy of our community; and

WHEREAS, Wantage Township has many high-quality teaching professionals in all types of school settings who are committed to educating our children, and

WHEREAS, School Choice Week is celebrated across the country by millions of students, parents, educators, schools and organizations to raise awareness of the need for effective educational options;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jonathan Morris, Mayor of the Township of Wantage, do hereby recognize January 22-28, 2017 as Wantage Township School Choice Week, and I call this observance to the attention of all of our citizens.

Jonathan Morris, Mayor

Dated: January 5, 2017

Mr. Bassani wanted to thank the Committee for approve the ordinance for placing flags at half-staff and to continue with the process to get the flag poles constructed. He would like to see this through as it moves forward. Mayor Morris also recommended reaching out to the American Legion

OPEN PUBLIC SESSION

Ms. Kathy Gorman stated she was disappointed with changes not made this year, however, she is happy with keeping Mr. Kienz as the Township Counsel. She brought up the Shop Rite matter and stated she is not against this, however, feels there is a better location for the Shop Rite at the Biscack property as an anchor store. This would be a great location and would welcome people to the Township. She also stated she is concerned with more housing being built due to foreclosures. Also, a concern about the Ames shopping with at least 500 cars sitting on the site. She stated Wantage could use the Shop Rite ratable and why did the Land Use Board not push Ronetco to locate at the Biscack property. She feels it will be an ugly supermarket with a bad entrance. Route 23 is not meant for tractor trailers to go through this area. Mr. Gaechter your store will be effected by the increased truck traffic.

There being no other member of the public wanting to speak Mayor Morris closed the public session.

Mayor Morris asked for a Motion to adjourn the meeting.

Motion by Mr. Bassani. Second by Mr. Gaechter.

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:57 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted

Debra Millikin, Acting Municipal Clerk