

**MINUTES OF THE BUDGET MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COMMITTEE OF
THE TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE, HELD AT THE WANTAGE TOWNSHIP
MUNICIPAL BUILDING, 888 STATE HIGHWAY 23, WANTAGE, N.J.
ON THE DATE OF March 7, 2011**

Mayor DeBoer called the Budget meeting of the Mayor and Committee of the Township of Wantage to order, and requested the Clerk to call the roll. Upon roll call, the following members of the governing body were present: Mayor DeBoer, Committeeman Bassani, and Committeeman Gaechter. The following member was absent: None.
Also present: CFO Michelle La Starza; Auditor Tom Ferry.

Mayor DeBoer 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 to the public, and certified by the Clerk."

Mayor DeBoer led all persons present in the Salute to the American Flag.

BUDGET

Discussion and review of the 2011 municipal budget continued from previous budget meetings.

Mr. Bassani requested a spreadsheet be prepared reflecting actual budget amounts spent for the past several years. Mr. Doherty agreed to create those spreadsheets.

The members of the governing body expressed a desire for greater detail regarding the municipal attorney costs. Mr. Doherty stated he would place a copy of the attorney contract for 2011 in the committee's municipal mailboxes.

Mr. Gaechter expressed a desire to have a copy of a map depicting what the intersection of Newman Road and Newton Avenue would look like after the improvement projects were complete. Mr. Doherty agreed to provide that map in the committee mailboxes.

OPEN PUBLIC SESSION

Mayor DeBoer opened the meeting to the public for any questions or comments.

Ann Smulewicz, Route 23, inquired if the Land Use Secretary position was being reduced to part time status. Mayor DeBoer offered an explanation of the current duties being performed by the Land Use Secretary, explaining that she is doing both her own duties and helping fulfill the duties of a Construction Department employee who is on extended disability.

Ms. Smulewicz suggested budget cuts for the Construction Department. Mayor DeBoer and Mr. Gaechter pointed out budget reductions which have been made in prior years and proposed for this year, in this department.

Ms. Smulewicz inquired if there was an Economic Development Committee. Mayor DeBoer stated this was an inactive committee currently.

Mr. William Gettler, Gemmer Road, asked what the hours of the Construction Department employees. Mr. Doherty stated that the office was open full time, Mr. Kervatt and Mr. Stefanelli worked a 40 hour work week and were administrative exempt so that if they need to work extra hours it is done without overtime compensation, and that the specific hours for the department should be posted in the office.

Mr. Gettler offered an analysis of school tax impact. Mr. Gettler requested a local tax decrease to be reflected in this year's budget. General discussion took place regarding school taxes.

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As there was no further business to discuss, Mr. Bassani moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Gaechter seconded the motion. Upon roll call,

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

Mayor DeBoer declared this meeting to be adjourned.

James R. Doherty, Administrator/Clerk