

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 JANUARY 31, 2013

Mayor Ron Bassani called the meeting to order, and requested the Clerk to call the roll. Upon roll call, the following members of the governing body were present: Mayor Bassani, Committeeman DeBoer, and Committeeman Gaechter. The following members were absent: None. Also Present: Township Attorney Michael Garofalo

Mayor Bassani 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."

FLAG SALUTE

Mayor Bassani invited all persons present to participate in the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States Flag.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Bassani requested that the governing body Review the Consent Agenda.

Mr. DeBoer moved to approve the following Reports For Filing:

- Registrar Report for December 2012
- Construction Report for December 2012
- Tax Collector Report for December 2012

Mr. Gaechter seconded the motion. Upon Roll call,

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

Mr. DeBoer moved to approve the following Applications:

- Raffle License Application RA13-01, for the PTO Sussex Wantage to conduct an On Premise Merchandise Raffle (Tricky Tray) on April 19, 2013
- Raffle License Application RA13-02, for the PTO Sussex Wantage to conduct an On Premise 50/50 Raffle on April 19, 2013
- Raffle License Application RA13-03, for the Womans Club Sussex to conduct an Off Premise Merchandise Raffle on April 13, 2013
- Raffle License Application RA13-04, for the American Legion Post 213 to conduct an Off Premise 50/50 Raffle on June 30, 2013

Mr. Gaechter seconded the motion. Upon Roll call,

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

Mr. DeBoer moved to authorize the transfer of unexpended balances carried forward after the close of the prior fiscal year, in the amount of \$4,625.00.

Mr. Gaechter seconded the motion. Upon Roll call,

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

Mr. DeBoer moved to authorize the refund of \$49.00 to Joseph Krause for building Permit BP13-003, representing refund of fee for an electrical permit on Block 117, Lot 7.01.

Mr. Gaechter seconded the motion. Upon Roll call,

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

Mr. DeBoer moved to authorize the renewal of an outstanding check #1591 in the amount of \$215.00 to current fund surplus, representing an unredeemed municipal court bail refund from February 2012, per the recommendation of the Municipal Auditor.

Mr. Gaechter seconded the motion. Upon Roll call,

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

Mr. DeBoer moved to authorize renewal of animal control shared service agreement with Ogdensburg Borough for 2013. Mr. Gaechter seconded the motion. Upon Roll call,

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

Mr. DeBoer moved to authorize renewal of Recycling Coordinator shared service agreement with Frankford Twp. for 2013. Mr. Gaechter seconded the motion. Upon Roll call,

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

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CONSENT AGENDA, Continued

Mr. DeBoer moved to confirm Release of Driveway Bond No. 61284404 issued by Western Surety Company on behalf of Steven Kosinski in the amount of \$3,000.00, as per the recommendation of Township Engineer. Mr. Gaechter seconded the motion. Upon Roll call, **Ayes:** DeBoer, Gaechter, Bassani **Nays:** None **Absent:** None **Abstain:** None

Mr. DeBoer moved to confirm the appointment of Scott Readlinger as the Risk Management Consultant for 2013 to the Statewide Insurance Fund on behalf of Wantage Township. Mr. Gaechter seconded the motion. Upon Roll call, **Ayes:** DeBoer, Gaechter, Bassani **Nays:** None **Absent:** None **Abstain:** None

Mr. DeBoer moved to adopt A Resolution Supporting the Objective of the New Jersey Coalition on Human Rights to advocate for fairness, compassion, respect and dignity for all persons throughout the world and for the eradication of violence to innocent victims, as follows:

Whereas, the state of New Jersey is recognized nationally as a leader in the area of crime victims' rights; and

Whereas, the Governing Body supports the belief that there should be fairness, compassion, respect and dignity for those who have suffered loss or injury as the result of the violence of others; and

Whereas, the Governing Body recognizes the New Jersey Coalition on Human Rights whose single purpose is to bring together those individuals and organizations who wish to speak out for the end of violence to innocent victims and for the fair treatment of all individuals,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Governing Body of the Township of Wantage as follows:

1. The Governing Body supports the objective of the New Jersey Coalition on Human Rights to bring together those individuals and organizations who wish to speak out for the end of violence to innocent victims and for the fair treatment of all individuals.

2. The Governing Body may consider from time to time those incidents and occasions where the importance of the advocacy for equal justice for all people should be recognized through our collective voices in order to become a strong force for change throughout the world; and

3. While this Resolution does not compel the municipality to take any action, the Governing Body recognizes its right to speak out and condemn the perpetuation of violence throughout the world and the desire to eliminate human trafficking, sexual assault, domestic violence and other inhumane conduct perpetrated on innocent victims.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution shall be provided to our representative members of the State Legislature, Office of the County Board of Chosen Freeholders and the New Jersey Crime Victims' Law Center.

Mr. Gaechter seconded the motion. Upon Roll call,

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

Mr. DeBoer moved to endorse the submission of a recycling tonnage grant application to the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection and designating James Doherty to ensure that the application is properly filed, as follows:

WHEREAS, The Mandatory Source Separation and Recycling Act, P.L.1987, c.102, has established a recycling fund from which tonnage grant may be made to municipalities in order to encourage local source separation and recycling programs; and

WHEREAS, It is the intent and the spirit of the Mandatory Source Separation and Recycling Act to use the tonnage grants to develop new municipal recycling programs and to continue and to expand existing programs; and

WHEREAS, The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection has promulgated recycling regulations to Implement the Mandatory Source Separation and Recycling Act; and

WHEREAS, The recycling regulations impose on municipalities certain requirements as a condition for applying for tonnage grants, including but not limited to, making and keeping accurate, verifiable records of materials collected and claimed by the municipality; and

WHEREAS, A resolution authorizing this municipality to apply for the 2012 Recycling Tonnage Grant will memorialize the commitment of this municipality to recycling and to indicate the assent of The Mayor and Committee of Wantage Township to the efforts undertaken by the municipality and the requirements contained in the Recycling Act and recycling regulations; and

WHEREAS, Such a resolution should designate the individual authorized to ensure the application is properly completed and timely filed.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Committee of the Township of Wantage that Wantage Township hereby endorses the submission of the recycling tonnage grant application to the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection and designates James R. Doherty to ensure that the application is properly filed; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the monies received from the recycling tonnage grant be deposited in a dedicated recycling trust fund to be used solely for the purposes of recycling.

Mr. Gaechter seconded the motion. Upon Roll call,

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

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CONSENT AGENDA, Continued

Mayor Bassani offered the following Proclamation:

PROCLAMATION: GO RED FOR WOMEN DAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2013

WHEREAS, diseases of the heart are the nation's leading cause of death and stroke is the fourth leading cause of death;

WHEREAS, cardiovascular disease claims the lives of nearly 420,000 American females each year, approximately one death per minute;

WHEREAS, each year, nearly 52% of all deaths due to cardiovascular disease and 60% of stroke deaths occur in females;

WHEREAS, too many women die each year because they are unaware that heart disease is their No.1 killer;

WHEREAS, nearly as many women die of heart disease, stroke, and all other cardiovascular diseases than the next four leading causes of death combined, including all cancers;

WHEREAS, only 16% of women surveyed in 2009 identified cardiovascular disease as the greatest health problem facing them;

WHEREAS, February is designated as American Heart Month and February 1 will mark the 10th Anniversary Celebration of National Wear Red Day for Women;

WHEREAS, Go Red For Women® is the American Heart Association's national movement and call to increase awareness about heart disease-the leading cause of death for women-and to inspire women to take charge of their heart health and reduce risk for heart disease and stroke;

WHEREAS, all women should learn their own personal risk for heart disease, using tools such as the American Heart Association's My Life Check, Go Red For Women® Heart CheckUp, Go Red Better U - and by talking to their healthcare provider;

WHEREAS, taking action and making the right choices relating to proper nutrition, physical activity, and other healthy lifestyle choices are essential to living a heart healthy life; and

WHEREAS, by choosing to improve heart and stroke health, American Heart Association Go Red For Women asks that across America, Women Go Red and help save lives from heart disease and stroke;

NOW, THEREFORE, I Ronald Bassani, Mayor of the Township of Wantage, New Jersey, in recognition of the importance of the ongoing fight against heart disease and stroke, do hereby proclaim Friday, February 1, 2013 to be the 10th Anniversary National Wear Red Day for Women in Wantage Township and I urge all citizens to show their support for women and the fight against heart disease and stroke by commemorating this day with the wearing of the color red. By increasing awareness, speaking up about heart disease and stroke, and empowering women to reduce their risk for cardiovascular disease, we can save thousands of lives each year.

Administrator's Report

Amusement Games Licensing Ordinance: Mr. Doherty indicated he would place this proposed ordinance on the agenda of February 12 for introduction if it met with the approval of the governing body to do so. Consensus was expressed for Mr. Doherty to proceed.

Opening on Board of Health: Mr. Doherty reported that the Board of Health recommends Ms. Linda Kelly of Wantage be appointed to fill an open seat on the Board of Health, which involves a full vote of the governing body for confirmation of appointment. Mayor Bassani nominated Linda Kelly for membership on the Board of Health. Mr. DeBoer moved to confirm the Mayor's nomination. The motion was seconded by Mr. Gaechter. Upon roll call,

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

Opening on Board of Recreation Commissioners: Mr. Doherty reported the Recreation Commission recommends Mr. Warren Wisse of Wantage be appointed to fill an open seat on the Board of Recreation Commissioners, which involves a Mayor's appointment. Mayor Bassani named Mr. Wisse to the Recreation Commission.

No Net Loss Reforestation Grant: Mr. Doherty explained that since Tennessee Gas Company conducted a project within Wantage Township that involved disturbance of existing trees within their right of way, Wantage becomes eligible for a non-competitive grant from the NJDEP for a grant to plant \$27,600 worth of trees within the Township.. The governing body expressed consensus support for Mr. Doherty's proposal that the Township accept this grant and use the money to plant trees at Woodbourne Park, under the purview of the Recreation Commission.

Handling of Future Newsletters: The governing body expressed consensus for the Township to continue distributing the Township Newsletter via the United States Postal Service through bulk mailing.

Attorney's Report

Mr. Garofalo requested an executive session to discuss matters of attorney client privilege with the governing body.

Township Committee Member Reports

Mayor Bassani reported that an invitation had been received from the Sussex County Tax Board to attend a meeting on February 21. Mr. Bassani stated that he was unable to attend because of a prior commitment. Mr. DeBoer indicated he was able to attend.

Mayor Bassani also reported that an invitation had been received from the Sussex Count Tax Board to attend a meeting on February 20, 2013, relative to Revaluation. Mayor Bassani stated he would attend this meeting. The other members of the governing body expressed an interest in attending as well.

Mayor Bassani presented the members of the governing body with a copy of a Petition form Moorestown NJ to Intervene in BPU Proceedings regarding JCP&L, and suggested Wantage Township consider adopting a similar motion to intervene, as a means of further pursuing the Township of Wantage's displeasure with prior responses by JCP&L during power outage conditions. The members of the governing body agreed to review the Petition and give further consideration to this suggestion after review.

Mayor Bassani read the following Proclamation:

MAYOR'S PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Brian J. Dely has achieved the rank of Eagle Scout, which represents an accomplishment of high regard within the Wantage Community, and
WHEREAS, as a member of Boy Scout Troop 153 within the Patriots Path Council of the Boy Scouts of America, Brian has held numerous Leadership positions, and
WHEREAS, Brian has distinguished himself through on-going service to his community, and
WHEREAS, Brian has actively participated in Troop activities and has provided mentoring for many younger Boy Scouts, and
WHEREAS, such a fine record of accomplishment is worthy of praise and recognition,
NOW, THEREFORE, I, Ronald Bassani, Mayor of the Township of Wantage, hereby offer my congratulations to Brian J. Dely for achieving the rank of Eagle Scout, and
BE IT FURTHER PROCLAIMED that the entire Wantage Community is hereby encouraged to join in the recognition of this fine accomplishment.

Mayor Bassani also reported on his attendance at a meeting that Governor Chris Christie recently held with New Jersey Mayors, stating he found the meeting to be informative.

OLD BUSINESS

Sale of Township Owned Properties

Mr. Gaechter moved to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Township of Wantage conducted a private sale of surplus municipal property pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:12-13 et seq., and

WHEREAS, at the said sale, the following bids were received:

Block	Lot	Name Of Bidder	Amount Bid
12.03	6	Loughery	\$ 250.00
59	16	Coulson	\$ 280.00
67	34	Galligan	\$ 252.00
76	7	ST Developers LLC	\$ 1,000.00
76	8	Fiore	\$ 250.00
87	11	Robinson	\$ 300.00
96	7	Southard	\$ 510.00
112	3	Manailovich	\$ 600.00
		Ross	\$ 400.00
122	3	Martin	\$ 250.00
147	6.12	De Castro	\$ 1,250.00

Sale of Township Owned Properties, Continued

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Township Committee of the Township of Wantage, that the governing body does hereby accept the bids shown below, and authorizes the municipal attorney to proceed with the necessary actions to secure the sale of the said property lots.

Block	Lot	Name Of Bidder	Amount Bid
12.03	6	Loughery	\$ 250.00
59	16	Coulson	\$ 280.00
67	34	Galligan	\$ 252.00
76	7	ST Developers LLC	\$ 1,000.00
76	8	Fiore	\$ 250.00
87	11	Robinson	\$ 300.00
96	7	Southard	\$ 510.00
112	3	Manailovich	\$ 600.00
122	3	Martin	\$ 250.00
147	6.12	De Castro	\$ 1,250.00

Mr. DeBoer seconded the motion. Upon Roll call,

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

Mr. Gaechter moved to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Township of Wantage conducted a private sale of surplus municipal property pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:12-13 et seq., and

WHEREAS, at the said sale, the following bids were received:

Block	Lot	Name Of Bidder	Amount Bid
102	16	Connie Bassani	\$ 1,500.00
		Christensen	\$ 255.00

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Township Committee of the Township of Wantage, that the governing body does hereby accept the bids shown below, and authorizes the municipal attorney to proceed with the necessary actions to secure the sale of the said property lots.

Block	Lot	Name Of Bidder	Amount Bid
102	16	Connie Bassani	\$ 1,500.00

Mr. DeBoer seconded the motion. Upon Roll call,

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

Approval of Developer Agreement

Mayor Bassani reported that his questions regarding the proposed Developer Agreement between G & S WANTAGE SOLAR, LLC, VALLEY VIEW MANOR AT WANTAGE, INC., BILL PROPERTIES, LLC AND TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE have been satisfactorily addressed, and called for a motion to approve.

Mr. DeBoer moved to authorize the Mayor to sign the Developer Agreement between G & S WANTAGE SOLAR, LLC, VALLEY VIEW MANOR AT WANTAGE, INC., BILL PROPERTIES, LLC AND TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE.

Mr. Gaechter seconded the motion. Upon Roll call,

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

Budget Work Session

Recreation Commission President Greg Williams and Recreation Secretary Jeanne McBride offered an analysis report of activities that the Recreation Commission wished to undertake in 2013 and the proposed costs of these programs. Mr. Williams indicated the Commission was requesting a return to the 2009 funding level of \$34,000.

Mr. DeBoer moved to approve the purchase of a Used Bucket Truck at a cost of \$25,995, from Utility Truck Trader, in accordance with the recommendation of the DPW Mechanic.

Mr. Gaechter seconded the motion. Upon roll call,

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

OLD BUSINESS, Continued

Budget Work Shop, Continued

The members of the governing body expressed a desire to discuss the Chief Finance Officer's request for a salary adjustment in closed executive session, under the exclusion for Negotiations.

Contract Settlement with Blue Collar Union

Mr. Doherty reported that the terms of settlement of the Impasse with the Wantage DPW involved offering a 1%, 2%, 2% salary increase over the years 2012, 2013 and 2014, in exchange for concessions involving health benefits.

Mr. Gaechter moved to approve the settlement of negotiations with the Wantage Township Department of Public Works under the terms and conditions of the Settlement Memorandum prepared by Gregory Franklin of the New Jersey Public Employment Relations Commission. Mr. DeBoer seconded the motion. Upon roll call,

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

Status of Subdivision Approval for Forum Homes

The members of the governing body expressed a desire to discuss this matter in closed executive session, under the exclusion for attorney client privilege.

NEW BUSINESS

Final Adoption of Ordinance 2013-01

Mr. Gaechter moved to adopt on final reading, Ordinance 2013-01, entitled "AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SALE OF REAL PROPERTY NO LONGER NEEDED FOR PUBLIC USE, PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40A:12-13, ET SEQ." Mr. DeBoer seconded the motion.

Prior to final roll call, Mayor Bassani opened the meeting to the public for any questions or comments with respect to this proposed Ordinance.

Mr. William Gettler, Gemmer Road, offered details regarding conversations he had with members of the Open Space Advisory Committee about this proposed ordinance; and questioned the legality of the ordinance as it relates to the issue of fair Market Value assigned to the property lots.

Douglas Ricker, Beemer Road, requested that Block 33 Lot 7.02 and Block 30 Lot 4 be removed from the Ordinance so he could speak with the Open Space Advisory Committee about investigating the possibility of deed restricting these properties against development prior to offering them for sale. Mr. Ricker suggested finding high school or college students to undertake a research project to locate a right of way on the land locked properties. Mr. Ricker and Mr. Garofalo discussed the issue of deed restricting Township owned properties against development prior to offering them for sale, with Mr. Ricker suggesting that this has been accomplished through Transfer of Development Rights in Chesterfield, New Jersey.

Mayor Bassani expressed an interest in withdrawing the two property lots from sale as per Mr. Ricker's suggestion, for the purpose of exploring options with the Open Space Committee. The other members of the governing body expressed consensus with this suggestion. Mr. Doherty explained it would be best to allow the ordinance to proceed to adoption as it was introduced and advertised, and then take advantage of the provision within the Ordinance that permits the governing body to withdraw any lot or lots from sale at their discretion. The members of the governing body agreed with this proposed course of action.

There being no one else present wishing to address the governing body on this proposed Ordinance, Mayor Bassani requested a roll call vote. Upon roll call,
Ayes: DeBoer, Gaechter, Bassani Nays: None Absent: None Abstain: None

NEW BUSINESS, Continued

Introduction of Ordinance 2013-02

Mr. DeBoer moved to introduce on First Reading, Ordinance 2013-02, entitled "ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING THE SUM OF \$44,420.00 FOR THE PURCHASE OF SELF-CONTAINED BREATHING APPARATUS" with a Final Hearing date to be set for February 12, 2013.

Mr. Gaechter seconded the motion. Upon roll call,

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

Liquor License Transfer

Mr. DeBoer moved to approve the following Resolution:

APPROVAL RESOLUTION FOR PERSON-TO-PERSON TRANSFER OF LIQUOR LICENSE

WHEREAS, an application has been filed for a person to person transfer of Plenary Retail Consumption License #1924-33-002-003, heretofore issued to Bob and Joani's Log Cabin Inn, LLC., for premises located at 447 Route 284, in the Township Of Wantage, New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, the submitted application form is complete in all respects, the transfer fees have been paid, and the license has been properly renewed for the current license term; and

WHEREAS, the applicant is qualified to be licensed according to all standards established by Title 33 of the New Jersey Statutes, regulations promulgated thereunder, as well as pertinent ordinances and conditions consistent with Title 33; and

WHEREAS, the applicant has disclosed and the governing body has reviewed the source of all funds used in the purchase of the license and the licensed business and all additional financing obtained in connection with the licensed business;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Committee of the Township Of Wantage in Sussex County, New Jersey, does hereby approve, effective February 1, 2013, the transfer of the aforesaid Plenary Retail Consumption License to Douglas J. Thomson, and does hereby direct the Township Administrator Clerk to endorse the license certificate to the new ownership as follows: "This license, subject to all its terms and conditions, is hereby transferred to Douglas J. Thomson, effective February 1, 2013."

Mr. Gaechter seconded the motion. Upon roll call,

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

Board of Education Procedures for Filling Vacancies

Mr. DeBoer initiated a discussion regarding the procedures that a Board of Education follows for filling vacancies on the Board. Mr. DeBoer expressed concern that there were several members of the Board currently vacant, who are Wantage representatives on the High Point Regional High School Board of Education. Mr. DeBoer expressed concern that when a Wantage representative is elected to the Board of Education, all Wantage voters choose their representative. However, when a vacancy on the Board is filled, while the person selected will be a Wantage citizen, the decision concerning which Wantage citizen fills the vacancy is made by the remaining Board members, who are not only from Wantage, but also from Sussex, Lafayette, Frankford, and Branchville. General discussion took place. Mayor Bassani suggested he could reach out to the Board President to express the concern and ask if any options existed addressing the said concern.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Gaechter moved to adopt the minutes of the Organization Meeting of January 3, 2013, the minutes of the Regular Meeting of January 3, 2013, the minutes of the meeting of January 10, 2013, and the minutes of the regular and executive sessions of January 17, 2013.

Mr. DeBoer seconded the motion. Upon roll call,

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

OPEN PUBLIC SESSION

Mayor Bassani opened the meeting to the public at this time, for any questions or comments involving the good and welfare of the community.

William Gettler, Gemmer Road, expressed concern regarding a situation of trespass he has reported on Township owned property in Lake Neepaulin; expressed a request to have the budget for snow removal reduced in the 2013 budget; expressed concerns regarding the legality of the sale of property lots under Ordinance 2012-08 as it relates to the issue of fair market value for the said lots; expressed dissatisfaction with a Certification that was offered by Mr. Gaechter during the Gorman litigation; and expressed his belief that Mayor Bassani had made a threatening telephone call to him, and therefore should resign.

Mayor Bassani stated that Mr. Garofalo, Mr. DeBoer, Mr. Gaechter, and Mr. Doherty had all previously warned him the day would come when he would disagree with Mr. Gettler on an issue, and that Mr. Gettler's response would be to personally attack Mr. Bassani and call for his resignation. Mayor Bassani acknowledged the accuracy of this prediction based on Mr. Gettler's comments this evening. Mayor Bassani refuted the contention that he had made any threats to Mr. Gettler, explaining that his telephone call had been an attempt to help Mr. Gettler realize that Mr. Gettler's repeated personal attacks and unsubstantiated accusations against other persons served only to diminish Mr. Gettler's efforts at explaining his positions on issues, and that Mr. Gettler might be better served by finding a different approach.

Ann Smulewicz, Route 23, spoke in support of Mr. Gettler's right to speak his mind, and offered comments regarding the issue of tax assessments in Wantage Township.

Douglas Ricker, Beemer Road, spoke with respect to Mr. Gettler's manner of presenting himself when speaking, offering statements of support for Mr. Gettler's attention to details.

Mayor Bassani offered clarifying remarks regarding the issue of the Compliance Plan from last year, and the upcoming Reassessment program for Wantage. Mayor Bassani, Mr. Gaechter, Mr. DeBoer and Ms. Smulewicz continued their discussion on this topic.

Mondell Fisher, a resident of Lake Neepaulin, offered comments in support of FOLN activities and fund raising and offered observations regarding the Safe Dam Act.

Mr. Gettler offered details concerning his credentials and experience, offering rebuttal to previous comments made on the issue of the Lake Neepaulin Dam.

Karen Merritt, Alpine Road, expressed offense at comparisons between the activities of FOLN with the activities of the Wantage Recreation Commission which were made by a previous speaker.

Mayor Bassani requested that the members of the public direct their comments to the governing body on matters and issues before the Township governing body, and refrain from engaging in personal attacks and rebuttals.

Bill Williams, South Shore Drive, expressed the belief that the issue involving rehabilitation of the Lake Neepaulin Dam had been settled in court.

Joy Steinbacher, of Lake Neepaulin, asked if the Township governing body checks the facts of citizens who come to a public meeting making accusations against other parties.

Mayor Bassani explained that the Township investigates all concerns expressed, and there are times when these concerns unveil honest mistakes or oversights of the Township that the governing body is grateful to have had pointed out. Other times, investigation reveals that the concerns and accusations are unfounded and call for no response. Mayor Bassani stated that the Township will continue to welcome all input, but requested the members of the public themselves remember to differentiate between opinion and fact.

OPEN PUBLIC SESSION, continued

Ms. Smulewicz offered comments regarding a previous speaker's statements about judge's decisions; offered observations regarding the Gorman Litigation; and stated her desire to be a friend to the Wantage Recreation Commission but not to FOLN.

There being no one else present wishing to address the governing body at this time, Mayor Bassani closed the meeting to the public.

Executive Session

Mr. DeBoer moved to enter into closed executive session for the reasons expressed earlier in the meeting, involving Negotiations for the CFO salary, and attorney client privilege.

Mr. Gaechter seconded the motion. Upon roll call,

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

After meeting in closed session, Mayor Bassani reconvened the meeting and the governing body continued with the regular course of action.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further items for the attention of the governing body, Mr. Gaechter moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. DeBoer seconded the motion. Upon Roll call,

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

Mayor Bassani declared this meeting adjourned.

James R. Doherty, Administrator Clerk